

# Freedom!

Spring 2009

Your regular newsletter from Freedom In Christ Ministries

- The purpose of Freedom In Christ Ministries is to equip the Church to establish its people, marriages and ministries alive and free in Christ through genuine repentance and faith in God.
- If you are a leader of a church or Christian ministry, we are a resource freely available to you. We offer help to individuals only via their church.
- Our funding comes entirely from the UK church through donations and resource sales. We can reclaim Gift Aid on donations from UK tax payers.
- We are a registered charity (no. 3984116) and a company limited by guarantee.



Our tenth anniversary is a little like the memorials the Israelites set up in the Old Testament. It

prompts us to look back and remind ourselves what God has done.

We look back to the past not for its own sake, however. But so that we can have increased faith for the future. What God did in the past, he can do again. And more.

We have the privilege of looking back at a decade of seeing God move in truly amazing ways. He did much of it despite us. What we've seen gives us increased faith for the next ten years.

Right now the Lord is opening up more and more opportunities. As you will read (page 5), he seems to be calling the two of us to a new phase of ministry within FIC. We are excited about the possibility of having much more time to spend alongside church leaders and working on new resources.

It involves something new to us: raising personal financial support. To be honest, it feels uncomfortable and difficult, especially in the current financial crisis. But as we look back at what he has done, we realise that it's just not a problem for God.

We sense he wants to say to FIC something like, "You ain't seen nothing yet!"

Steve and Zoë Goss

## Ten Years Of Changed Lives



We are ten years old! It was in October 1999 that Freedom In Christ USA invited Steve & Zoë Goss to open an office in the UK.

This followed the Lord miraculously engineering a visit by Neil Anderson to the UK in June 1999. The picture above shows Neil presenting to them (a little early in July last year) a plaque marking the tenth anniversary of the UK office.

Steve said, "We have seen a lot of lives and even churches

changed through this ministry but there's more to come. I want to pay particular tribute to our fantastic team of unpaid and largely unsung volunteers who teach at events, intercede and direct the ministry simply because they love the Church and want to see her ready for Christ's return. I want also to thank the many faithful people ministering in their churches, often in the face of great difficulty. They are the ones who have done the real work."

### Inside:

- Stories of changed lives
- 10th anniversary celebration and leaders conference with Neil Anderson and Steve Goss in May
- Freedom In Christ For Young People launched in July - reserve yours now!
- Premier Christian Radio's Rick Easter interviews Steve Goss
- New role for Steve & Zoë Goss and how you can get involved
- Guide to FIC's events - which is right for you?



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# News... News... News... News... News..



## Interlaken 2008

In July 2008, representatives and supporters of Freedom In Christ from all over the world met together in the beautiful setting of Interlaken, Switzerland, to celebrate the fact that it was 20 years since Neil Anderson started the ministry in the USA. Above: UK team members with Neil & Joanne Anderson.



The international staff conference included delegates from all over the world. Pictured left are Isaac and Tara Manogarom who run Freedom In Christ's office in Chennai, India, as well as a Christian publishing business and a children's home.

The Swiss office hosted the event. Delegates were impressed to see how the ministry is clearly growing in the German-speaking world.

Sara Hudson from the UK team (below) led worship. Most of the two days was spent praying for the various offices.

This was followed by a conference open to all at which Neil Anderson and Steve Goss spoke. Tim Baynes Clarke and Sue Lindsay led a "Helping Others" workshop.



## Spreading The Word To Leaders

A series of introductory days for church leaders are running all over the UK and Ireland. They focus on the Biblical principles of making fruitful disciples. If you can help spread the word to leaders in your area, please ask us for some leaflets. Adverts have been running in some of the main Christian publications.



## Conference In Portugal

Steve Goss and Andy Moxon recently travelled to Ermesinde, near Oporto in Northern Portugal to run two equipping events for leaders. They are pictured above with Pastor Samuel-Paolo Santos who is now co-ordinating efforts to translate key materials and equip Portuguese churches.

