

*Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all His benefits—  
who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who  
redeems your life from the pit, and crowns you with love and  
compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that  
your youth is renewed like the eagle's.*

*Psalm 103:2-5*



**“He took up our infirmities  
and bore our diseases.”**

**Matthew 8:17**

*“A heart at peace gives life to the body...”*

*Proverbs 14:30*

**“BY HIS WOUNDS YOU HAVE BEEN HEALED.”**  
**1 PETER 2:24**

*“God sent His Word and healed them”.*

*Psalm 107:20*



**“And they overcame him by the  
Blood of the Lamb,  
and by the word of their testimony...”**

*Revelation 12:11*

*Redemption Life*

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**Jesus** MESSIAH *Healer* Consuming Fire  
*Hope of Glory* CHIEF CORNERSTONE  
**I AM** Mercy King *Mighty God*  
**Prince of Peace** *Redeemer*  
**Shepherd** Strong Tower **Alpha and Omega**  
*The Way, the Truth and the Life* **LOVE**  
**Living Word** LAMB OF GOD *Holy*  
Emmanuel **Lion of the Tribe of Judah** *Rock*

<sup>26</sup> Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: <sup>27</sup> To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of **this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:**

<sup>28</sup> Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

*Colossians 1:26-28*

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a compulsion to argue and a quietness where there used to be anger or anxiety. I am curious about this...but it tastes like freedom and feels like love...and that is more than enough! “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Freedom.” Praise our LIVING God!

Then this is from Val:

Last summer I had a dream. This wasn't new, as my dreams have often been prophetic, and I can track my mental, emotional and spiritual growth through them, back to high school. This one was especially troubling however, and as I prayed for interpretation, God revealed that He was going to deal with issues in my life that have plagued me for the past 40 years. The second issue in my dream related to walls of self-protection. I cried out to God, meditated on scripture, bound spirits, focused on God's word and promises, prayed continually – and made very little progress. I had minor breakthroughs of greater understanding, a new level of forgiveness, and deeper revelation of God's love and grace, but something was holding me back.

Ken told us he was going to teach on spiritual warfare, and I knew this was my time. By the end of the Saturday morning session I was telling God I was His new Jacob wrestling with the angel – I would not leave that place until



I had received my blessing/breakthrough!

As Ken called out specific people for prayer, I felt like a kid begging, “Pick me! Pick me!” As I waited, God gave me a new word related to my issue, one I hadn't known before. While I assumed He had already revealed the deepest level of it, this took it a step further, and I was surprised. But I said, “Okay, let's go for it.” When Ken called me out, I was excited and relieved, and only a little bit scared. Someone asked me later if it was embarrassing to stand in front of 70 people in that way. I had to say no, because looking into Ken's eyes, I have never been more aware of God's love for me, and have truly never felt safer. I knew that God was working through Ken, that I was safe with him, and that as a result, I was safe in front of my CITC family.

## Report Back on Ministry in Chicago

By Michelle Grenfell

Recently, Ken and I visited the Church in the City in Chicago, led by Steve and Debbie Sudworth. It is always a privilege to be on a ‘trans-local’ visit and be asked to minister into the life of a church. From the start of Church in the City, we have had a special relationship with them. Our church has greatly benefited from Steve and Debbie’s ministry when they come here. They have brought people with them when visiting, so I thought it would be good to give our church a report back from our time there. We were specifically asked to minister on Spiritual Warfare. To do this, I am going to take two abbreviated excerpts from their website. For the full testimonies, visit their website: [www.churchinthecity.us](http://www.churchinthecity.us).

The first is from Erin:

The weekend of our fall retreat flowed perfectly. ... On Saturday, during worship, I felt the Holy Spirit surround me in a way I hadn’t experienced before.

The last optional session was for ministry. ... I had a shooting pain in my back, then in my ear, then in my head, then in my shoulder. Ken asked me what I needed prayer for. Then my husband Dave said, “I keep hearing ‘alcoholism’...alcoholism runs in her family.” I reacted immediately, aware

in my mind, but it was as if God made a supernatural freedom bubble around me that allowed me to crack. I began crying and saying, repeatedly, “I’m sorry.”

Ken called on Dave to take authority over this familiar spirit, and as Ken later said, Dave got a crash course in deliverance. I was on my face on the floor, and didn’t hear much as he prayed. He prayed in authority, releasing me from the alcoholic history in my family and the resulting shame, feelings of abandonment or loneliness. I began feeling overwhelmed by tears and relief, and to find peace, stillness, and rest.

I’m still processing what happened. While I never personally struggled with alcohol, despite my family’s battle, I never felt compelled to abstain completely. Nevertheless, I felt it important to apply faith and action to my deliverance, so I am fasting from alcohol for an undetermined time period ... allowing God to work out and cement things He has done and to stand in resistance to a family door the enemy wants to find a way into again.

