

# FREEDOM



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## Launching New Community Freedom Ministries

### California Freedom Catalyst Event (FCE)

Emmanuel Faith Community Church (EFCC) in Escondido, CA is an amazing place. For 13 years that church has been a lighthouse of freedom to southern California under the leadership of Pastor Jim Learned (recently retired) and Sharon Chapman. They call their ministry the North County Freedom Ministry. It was our privilege at Freedom in Christ Ministries to partner with them for our first Freedom Catalyst Event held at EFCC September 26, 27.

I can't imagine a first event going better.

We began with a time of prayer on Friday evening, September 26. We were hoping for 8-10 pray-ers. Nineteen showed up! Our hearts were knit together as we got to know one another a bit and then came before the throne of grace to ask for God's hand of blessing and protection over those who would come the next morning.

We had about 20 pre-registered for that Saturday's Freedom Catalyst Event (FCE) but all told there were about 42 that were there, including a warm, friendly, efficient team of helpers from the North County Freedom Ministry. We had five different presenters, plus five different testimony-givers speaking to leaders representing over 10 different churches in southern California as well as FICM Ministry Associates from northern California, Oregon and Washington.

We are excited about the potential of these 42 people going back to their home churches and hometowns to start a new Community Freedom Ministry (CFM) or strengthen an existing one in the days ahead. (See page 5 for "What is a Community Freedom Ministry?")

Sharon Chapman, new leader of the North County Freedom Ministry, had this to say about the Freedom Catalyst Event:

"Meeting with the FICM staff and Ministry Associates helped us put our ministry into a larger "kingdom" context. It was a much appreciated and invigorating breath of freshness for us. There is already a good connection with one of the churches represented at the FCE. Two of the women from that church had us take them through *The Steps To Freedom In Christ*. One of their elders sat in as a prayer

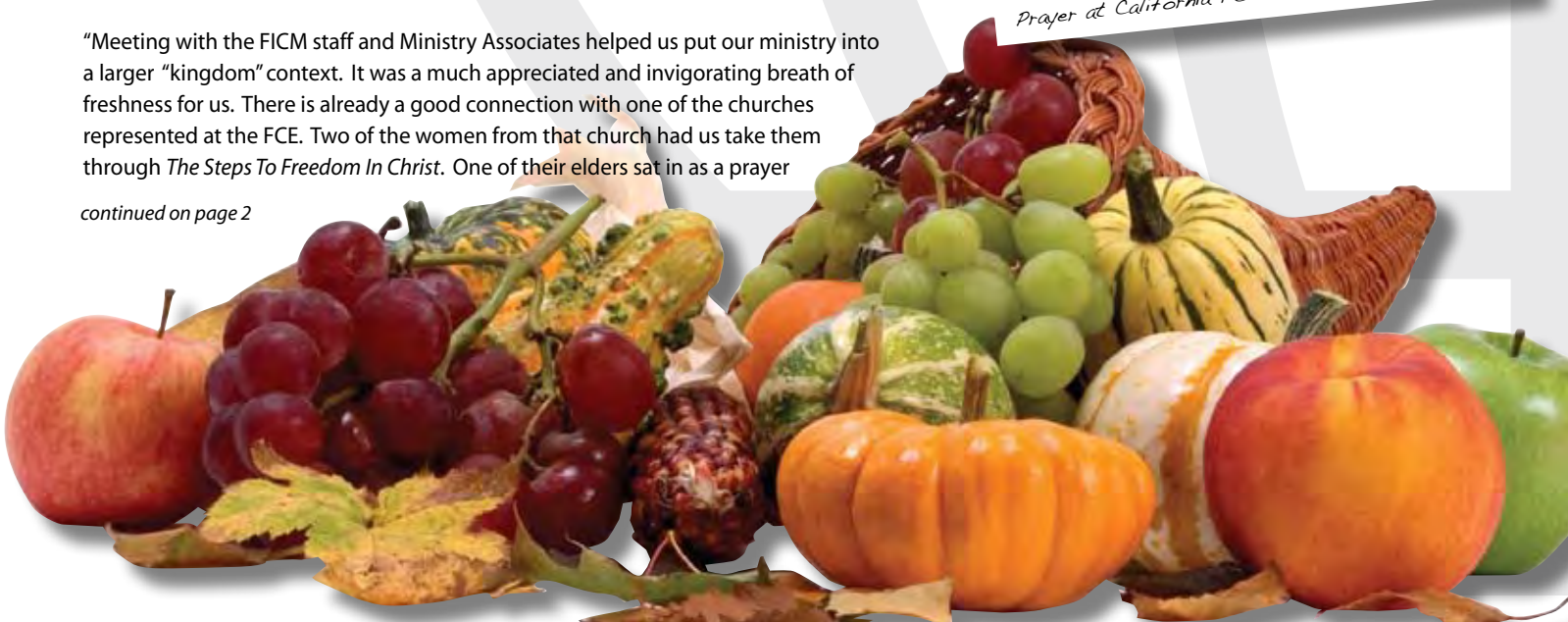
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*Jim, Rich & Sharon*