## New Catalogue Now Available

Our latest 16 page catalogue of resources is available. It includes helpful advice on using the Discipleship Course. Call us for a copy.

You can, of course, also see all our resources at the Shop section of our website. When you buy from us, you help fund the work of FIC.

## What Leaders Are Saying

We asked leaders to let us know their experiences of the FIC course and were delighted by a huge response. You can find a complete list of comments on our website (in the Discipleship Course section) but here are some extracts:

We would highly recommend this course, especially for new Christians. The comments most often received from individuals are: "I wish I had known this when I first became a Christian"; "The teaching is so easy to understand"; "No one has ever explained things this way before."

**Sandra Stark Whitlawburn & Springhall Community Church, Glasgow**

One long-standing member said that he had experienced several courses that helped people to *become* Christians, but this was the first that helped him to *be* a Christian.

**Paul Day, St Luke's, Eccleston, Merseyside**

This has been an excellent resource in our inner city Anglican church where many Christians, young and old, come with heavy loads of emotional baggage. Watching people being set free by the Holy Spirit has been immensely rewarding.

**Revd. Arani, Emmanuel Church, Southall**

It has been a joy to watch the amazing transformation in people's lives week by week. We have seen more transformations in three years of running the course than in many years previously. It is an excellent follow-on to Alpha.

**Jenny Walker, Tankerton Evangelical Church**

The FIC course has given us a framework that has allowed people to examine their history and lifestyle without fear and humiliation and provide a way for them to walk from the shadows into the certainty of their new life.

**Graham Marsh, Kings Church Eastbourne**

It has been a great blessing to find a course that combines spiritual development with a powerful healing dynamic and that is equally suited for use in contexts that range from an area of high social deprivation to the more affluent estates. **Canon Steve S. Morgan, Christ Church, Merthyr Tydfil**

One guest had never told her work colleagues that she was a follower of Christ. After completing the course she shared her story with them and brought many of them to Alpha!

**Ben & Becca Oliver, Kerith Community Church**

The course has had a dramatic effect on the life of the church. There is a huge new wave of love, compassion and encouragement amongst us. There is a VIBRANT buzz of expectation of Jesus' healing and restoration. I am so excited about what Jesus has done through the course.

**Liz Smith, All Saints Church, Burbage**

The FIC Discipleship Course has made a big difference to our church. One of the strengths of FIC materials is that they are based on the fundamental fact that most Christians' behavioural problems are, at root, belief problems. As the truth is brought to them and they believe it, they become free.

**John Groves, Senior Pastor, Winchester Family Church**

# Join Neil Anderson & Steve Goss For Our 10th Anniversary Celebrations

## Conferences & Celebration Evenings In Glasgow And Reading

### Details And How To Book

#### Celebrate Freedom! FIC Tenth Anniversary Celebration Evening

Join Neil Anderson and Steve Goss for an evening of teaching, testimonies, thanksgiving, envisioning, worship and celebration. There is no cost and no need to book - just come along. An offering for FIC's work will be taken.

Glasgow, Sunday 10 May, 6.30 - 8.30pm at Queens Park Baptist Church, Camphill Building, 20 Balvicar Drive, Glasgow G42 4RT.

Reading, Wednesday 13 May, 7.30 - 9.30pm at Greyfriars Church, Friar Street, Reading, Berkshire RG1 1EH.

#### Leaders Conference: Why do so many new Christians fall away?

A one day conference with Neil Anderson and Steve Goss which considers the crucial question of why we are often not successful in helping new converts become fruitful disciples.

Aimed at leaders but everyone is welcome.

Cost £20 per person.

10am - 4.30pm

Glasgow, Monday 11 May

Reading, Wednesday 13 May

Venue details as for Celebration Evening above.

Book at [www.ficm.org.uk](http://www.ficm.org.uk) or call 0118 321 8084.



