



# STRAIGHT TALK

ministries

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## 20 Years later

I just came from meeting with 45 students who are being sponsored to go to Camp Chamisall by the members of First Alliance in Calgary. These students attend a school in an underprivileged part of Calgary and many of them come from families with enormous challenges. I volunteer in this school one morning a week at the breakfast store that is sponsored by First Alliance, so I recognized many of the students who were there.

One girl has her hand in a cast. When I asked her what happened she told me she broke it when she lost her temper and started hitting things. There were three sisters there who have been in fostercare ever since I met the oldest three years ago the week she came to camp and met Jesus. Over the past 3 years I have watched her and one of her sisters not only grow up but change. Today I met their youngest sister who will get to experience camp for the first time this summer. About 2/3's of the students present today have never been to camp! This summer they will be exposed to Jesus and the hope that he brings them! Some of them will have their lives changed forever!

For the past 19 summers I have met students just like the ones I was just with today, each with their own story. Somehow they ended up at Christian Camp; some invited by friends, others there because it is a safe place for mom and or dad to deposit them for a week while they work and the kids are out of school. Some come from great homes, some from devastatingly horrible homes and many from homes somewhere in-between. The awesome thing is that for a week, they will be taken out of their normal routine, separated from their technology and entrusted to a bunch of young adults who, for the most part, love Jesus and

## It's All about Synergy

*Synergy: the extra energy or effectiveness that people or businesses create when they combine their efforts*

- An ordinary woman with a disproportionate amount of passion sits in a Calgary home office and writes a heart igniting book about how people can know each other and God in a real and personal way.
- An international publishing company (Whitaker House) with a heart for evangelism seeks

*"To advance God's kingdom by providing biblically based products that proclaim the power of the gospel and minister to the spiritual needs of people around the world."*

- Stonecroft Ministries, the leading international ministry whose primary purpose is to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with women, looks for fresh ways to capture the attention of unchurched women with the Jesus Story.
- Hundreds of small group leaders around the world shepherd women through studies like **Friend Me** and **10 Smart Things**.
- Christian media search for interesting guests to inspire their viewers and listeners.
- Lonely people with deep spiritual needs and those who are burdened to reach them tune in.
- Straight Talk's prayer partners pave the way for God's Holy Spirit to facilitate the connections and touch hearts.

in turn love them. This coupled with the clear message of Jesus is a perfect storm for heart change and life change.

I will never forget the summer I met Jeff. He was a grade 10 church kid at a Living Spring Bible Camp. He was full of enthusiasm and energy. He had invited three of his school friends to go to camp with him. That summer God really got a hold of Jeff's life and two of his friends accepted Jesus. Over the years I have kept in touch with Jeff. He is a passionate Jesus follower! Not that long ago Donna was speaking in the vicinity of that camp. After the event a woman Donna did not know came and thanked her through tears for my ministry at that camp all those years ago. She shared how thankful she was for her godly husband Blake, who just happened to be one of Jeff's friends who met Jesus that summer.

This summer will be the 20th summer I have had the amazing privilege of inviting students to surrender their lives to Jesus and follow him. My first camp is Living Springs Bible Camp. Jeff is still heavily involved with the camp. He is roughly the age now that I was when we first met!

Camps seem to take more of a toll than they did 20 years ago. My 53 year old body does not rebound quite like it did when I was 34 but I would not trade the opportunity to see God change students lives for anything.

As I stood with the students at Sherwood School today I couldn't help but wonder if they were some of the Jeffs and Blakes God will get ahold of this summer and 20 years from now will still be passionately following Jesus!

Thank you for the part you play. Because 2/3 of Straight Talk's resources come from donations we literally could not do what we do if it weren't for our donors. The fruit we get to see is a result of God's work in student's lives. That wouldn't happen were not for your prayers!



Donna on The Harvest Show with host Valerie Lowe in May

- Our small but faithful band of donors give to make the entire process possible.

It's all about synergy- about engaging in partnerships that open more doors to more people to use their gifts and expertise for the sake of The Kingdom. It's about more people being exposed to the gospel in a way that engages them, attracts them, and culminates in their choosing to enter into a life-giving relationship with God.

You are an essential part of this synergy. We could NOT do this without you. Thank you once again for your strategic partnership. You are facilitating heart change, life change.

## Find us:



Straight Talk Ministries  
Donna Carter

[www.straighttalkministries.com](http://www.straighttalkministries.com)



Donna—STMDonnaC

[www.donnacarter.org](http://www.donnacarter.org)

Straight Talk Ministries is annually reviewed by an independent public accounting firm. Financial statement is available upon request.

Tax Receipts are issued annually for gifts over \$10.00. Charitable Registration #0996611-49

Spending of Funds is confined to board approved programs and projects. Each restricted contribution towards a board approved program or project will be used as designated, with the understanding that when the need for such a program has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the board, the remaining restricted contributions designated for such programs or projects will be used where needed most.

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HEART CHANGE  
LIFE CHANGE



I want to make a difference by investing in Straight Talk:

- With a gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- By Praying. Join our weekly prayer team. Email: [admin@straighttalkministries.com](mailto:admin@straighttalkministries.com)

I want to support Straight Talk monthly:

- \$250  \$100  \$75
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**Monthly Giving Options**

- I have included post-dated cheques to Straight Talk Ministries
- I prefer the convenience of automatic debit and hereby authorize Straight Talk Ministries to withdraw \$ \_\_\_\_\_ from my bank account on the  3rd or  17th of each month (choose one).

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Donations can be mailed to:

Straight Talk Ministries  
38 River Rock Crescent SE  
Calgary, Alberta T2C 4J4

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