I now have a quietness in me that hasn’t been there before. ... I now have a stillness where there used to be

## Ivor and Jakki Lewis Bring Blessing to FLC

By George Taylor

Last November, Free Life Church received blessing and grace during a weekend visit by Ivor and Jakki Lewis. The Lewises came to us from Trinity Christian Centre in Victoria on Vancouver Island, Canada, where Ivor serves as lead elder. After personal time with the elders and their wives on Friday, Ivor ministered to a larger portion of the leadership team on Saturday, as well as preaching to the church family Sunday morning.

It’s a privilege to share this report for two primary reasons. First, it reminds us of how God blesses a church through His Word brought by faithful messengers, whether our own elders and teachers or through those He sends from far off, godly servants who comprise a trans-local network and who bring His message in a refreshing way, with unique perspectives from their own journey. Second, it pleases God (as Scripture reveals in many places) when we express gratitude for those who come to us “in the name of the Lord.”

On Saturday, Ivor taught from Judges 6 through 8, calling attention to Gideon’s development from a fearful man in hiding into a mature leader whose obedience to God’s call gave Israel a stunning victory over the Midianites, even though they

were greatly outnumbered. Space doesn’t permit much detail, but the anointed exposition had those present listening intently. Ivor said Gideon was his favorite Old Testament person, and he shared from a thorough knowledge of the account, bringing enlightenment and encouragement.

For Sunday’s message, Ivor’s text was Colossians 4, focusing on verses 7 through 15. His theme was the vital importance of ministry through team effort, a consistent New Testament truth and thus a major emphasis in Free Life Church’s “Vision and Values” principles. In these closing verses of the letter, Paul cites not just one or two fellow workers but nine (9!) specific individuals with whom he had a close relationship and with whom – at one time or another – he labored in spreading the gospel. No “one-man-show” there; indeed, Paul’s apostolic work was infused by true team relationships.

And so the Lewises came and went, humbly and unpretentiously, but they left with us a true deposit of grace and substantive foundational strength. Thank you, Ivor and Jakki!

# God Is So Creative In Healing!

By Patsy Taylor

This is an account of two old testimonies, which have never been shared, but need to be, since they show how God is always at work – even when we least expect it, and in ways we may not anticipate.

In 2001, friends had given us free plane tickets to attend the LTT in California, plus the promise of a host family. However, a sudden arthritic attack rendered me unable to walk without the aid of crutches. I received prayer at church, but had no improvement.

The difficulty of getting around on crutches, as well as my self-consciousness, influenced our decision to forego the trip. When several people encouraged me to step out in faith and make the trip, we decided to go, but I was still feeling very self-conscious, since this was our first LTT and we knew no one.

Arriving mid-week (in the middle of the LTT), we were overwhelmed by the welcome of total strangers, the intensity of the worship, the refreshing exhortations from the speakers, and the

warmth and bold faith of our host family. To my own surprise, I steadily improved every day, and when we boarded the plane to return home, I walked, unaided, and George carried the crutches. God had used the anointing of His presence to heal!

In 2004, another arthritic attack to my knee was so severe that surgery was the only option – or so I thought. When I awoke one morning, I heard the Lord speak very clearly in my spirit. He said, “You are in neutral.” I knew exactly what He meant. Though my knee had been previously healed in 2001, I was not seeking healing this time. I had not prayed about it myself, nor had I asked anyone else to pray for me. I cannot explain why I was in this frame of mind, but that morning I realized that I was simply willing to accept my problem and the doctor’s solution – with no reference to God at all.

God was gracious to reveal this sin in my life. I was acting just like an unbeliever, who has no “Life-flow” from the God of the

5 places to finally answer the “phone that was always ringing.” I finally picked it up....FREEDOM was on the other end of that “phone call.” I had never asked for the healing power of Jesus to restore my leg. I always said to those who wanted or asked to pray for me.....“nahhhh I’m good, I can walk, besides there are other things to pray for that are bigger than me and my poor lil’ old knee.” But was I wrong!

I went to Atlanta to a Glory and Grace conference and experienced the presence of God for three days. I received complete healing of my right leg! But, I didn’t realize it. For 2 years, I had woken up with stiffness and caution, but this day was different. There I was in Atlanta with my skateboard, so there was no way I wasn’t gonna skate. I went from the hotel to the back of the Northlands Church and proceeded to do all the tricks I still knew I could. OOOPPSSEEE...I fell down. I got up and realized I was o.k. Then, I landed a couple

tricks that were impossible before. I ran upstairs before the next scheduled service and realized I was going up them 2 at a time. It was then that it clicked, and I realized what had happened. Frantically, I banged on my parents’ hotel room door and proclaimed with awe and amazement that my leg had been totally healed. I then began doing one-legged squats in front of my parents and friends, Jessica Branson, Joanna Hanchett, and Clarissa Laporo, who also made the trip. I only slept 4 hours that night; in 4 hours God had healed my leg completely, and it took me all day to notice. Go figure.