In June 1999, Neil Anderson came to the UK for the first time in seven years, having been invited by Queens Park Baptist Church in Glasgow and Greyfriars Church in Reading. This led to the opening of the UK office - read about it on page 6. The picture below shows the Reading event.

In May 2009, Neil will be coming back to the UK to mark our tenth anniversary and we are delighted to announce that both Queens Park Baptist Church and Greyfriars Church will be hosting a ten year celebration evening and a one-day conference for leaders. The leaders conference will consider the question, "Why do so many new Christians fall away?", and consider Biblical answers. It will also include a preview of the new Freedom In Christ For Young People course.

There is a great deal to celebrate: there are countless changed lives; thousands of churches have benefited from the FIC approach. We hope that everyone whose life has been touched by the Lord through FIC will be there!



## "I Am A Dead Man Walking"



"When I was 20, I became a Christian and did all the usual things: Sunday School teaching; youth group leader; preacher; deacon. In my early forties I totally and utterly stopped believing as if someone had turned off a big switch. The next few years were difficult. All my friends and family were Christians whereas I disliked Christianity very intensely. I also became quite ill and couldn't seem to fight the illness off.

One day my wife invited me to go and listen to Steve Goss who was running a course at a local church. What I heard was the first thing that had made sense to me for five years:

'If what you believe is not based on the truth, then what you feel will not reflect reality'. I already knew from training for my job in sales that this was true. Slowly I began to discover the truth and over the following months was reconciled to God, family and friends. I could almost physically measure the increase of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and self control.

I watched the FIC Course on DVD followed by a freedom appointment. The difference in my life was chalk to cheese. I sometimes describe myself as a 'dead man walking' as I was dead and 100% deceived but now I am absolutely alive.

Now aged 50, I am content, peaceful and happy. I know the truth that God loves me (and therefore I can believe that others love me) and that I am 100% free." **Chris Jones**

# “Now I Can Look In The Mirror And Say ‘I Am Significant!’”

Jane's\* childhood was difficult. Her parents divorced when she was three and she lived with her father and grandparents. When her father remarried she suddenly found herself without her beloved grandmother and living in a reconstituted family of five children that quickly became dysfunctional.

She witnessed and suffered a great deal of emotional, psychological and physical abuse and came to see herself as the black sheep of the family. “I did not know what love was and longed for affection.” She turned to drink and was once raped after being plied with vodka.

At 19 she married. At first her husband treated her well but before long she was suffering violent attacks. “He strangled me when he got angry until I could not breathe, punched me and kicked me regularly. He tried to throw me down the stairs, he smashed my head into walls even when I was pregnant.”

She tried to leave several times but he always promised it would never happen again. “He isolated me from all my family and told me I was fat, ugly and worthless.” She came to believe those lies. “I became a void. All that kept me going was my two children whom I loved dearly.”

It is perhaps not surprising that Jane suffered from anxiety and depression for many years. She grew to hate herself.

“I felt worthless, dirty, hopeless and insignificant”. This led to self-harm - “I would regularly pull my hair out, bang my head on the wall and sob and rock myself for comfort” - and also to bulimia. “I dieted to please my husband so he would love me. I went from fifteen and a half stone to nine stone but he continued to make me feel fat and ugly.”

To make matters even worse, her young daughter was abused by a family member. “At that point,” she says, “I was so low that I didn't care much if anyone hurt me. Following my marriage



breakdown I was broke and homeless. I turned to alcohol and sleeping around to find love. It's only now that I realise I was actually hurting myself by looking for love in the wrong places. I was in the clutches of the devil himself.”

In 2004, through many praying family members and the love of the man who was to become her second husband, she became a Christian.

She attended the Freedom In Christ course in her church and says, “This course enabled me for the first time ever to love and accept myself for who

I am in Christ. I have experienced many miracles – to have a loving husband, to have three lovely children despite being pronounced infertile, other physical healing – but to truly accept myself has been the biggest miracle of all.”

