

RANSOMED HEART

LOVE GOD. LIVE FREE.

November 2012

Dearest Friends, Allies,

Radical generosity.

That's what I think of when I think of God. The way he pours forth sunshine. The vastness of the oceans. The way he scattered stars across the night sky. Abundant generosity. I was sitting by a river a few weeks ago, just watching the water flow by, and I was stunned by the realization that this one river has been flowing like that, day and night, all four seasons, for hundreds of years. Radical generosity. Like the way the wine flowed at the wedding in Cana, flowed like a river from the playful, generous heart of Jesus. He is just so generous with his life, his love, his kingdom.

One of my favorite verses is from Luke chapter twelve, where Jesus says that our father is "delighted to give us the kingdom."

"What I'm trying to do here is get you to relax, not be so preoccupied with getting so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep yourself in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met. Don't be afraid of missing out. You're my dearest friends! The Father wants to give you the very kingdom itself. Be generous." (Luke 12:29-33 The Message)

A very good reminder – especially before the Christmas season sweeps over us.

Anyhow, we got to thinking about radical generosity the other day, and came up with a wild idea: Give our message away this Christmas – to you, for you to share.

After all, Ransomed Heart is a revolution, not a book store. This isn't Walmart, or Amazon – this is an invasion of a kingdom. We have a message that we know can radically and beautifully transform lives, heal the brokenness in us, set hearts free! And we long to see it spread far and wide. That is what our hearts beat for; I know yours does, too.

So, at the very time of year when retail outlets and online stores are clawing over each other to offer free shipping *if* you spend hundreds at their site, offer twenty percent off *if* you drop your entire paycheck at their door, we want to do the opposite. Something that feels like radical generosity.

We are giving books away. For free. 20,000 of them.

Yep. Free books. No strings attached.

We can do this through the radical generosity of two donors, who stepped forward and said, "Look – you guys need to get your message out. It works. It really works. You have an army out there who love you. Equip them. Give them the message for free, so they can give it away. Spread this thing."

We fell in love with the idea; we prayed, and Jesus said “Yes!” So here we go...

One box. Six books. All yours. Free.

We figured that most of you have probably given away a copy or two of *Wild at Heart* or *Captivating* (some of you have given away cases and cases!). So we wanted to put in your hands books you might not have passed along. Our “Christmas box” contains two copies of *Desire*, two copies of *Walking with God*, and two copies of *Waking the Dead*. We’re guessing you know six folks who could do with some hope and redemption this Christmas, six souls you would love to bless with healing and life and a true relationship with God. Ask Jesus, *who could I give these to?* So fun!

Simply fill out the enclosed order form, or, drop by our website (we think of it as an arsenal, or supply depot) and order the Christmas box. In order to see this spread far and wide, we need to limit the offer to one box per household. There is a small shipping fee. When the 20,000 books are gone, our warehouse will be empty. But the clouds will be seeded for a thunderstorm of breakthrough!

More than anything we’d love you to catch the spirit of God’s radical generosity; catch the spirit of this movement which is rescuing lives all around the world. Together, we are a mighty team bringing the true heart of Jesus and his beautiful Kingdom to desperate times, desperate hearts. What a joy to be part of this!

Radical generosity.

Now, I’ll be honest...this is the time of year I normally ask you to remember us in your giving. We typically need to make about half our budget through gifts from friends here towards year-end. Giving away 20,000 books feels like a leap in the opposite direction. But isn’t that just like Jesus, too? Live by faith. So, we’re going with generosity, and simply letting you know its because of people and their generosity we can do this, and we’re asking you to join in the spirit and help us in any way you can to carry this beautiful movement to the ends of the world.

I’m excited! I hope you are, too.

With hope and love,



John