I never asked for prayer for healing. I always thought God was busy somewhere else fixing a BIGGER problem. But now, my body – in fact, my whole life – has manifested and is still manifesting His greatness. I realize it’s not about how big your faith is for healing, but it’s the healing that will make your personal faith bigger than you ever had before the healing.



## My Complete Restoration

By Brandon Cole

Since the age of 8, I have always ridden a skateboard. My Dad didn't want me to have one, but in 1984, I sweet-talked my Mom into buying me one while my father was away on a military operation. I have been riding ever since. Skateboarding is a freedom never found in typical sports. No points. No score. No "out of bounds." No replays from officials.

Fast-forward 25 years... At one point, I had torn 2 tendons in my left ankle. The doctors call that an "evulsion fracture," which is when tendons take bits of bone with them as they pull away.

So I went out 3 weeks later (June 6, 2009) to ride my board again. I was doing the simplest of tricks down a set of 4 stairs (I have jumped 10 stairs once before, and 8 was the occasional "no guts, no glory" kind of norm). While favoring my fractured / heavily gauzed left ankle, I landed VERY WRONG on my right leg. Imagine your leg making a shape like the letter "Z"! My femur had smashed through my knee and crushed my tibia in 5 places.

Basically, my thigh crushed my shin into 5 pieces. I partially tore my ACL and my PCL as well. I ended up on my mom's couch for 6 weeks in a leg brace and crutches. My whole world crashed around me. I had to quit my job, which resulted in losing my apartment and, eventually, my car. I was told to only carry 30 pounds or less up stairs or down. The doctor said I was to never wear cleats/sport shoes again; the last thing I needed to do was to plant a foot down and pivot above the ankle because it would cause further tearing in the ligaments. The doctors also said that because my ligaments were only partially torn not totally torn, they couldn't repair them.

There I was, stuck with these restrictions for two years and knowing I wouldn't ever be able to go back to the job I had been doing for 15 years (residential and commercial heating and air conditioning), or even run with the dog without pain / stiffness. Then God stepped in... My life before the skateboarding accident had only led to trash; it took me breaking my leg in



universe. I felt duly chastised by God, so I called Ken to come and anoint me with oil and pray for me. When he came, I shared with him what God had showed me, as well as confessing my sin in not obeying the Scripture's direction to call the elders for prayer. He prayed for me on Thursday, but nothing happened, as far as my knee was concerned. However, much happened inside of me, as I felt restored to a closer relationship with the Lord, as well as having renewed faith. Friday and Saturday passed, and still no change. I began to wonder if healing was going to bypass me this time.

On Sunday, Adam Bright and some of his people from their

NC church visited CCI. Adam preached on healing (!), and his people prayed for any needing healing. Naturally, I submitted to prayer again, but still no change. Monday and Tuesday passed, with no change. When I got out of bed on Wednesday morning, I was healed! I walked perfectly, and with no pain. The surgery was cancelled. God never changes, but people change, and circumstances change. Just as healing took many forms in Scripture, so it does today. I learned that I must not "put God in a box," because He always does what is best for His children – in His own special way, and in His own special time.

## Puttin' on the Ritz

By Rebekah Hess

On Friday, December 9, 2011, Free Life Church family gathered at the Shreve Mill property for a night of feasting, fellowship, reminiscing, and dancing. Everyone looked their finest as they traipsed into the beautifully decorated barn. Twinkle lights and dapper silhouettes set the mood for the dinner and entertainment to come.

Dinner was provided by all who came. Appetizers, entrees, and desserts were organized by Clarissa Laparo. The food was excellent and all seemed to enjoy what they had.

We were blessed by many talented performers who entertained us. Some senior youth men created a band that set the tone by playing "Jingle Bell Rock" and showing a humorous slide show whose crowning moment was an image of Clayton in a tutu! Jessica Branson and Joanna Hanchett brought us to worship with a

powerful dance. Chuck Bass reminded us of the glory of God with a recitation of a few Psalms. Bella Laparo shared an original song that was beautifully written. All the talent presentations were thoroughly entertaining.

It was wonderful to spend time with church family and enjoy each other's company. Prizes were awarded to a variety of people, including the Holdstocks who "mysteriously" won the first out-of-a-hat drawing. Bella Laparo kept it honest by pulling a second name, only to find out that the Holdstocks won again! Trivia games were a big hit. Both young adults' tables won the challenges and were bombarded with chocolate as a reward.

The evening wrapped up with dancing. Much of the church family danced late into the night until it was time to clean up and go home. It was a wonderful time and we hope to see you there next year!