Jane is now at university studying for a Social Work degree. The depression, bulimia and self-harm have gone. “But”, she concludes, “the biggest gift of all that God gave me is actually to be able to look in the mirror, love and accept myself and say, ‘I am significant!’”

\* Jane is not her real name

## Setting Your Marriage Free - Retreats For Leaders

These special events are an opportunity for church leaders and spouses to fine-tune their marriage and (if desired) to be equipped to run a similar retreat in their own church. Compassionate instruction and direction will help you make sure that Christ is right at the centre of your relationship. You will be given the opportunity to renew your marriage vows and go through the Steps To Setting Your Marriage Free, a process that will help you deal with footholds of the enemy that may have held your marriage back. Topics covered include: establishing God's priority for marriage; balancing rights and responsibilities; releasing old hurts; breaking cycles of abuse; breaking sexual bondage; unmasking Satan's deception; taking it back to your church. This conference is for main church leader couples who are committed to making a good marriage even better, who repeatedly struggle with the same troublesome issues, or who want to learn how to encourage other married couples and take the principles back to run in their own church. These two-day retreats run once or twice a year in conference centres and hotels around the country. For information about forthcoming retreats, please e-mail [marriage@fcm.org.uk](mailto:marriage@fcm.org.uk).

# Crucial New Role For Steve & Zoë - Your Help Needed To Make It Happen

Has your life been touched or your ministry helped in any way by Freedom In Christ and Steve and Zoë Goss? Would you like to play a part in helping them make an even bigger impact to equip the Church?

In Spring 2007, we reported that FIC's trustees sensed that God was asking Steve and Zoë to lay down their business to concentrate fully on FIC. Thanks to your faithfulness in praying with us and providing help and financial support, Steve and Zoë were released into this new role and Steve did indeed become FIC's first full-time employee. That move brought some great results:

- Steve was able to complete the four "Discipleship Series" books now so appreciated by thousands
- The UK played a significant role in the formation of Freedom In Christ Ministries International and is actively involved in helping offices overseas
- Well over 100,000 people have been through the FIC Discipleship Course in the UK
- Steve has helped groups of leaders begin to grapple with applying "freedom principles" to whole areas with clear, positive results
- With the help of our wonderful teaching team, FIC runs somewhere near 50 training events a year
- The Freedom In Christ For Young People course launches in July

FIC is a busy but very small organisation that many say "punches above its weight". The administration of events, sending out of resources and responding to requests by telephone and e-mail are all managed by our hard-working and efficient part-time office manager (Elaine Jones), a small team of volunteers and Steve.

Most of Steve and Zoë's time is taken up by the day-to-day running of the ministry. The trustees now want to free them up to focus much more on three key areas:

1. Developing new resources (such as a follow-up to the Discipleship Course) and strategies for churches to bring freedom to whole communities
2. Spending time with individual church leaders to encourage and support them
3. Helping establish FIC offices in other countries

Steve will remain at the helm of FIC but will be looking for the right person to take over running the day-to-day operations. Zoë has been unable to work recently due to illness but encourages and prays as she recovers.

Steve and Zoë are paid one full-time salary between them which comes from proceeds from events, book sales and current donations. They now want to release that money for this new person. They, therefore, need your help to cover their support in their new role.

We are looking to establish a team of direct support from churches and individuals for them, a team of people whom they will keep very well informed about everything that's going on and the impact being made.



This is one opportunity where you will see just what a difference your giving is making. Steve says:

**"Zoë and I aim to build a team of churches and individuals who will support us with regular giving because they want to see this life-changing message impact more people and even whole communities.**

**In return we'll keep them right up to date with everything that's going on. We're experimenting with using the social networking site, Facebook, to keep people informed about the effect their giving is having without trespassing too much on their time.**

**If you join this team, you have our assurance that your giving will be put to really effective use to prepare the Bride of Christ for His return."**

## How You Can Get Involved

Will you support Steve and Zoë personally?