*Prayer at California FCE.*



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partner. Some are planning on attending our Living Free in Christ video conference. This church is serious about starting a Community Freedom Ministry."

Please pray as Jim Learned and Sharon Chapman continue to pastor, mentor and encourage other CFM's in southern California!

**Texas Freedom Catalyst Event (FCE)**

We picked one of the wildest weekends in the Dallas Metroplex area to hold our second Freedom Catalyst Event (FCE) October 10 and 11. It was one of the weekends of the Texas State Fair and October 11 was the day of the Red River Rivalry between college football powerhouses, the University of Texas and University of Oklahoma. Much to the delight of the crowd at our FCE, the Longhorns gored the #1 Sooners that day!

Again, we were amazed at the turnout for prayer on Friday evening. This time 22 people came out to seek the Lord and implore Him to move in our midst on Saturday.

And He did!

There was a palpable sense of anticipation and excitement among the 40 or so participants at the Restoration Worship Center in Garland, TX. Hosted by Pastor Doug Thompson and his wife, Linda, (who are also both Ministry Associates), the enthusiasm for starting and growing Community Freedom Ministries was very high.

One couple, Chris and Michelle Young, came all the way from Trinidad. They are now excited, equipped and energized to continue the work of freedom in their homeland that was started earlier this fall by Tom and Gay Nell Scarborough (Ministry Associates directors) and the Thompsons.

This is real spiritual multiplication!

The apostle Paul told his spiritual son, Timothy:

*You, therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*

(2 Timothy 2:1,2)

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This event was a great example of the Kingdom saints working together toward a common goal of helping hurting people to find the freedom Jesus came to give them. There was a great evidence of people who were meeting each other for the first time coming together in unity and love as an answer to Jesus' prayer in John 17. I really sensed that the power of the risen Savior was seen in those who testified of Christ's work in their lives. I think the new tools of the freedom ministry are going to be very useful and there was excellent training in how to use them. I sensed there was a helpful teaching of how God has led in this ministry in the past and where we can go into the future. The spontaneity of sharing what God is doing was a clear evidence of God's Spirit and I saw those in attendance leave with direction and renewed hope of how God can use them to minister to hurting people with real root solutions to their personal and spiritual conflicts. May God be pleased to use us for His glory.

Rev. Jim Learned  
Escondido Freedom Catalyst  
Event



Table Talk at Texas FCE.



Michelle, Chris, & Rich





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That is what this ministry is discovering...brothers and sisters in Christ who are strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And then we are equipping these to entrust this message and ministry to faithful ones who will teach others...

Based on the enthusiastic response of people who came to the Texas Freedom Catalyst Event and the resources purchased, it looks like 6-10 new CFM's could result from this October event! Praise be to God!

### Missouri Freedom Catalyst Event (FCE)

Peg and Chapo McCabe are serving the Lord faithfully in the Springfield, MO area and have been ministering freedom to captives for years. Their recent event, "Called to Freedom" with Dr. Neil Anderson drew over 300 participants. In addition to a simultaneous youth event and a well-attended workshop on "Freedom from Fear," the McCabe's also ran a mini Freedom Catalyst Event. That workshop hosted 34 guests from churches representing six different Midwestern states. Peg and Chapo are thrilled to be able to connect and network with these people and assist one another in their mutual labor in the Lord!

What Peg and Chapo are doing in Missouri is aligned exactly with the vision statement of FICM-USA, as determined together in the Lord by the board and leadership of the ministry. The vision statement is as follows:

The vision of FICM-USA is to establish and nurture a growing network of Community Freedom Ministries.

This we desire to see happen all across our land.

