



There's a tug of war in our hearts...let God win.



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straight talk ministries newsletter

Straight Talk

Back into His Arms

At 10:02 on February 9th, I received this email: *Hi Donna, I am meeting with the team this evening to look at all the evaluation forms....I have had some positive feedback by email. I personally am not aware of any first time commitments. As to recommits, I know one for sure (as it was me ☺).*

Randy and I like to accurately report spiritual decisions made at our speaking engagements, so I followed up with Dianna* after the retreat. This email was her response.

At 10:50 the same morning, the sequel arrived. "I decided I should share more," and went on to tell this story. At 22 Dianna married a man she believed was a fine Christian, they had two children. Together, they were involved in all kinds of Christian leadership—even leading others to Christ.

On New Year's Eve 2007, Dianna's husband made an announcement that could

not have shocked her more if he had thrown the toaster into her bathwater. He wanted a divorce. Dianna would never have imagined that because of his unfaithfulness, half her 10- year marriage had been a lie.



Jesus welcomes us with complete forgiveness.

Dianna was devastated. She loved being married; the whole idea of being single appalled her. Her sudden neediness drew her into the arms of God and for the next two years depended deeply on Him.

And then another man appeared in her life and she fell "head over heels in love." Although he was not a Christian, she convinced herself that he was the man God had for her. As their romance progressed and they married, Dianna distanced herself from everyone who disagreed with her—including God.

"I insisted on my way...and felt further and

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**When
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Jesus you
have an
explosive
cocktail...**



Students are some of the most open people in our country.

He said

Why Students?

Most of you have heard that close to 85% of people who accept Christ in North America do so before their 18th birthday.

Students are some of the most spiritually open people in our country. They have most of their lives ahead of them, which means two things: 1) when they do come to Christ they have their whole lives to learn to love and serve Him; and 2) they are in the awesome place to choose how they will invest their lives.

Add to that the fact that most students tend to be idealists, they take God and His Word at face value and are willing to act on it. When young people come to Jesus, you have an explosive cocktail of opportunity, willingness and action.

This past fall I spoke at a small church on following God's call on your life. A number of students publically indicated they were willing to follow God's call on their lives no matter what it is or

where it might take them.

Here is what a grade 12 girl wrote to me.

"I thought your message was going to be for the adults, but I found God talking to me. After the service I was wrestling with Him. I was so upset I didn't even eat lunch I just went to my room and cried. I am convinced God wants me to be involved in medical missions. After a long time I came out of my room and told my parents what God had been talking to me about. So thanks."

Just a few weeks ago I spoke at another small church where at least 15 students made a similar commitment. What do you suppose God might call them to do?

I have no doubt as to why I do what I do!

I work with students because they are open to following Jesus and when they do, many follow Him with radical abandon for their whole lives!

Thanks for the part you play in allowing me to be a part of heart and life change that God brings to students! (RC)

She said



Forget Shock and Awe

Randy and I attended the National Outreach Convention in San Diego last fall, and we decided to divide and conquer breakout sessions to cover more educational ground.

Randy's first choice was a class on the church in 2020. Mine was called *Forget Shock and Awe: It's Time for Guerrilla*. Afterward, Randy was waiting at our rendezvous.

"How was your class?" he asked. I just thumped my chest above my heart, too emotional to speak.

At first Randy was disgusted that I had picked a winner and he hadn't. But later, I shared Vince Antonucci's encouragement to implement three values in our lives.

The first: be a God Stalker. Great image—relentlessly pursuing God.

The second: be a Grace Wholesaler. At Costco, you can't buy a 3-ounce jar of mayonnaise. You have to get everything in huge quantities—just how God wants us to dispense grace.

The third: be a Guerrilla Lover.

Antonucci says when you are outnumbered and out-resourced, you have to move in quietly, do what you came to do, and then retreat

until the next opportunity presents itself.

Randy was so struck by these ideas; he adjusted his life mission statement without even hearing the author in person.

We found Antonucci's book, *Guerrilla Lovers* to be life-changing, inspiring us to be evangelists not only at speaking venues, but in our community. We reached out to a newly widowed woman and her teenage son as a result of a winter fender bender. Randy's become part of the boy's world only months after he lost his dad. I began to respond to God's leading to more intentionally inject Jesus into my relationships with a group of unchurched women in my world. Lives *are* changing!

Read this book and let God lead you out of your comfort zone. Don't be deterred by the author's cheesy humour, you won't even notice it after the fourth chapter. Together, we can become God-stalking, grace dispensing guerrilla lovers.

Your gifts send us to conferences that challenge, inspire, and equip us—they keep us constantly thinking about how to effectively join God in His work of Heart Change, Life Change. Thank you! (DC)

**We found
Guerrilla
Lovers to be
life-
changing.
Inspiring us
to be
evangelists
...in our own
community.**



Read this life-changing and inspiring book.



Your gifts make ministry possible

CanadaHelps.org: Visit straighttalk.ab.ca and follow the links to give online. It's safe and secure.

For more information:

38 River Rock Crescent SE
Calgary, Alberta T2C 4J4
Phone/Fax: 403.720.3832
Toll Free 1.866.835.5827
www.straighttalk.ab.ca

Editor: Heather Traub
Parkvista Communications
403-225-6594 h_traub@shaw.ca

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further from God. I had kind of walked away. When I feel like there is a possibility that God is upset with me I push him away because I don't want to think about it/deal with it.

This weekend I was forced to deal with it. That picture of Jesus with the lamb made

me realize that He loves me that much.

Maybe I did something against his will but he has forgiven me. Completely. He has never abandoned me. I abandoned Him. This weekend, I came back into the arms of Jesus." (DC)

**name has been changed.*

Four ways **you** can make a difference by investing in Straight Talk



Equip Randy and Donna to stay relevant and passionate and help them access continuing education and professional development opportunities.



Fund the production of the Face to Face book, another tool designed to draw women to Jesus.



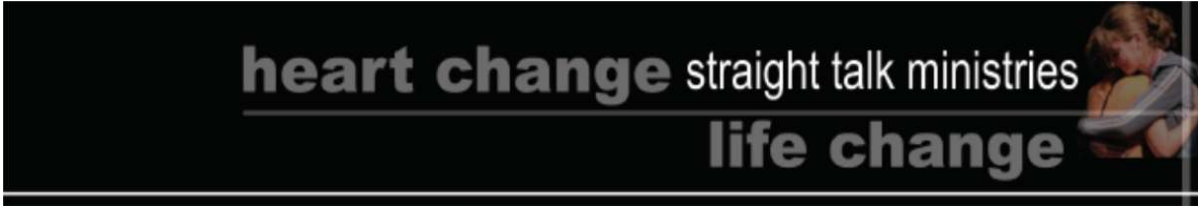
Sponsor Randy & Donna to challenge people to commit their potential to God. **2/3** of Straight Talk's budget comes from our generous partners.



Pray for us. Straight Talk is empowered by consistent, informed prayer. To receive weekly prayer requests in your inbox, send your email address to admin@straighttalkministries.com.

heart change straight talk ministries

life change



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 38 River Rock Crescent SE
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