Please complete the form on the back page of the newsletter and send it to us in the reply-paid envelope supplied. We are looking for 20 people who will give £50 a month and 50 people who will give £20 a month. But feel free, of course, to give other amounts.

Will your church support Steve and Zoë?

We are looking for 5 key churches who will support to the tune of £1,000 to £2,000 a year and 20 who will give £250 to £1,000 a year.

Download a PowerPoint presentation to present at your church. Find it at the "Become a Partner" section of our website which also includes more information on supporting Steve and Zoë.

## Find Out More At A "Webinar"

We are running a series of "webinars" in which Steve will present briefly why your funding will make such a difference. You will find times and dates on the "Become a Partner" section of our website and can book your place at the "Make A Donation" section of the web shop or by calling us on 0118 321 8084 (office hours).

You will be given a freephone number to call and a website to log into. Then you can listen in from the comfort of your own home while Steve talks through live in about 20 minutes what your giving will enable us to achieve. There will be a question and answer session afterwards. Places are limited to 25 people per session.

# 2009 And Beyond - Rick Easter

Rick Easter presents Premier Christian Radio's Worship Hour and has recently completed the Freedom In Christ Discipleship Course. When he spoke about his experiences on-air, an unprecedented number of people - around 1,500 - called in for more information. He recently interviewed Steve Goss to set the scene for FIC's 10th anniversary year. You can download it as a podcast from our website. In the meantime here are some key extracts.

**Rick:** My wife and I have recently done the FIC Discipleship Course. It's had such an impact on our lives. For me personally, I'm a calmer person. My relationship with the Lord is so much closer. And it's had such a positive effect on my marriage and on my work. I feel that every Christian should do this course. Joining me now is Steve Goss. It's 2009. It's the 10th anniversary of FIC opening its doors in the UK. How did it happen?

**Steve:** Ten years ago I was happy running a small mail order business... *[Steve relates how the dramatic change in one couple led his small Baptist church to teach FIC principles. You can hear the whole story on the podcast. Ed]*

Before we knew it, we had 70 or so people coming and lots of stories of people's lives changing.

About that time I started getting the bizarre feeling that the Lord wanted us to open an office in the UK. We sent an e-mail in to FIC in the States asking, "Have you got an office in the UK?" The



reply came back, "Yes we have. It's in Geneva!" They told us they had taken a decision that they didn't want to open any more overseas offices. However, they said, "Why don't you organise a conference and invite Neil Anderson and take it from there?" We totted up the costs and it was going to come to half our annual budget so we just left it on the back burner and carried on with our little local phenomenon. A little later, they e-mailed us to let us know that Neil Anderson had just accepted an invitation to the UK to run a conference. We asked where he was coming to. The reply came back and said he was coming to Reading - which is where we live! The next thing we knew, we got a call from our local large conference-running church, Greyfriars Church in Reading, saying that they realised

they didn't know that much about Neil Anderson and asking if we would run the conference with them. So we met Neil Anderson face to face. Within 5 or 6 months, the board of FIC agreed that we could open an office.

We have seen now about 100,000 people go through our Discipleship Course in 4 years which is phenomenal.

**Rick:** It has made an incredible difference. Are you surprised at what has happened?

**Steve:** I'm not surprised it's made an incredible difference to people's lives because that's my own testimony and from the earliest days that's what we saw. I am surprised at how the Lord has taken it and used it in the way that He has.

**Rick:** The organisation is fairly small. How do you manage to run 50 or so events a year?

**Steve:** We have this amazing team of volunteers. We have, for example, a great team of intercessors who really commit themselves to pray and keep praying. And then we have a teaching team of 30 - 35 people. The lovely thing is that the people speaking at our events are people who themselves have had their lives impacted. They do the events just because they want to spread the word. They take no payment. The feedback we get from the events is fantastic.