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Missouri FCE



Neil Anderson teaching.

It was truly inspirational to see 34 brothers and sisters come together because of a common desire to see other Christians walk in freedom. Not only did these 34 desire it, they are making themselves available to the Lord for Him to use them in their corner of the vineyard! Out of the 22 different churches represented, 17 did not as yet have a Freedom Ministry, but desire to begin one. Now that is exciting! In addition, 19 signed up to receive training and 13 wanted to start with the basic informational freedom class. Virtually all wanted to be part of the freedom network.

On the personal level, two came forward and wanted to be ministered to with *The Steps to Freedom* themselves before they began opening up the ministry in their area. That was especially gratifying because you really need to "own" what you are promoting. Others expressed how much being in a network would encourage them because they are aware of no other such ministry in their area. We had six different states in our region represented in the workshop – Iowa, Illinois, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri. As FIC field staff, Chapo and I will be available to travel to these different areas to do training and assist in establishing ministries. We will begin in Missouri in January. We are grateful for all who have caught the vision!

Peg J. McCabe  
Missouri Freedom Catalyst Event



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When Set Free Ministries was formed in 1996 one of the main goals of the original board was that freedom ministries would be established in local churches, where continued discipleship would be available for those with their newfound freedom. Our dream has always been that God's people, freed from captivity, would mature in Christ and be equipped to help others find freedom in Christ.

What a joy it was to be part of the November 2008 Freedom Catalyst Event that saw about 90 people from four different states gather for this very purpose – to learn how to establish a freedom ministry in their respective communities. God has been faithful to our prayers, bringing in more laborers that will be equipped to set the captives free.

What a pleasure it was to watch like-minded ministries working shoulder to shoulder in a spirit of unity for God's glory. There was no spirit of competition as Set Free Ministries and Freedom in Christ Ministries joined forces to pull off this event. There was only a longing to pray together and collaborate so that more people could be released into ministry so that many more captives can be set free.

Such things are worthy of praise to our heavenly Father! We look forward to seeing how the Lord continues to empower and equip those who came to the Freedom Catalyst Event so they can truly be freedom fighters for His glory!

Dean Vander Mey  
Executive Director  
Set Free Ministries



### Michigan Freedom Catalyst Event (FCE)

Our final FCE for 2008 in Hudsonville (outside of Grand Rapids), Michigan clearly helped propel us forward toward our goal.

Set Free Ministries, first under the leadership of Dr. Jeff Stam and now directed by Dean Vander Mey, has been ministering freedom in the Upper Midwest for over ten years. Working alongside these dear brothers and their staff was an honor. Around 90 participants came to this event to hear how they could be released by the Lord and enter their full calling as "freedom laborers".

Chris & Cynthia Campbell (FICM Ministry Associates; leaders of GenerationFreedom), also conducted several dynamic sessions with about 20 people interested in seeing our youth touched with the message and ministry of freedom.

We shared with the group the acrostic ENTER as our prayer for those who came to the FCE. We prayed that all would experience the following:

- E**ncouragement in their walks with God through the freedom messages taught
- N**etworking with other like-minded freedom laborers
- T**raining at a basic level in how to get a Community Freedom Ministry up and running
- E**mpowerment by the Lord for His calling on their lives
- R**esources and ministry tools to launch a CFM in their home church or hometown

Taking these four events together, we have seen the Lord this fall bring an estimated:

**200 people from 69 different churches representing 14 different states (CA, OR, WA, CO, TX, MI, IL, OH, IN, MO, IA, KS, AR, OK) and 2 foreign countries (Canada and Trinidad)**

Now that is something to give thanks for!



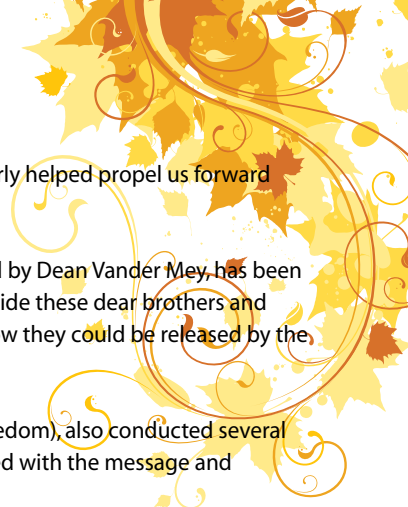
Michigan FCE



Prayer for Healing at Michigan FCE



FICM Book Table at Michigan FCE





## What is a Community Freedom Ministry?

A Community Freedom Ministry (CFM) is an individual, couple or group of individuals who are establishing and developing a "freedom presence" in their church or hometown. This "freedom presence" includes:

