



FREEDOM MINISTRIES

of the Quad Cities

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September 2018

Parenting Adult Children

I would guess all of us have had trouble raising our children. What a responsibility to bring a child into this world, wanting to teach and train them spiritually and emotionally as well as love and care for their hearts. But, our unresolved issues have a direct impact on how we approach them and so often, we find ourselves damaging and wounding them. *Exodus 34:6-7 "The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."* When we look at the life of King David in 2nd Samuel we see a man after God's own heart. But we see him failing to understand how his behavior and choices would affect, not only his own life, but the life of his children and eventually the entire nation of Israel. David's sin of having many wives, adultery with Bathsheba, and murder of her husband set him,

his family and his nation on a path of ultimate destruction. How often have we heard the old maxim, "one thing leads to another"? David's immorality later influenced his first-born son Amnon to lust after his half-sister Tamar. David's lack of taking action to defend his daughter and punish his son led to Tamar's brother Absalom plotting revenge and eventually killing his brother. And on and on it goes through out David's life.

How do we help our adult children when we have had such an influence in their lives? How do we help them when we see them making choices, so much like our own, that will lead to sorrow and pain? First, we need to examine our own hearts. What unresolved issues in my life have contributed to my adult child's problems? Pride, rebellion, moral failure, bitterness, etc. Psalm 51:17 says *"The sacrifices God desires are a humble spirit--O God, a humble and repentant heart you will not reject."* Psalm 139:23-24 says *"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life."* So, we need to come

Mission

Freedom Ministries of the Quad Cities exists to help couples and individuals experience freedom in Christ through identifying and resolving spiritual and emotional conflicts thus strengthening, empowering and helping fulfill their relationship with Jesus Christ and others.

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humbly to our God, with open hearts, inviting Him to cleanse our own lives where there is sin or wounds from others: confessing our sin, forgiving others and ourselves, then allowing Him to restore all the enemy has stolen from us. Jesus said, *"I came to heal the broken hearted and bind up their wounds."* That's what He wants to do in us so we can be free to give and receive love to those in our family who are hurting. Then, second, God hasn't called us to try to fix them, but to move towards them, admitting wrong, asking forgiveness for our wrong choices that have negatively influenced them and praying for God's healing in their lives. Looking beyond their words and behavior to their hearts.

CFTH Annual Conference

Theme:

"From Performance to a Heart That is at Rest"

November 4–8, 2018

Maple City Chapel
2015 Lincolnway E
Goshen, Indiana 46526

Evening sessions are free and open to the public.

Afternoon workshops for teaching and training will require registration and fee.

Register on line at:
www.caringfortheheart.com

Praise and Prayer

Praise

- ◆ For a marriage that was on the brink of divorce but God turned it around, healed the pain of the past and restored love for each other.
- ◆ For healing the hearts of girls adopted from China.

Prayer

- ◆ For another board member for Freedom Ministries.
- ◆ For a busy fall schedule already filled until January.
- ◆ For God's peace and strength to fill us even when encountering difficult relationship problems.

Birdies for Charity

Thanks to all who sent in pledges for the Birdies campaign. We are so grateful to you for your gifts. 2,355 birdies were scored in this year's tournament!

Thank You!



United Way

Did you know that you can support Freedom Ministries through your company at work? If you'd like



your charitable donations to go toward Freedom Ministries. Just write Freedom Ministries on the line to show where you wish your donations to go. Our United Way number is #663708. We thank you!

If you no longer want to receive the newsletter, please contact us. Our email address is: freedomministries@att.net or write to: Freedom Ministries, P.O. Box 953, Moline, IL 61266-0953