**Teaching** the message of freedom (as taught in FICM resources) either through the *Freedom in Christ Small Group Bible Study* or others of Dr. Anderson's videos or in person

**Taking** individuals through *The Steps to Freedom in Christ* in personal appointments

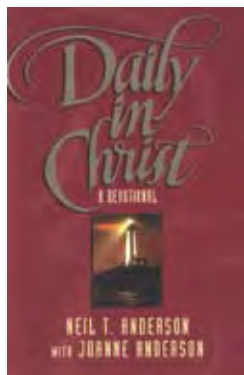
**Training** others to use *The Steps to Freedom in Christ*.

A CFM can start small, and in fact, usually does start small. But as more people are touched by the Spirit of grace, truth and liberty, the ministry typically grows. Those who are set free are often very zealous to help others and so they, in turn, receive training to minister freedom.

If you have already started a Community Freedom Ministry (CFM) and want to stay connected with us for prayer, networking, resources and training events, please contact us at [info@fcm.org](mailto:info@fcm.org) We want to hear from you!



## Year End Devotional Sale!



### Daily in Christ

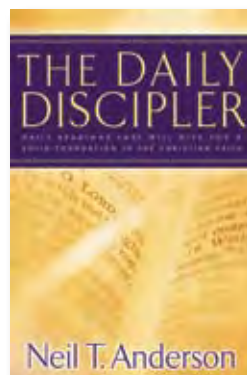
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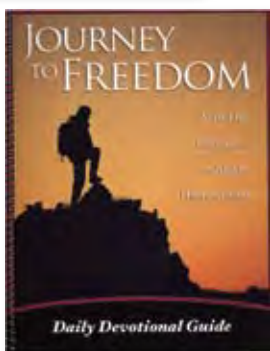
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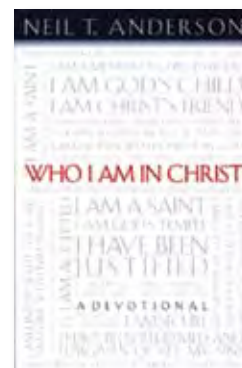
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**Devotional Sale ends December 31, 2008**

# Recipe

## Fresh Apple Pound Cake

From: Carol Russell

3 cups unsifted flour  
2 cups finely chopped pared apple (Granny Smith)  
1 tsp baking soda  
1 Tbls. lemon juice (pour over chopped apples)  
1 tsp salt  
1 cup chopped medium fine pecans  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
1½ cups corn oil  
2 cups granulated sugar  
3 eggs  
2 teaspoons vanilla

### Topping:

1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar  
¼ cup milk  
½ cup (1 stick) butter

### Preparation:

Grease and flour a 10 by 4 inch bundt pan.

Thoroughly stir together the flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt.

In a large bowl, mix at medium speed the oil, granulated sugar, eggs and vanilla until combined. Gradually beat in flour mixture until smooth. Fold in apples and pecans. Turn into prepared pan.

Bake 1 hour and 20 minutes in a preheated 325-degree oven or until a cake tester inserted in center comes out clean.

About 5 minutes before cake has finished baking, in a small saucepan, stirring constantly, bring the butter, brown sugar, and milk to a boil; boil 3 minutes. Pour over cake right out of the oven.

Cool in pan. With a small spatula or knife loosen cake edges and around tube. If cake does not easily turn out onto plate, warm slightly in oven to soften glaze.

For a day or two cake may be stored in a tightly covered container; for longer storage, cover and refrigerate, but bring to room temp before serving.



*As you think about your giving this holiday season, please prayerfully consider helping us continue to spread the message of freedom across this land. The need for freedom laborers "on the ground" in all 50 states is greater than ever! We have enclosed an envelope with this newsletter for your convenience.*

RICH MILLER  
PRESIDENT, FICM-USA

# ThanksLiving: A Way of Life *by Rich Miller*

I really like Thanksgiving. In some ways it seems like it is the one holiday in our country that commercialism has not been able to spoil. At Christmastime we have to endure all the counterfeit imagery of Santa Claus and even Currier & Ives, both of which have little if anything to do with God becoming man and being born in a Bethlehem feeding trough. At Easter kids are generally much more excited about the chocolate rabbits, marshmallow chicks and butter cream eggs that the Easter bunny supposedly brings than the incredible new life the Resurrected One truly gives us.

But at Thanksgiving, it's pretty down to earth. Faith, family, food and football, though depending on your home, those four may be in quite a different order of priority! Even the cultural symbol of Thanksgiving, the turkey, is not expected to bring any gifts to deserving children, except maybe a full tummy and a house filled with napping relatives. After all, we eat the turkey!

As beautiful as the Christmas season can be, it is also the busiest time of the year. Parents flop into bed Christmas night exhausted by all the preparations, parties and presents. On Thanksgiving night, it's different. Parents snuggle up with kids by the fire and doze off with a deep sense of satisfaction and contentment. Not restless but at rest.

Maybe it's because the act of collectively as a nation giving thanks connects us to our God and Father in a very healthy and even healing way. It is right and good and gets our eyes off ourselves and onto the One who deserves our thanks every moment of every day of the year. And for one moment, one meal, we stop, get quiet and for a brief instant do what we were created to do...humble ourselves before our God and give thanks.

I'm writing this deep into one evening in early November. A few hours ago, for the umpteenth time I reminded one of my kids to say "thank you" when some food was passed to him at the table. He grudgingly cooperated, completely unaware of how incredibly important it is for him to develop a grateful spirit.

Early on in my parenting days, I was struck by the power of Romans 1:21 which explains why people will stand one day without excuse before God:

*Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.*

Scary stuff. The long and disastrous road to life and eternity without God starts with an ungrateful heart. From the moment of that revelation, I have been committed to seeing our kids express gratefulness to God and each other as a lifestyle. And it is with deep satisfaction when I hear one of them (unprompted by me!) say "thank you" to one another when food is passed and as I listen to them give sincere thanks to God over the meal.

Paul admonished us to give thanks in everything (1 Thessalonians 5:18) and to give thanks always for all things (Ephesians 5:20). That's easy to do when the turkey is fresh out of the oven and the conversation is lively and there's money in the bank and your football team is ahead.

But what about when the Dow Jones average plummets again? Or when your choice for elected official doesn't win? Or when the only turkey on the table you can afford is in soup from a can? Or when you don't even remember to give thanks because you are so anxious about losing your job or losing your home?

Those days of hardship may be closer to all of us than we know. But God remains the same...our faithful Father and Provider... and we can thank Him for giving us what life on earth can never take away...life and peace in Him now and life and peace with Him forever. I love what Habbakuk wrote as the days of invasion by the Babylonians drew near:

*Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls – yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills.* (Habbakuk 3:17-19)

It seems like God is beginning to fulfill His promise to shake all the things that can be shaken so that only His unshakable kingdom will remain (see Hebrews 12:25-27). But the people of God can give thanks with all their hearts even as society and culture around us shake in terrible fear and insecurity.

*Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.* (Hebrews 12:28)

Thanksgiving. Not a holiday only, but a way of life. Not a response to happy circumstances but to the God who even in the midst of tribulation has overcome the world (John 16:33).

Thanksgiving. Those who make it a lifestyle will experience peace. Those who don't, won't.

Thanksgiving. What is necessary now will be all the more necessary for God's people as the day draws near.

The Lord Jesus has set the captives free and He is reigning in power on His throne. He is coming! Happy Thanksgiving!

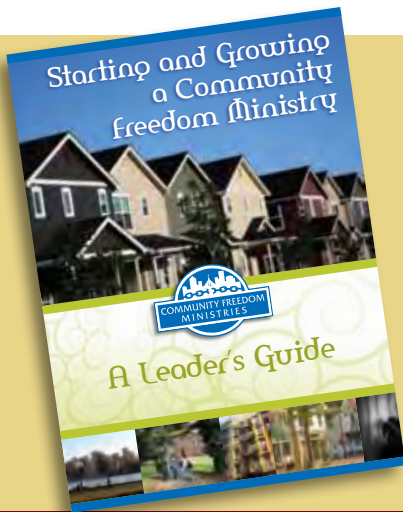






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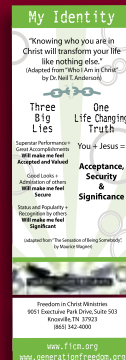
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