**Rick:** How did you put the course together? And how did you agree on the important elements?

**Steve:** From the earliest days it became obvious to us in the UK that we needed something that was put together in the UK. The question was whether Neil would allow that. When we'd been going about 3 years, I plucked up the courage and asked him. Neil is a very generous, very gracious guy and he agreed. It took 3 years for us to do it. First we adapted his material for our conferences, then we added some extra bits - for example Session 4 on world views. We put the material in a substantially different order and we tried to make the whole thing more direct so that every session had just two or three main points. One year Neil and I did two weeks at Spring Harvest and poor Neil spent most of the time in his chalet going through the draft and marking it with red ink. I learnt so much seeing what he had corrected on my work.

**Rick:** Do you feel that the course can be developed even further or has it reached a point where it doesn't need any tweaking?

**Steve:** We feel that the course has worked so well - we get so many stories of people's lives being transformed - that I am reluctant to tinker with it very much. Having said that, we are aware of the need to update it from time to time. We want to do some work on the Pause for



# ter Interviews Steve Goss

Thought questions and update the video at some point.

**Rick: The simplicity of it is, I think, a key element. It was such a breath of fresh air. Also I enjoyed the humour. Are you looking at injecting some new jokes?**

Steve: If we ever change it, we'd certainly want some new jokes! Would you like one? Here's my current new joke. This is a lawyer talking to his client.. *[For the rest, listen to the podcast! Ed]*

There are a couple of other ways that we are looking to develop the course. We are doing a youth version of the course in conjunction with Youth For Christ, the same team that worked on Youth Alpha for HTB. We've had some fantastic donations – about £20,000 – which enables us to put some very good production values into it so that it will look fantastic and yet it won't cost a fortune so youth groups will be able to afford it. We've got a couple of young presenters – Kate and Nathan from YFC. Each session has some video shot out and about on location. The strongholds session, for example, is shot in a castle. There's one session shot in a maze, another on a golf course. What really excites me about that is the fact that youth leaders themselves will "get it". It is launched in July.

There's one more direction to tell you about – a little bit further out into the future. We are working on a follow-up to the Discipleship Course. Our working title for this is "Experiencing the Fullness of God's Grace". I thought that my Christianity wasn't about obeying rules. But I've looked at it and I think there's a fair bit of legalism in me. For example, the big thing for me has been the thought that as a Christian you should have a quiet time every day. Of course, that's a great thing to do. However, I find myself waking up every morning with a little tape playing in my head, "You must have a quiet time," which is a law concept and so, of course, I don't want to have one. If I do, it feels as if I am doing it under duress. What we want to help Christians do is get to the point where they realise that there are good things to do and that you have a freedom to make good choices but that you do them because you want to, because you love God, not out of any sense that you are doing it to somehow earn His approval or His affection.

**Rick: I am reliably informed that you are taking up a new role...**

Steve: In the last couple of years we have set up a structure called Freedom In Christ Ministries International made up of the people who run each office and we come together once a year. We intentionally take responsibility for people who are just developing. For example, in the UK, we have responsibility for a developing office in South Africa and for a new office in France. We are also encouraging a group of church leaders in Northern Portugal and are having some input into a missionary organisation who is translating it into Farsi to beam it into Iran. For 2009 I am co-ordinating FICMI.

**Rick: What's next for FIC in the UK? Where do you think the Lord is directing you?**

Steve: The Lord started us very much at the level of individual Christians finding their freedom but He's impressed on us in the last couple of years that there is a 'next level' that is to do with taking the same principles – knowing who you are and what you have in Christ, understanding the reality of the spiritual battle and how to win it – and moving them up to the corporate level of individual church fellowships and then beyond that to what you might call the one Church in a particular town. Let me give you some examples of that. One church asked me in and we did what we call a "Setting Your Ministry Free" retreat which is where you take those principle and you look at the global picture of your church fellowship, you look at the footholds the enemy may have got there through past sin of other leaders or your own leaders' sin and you renounce them. They discerned during the process that suicide had been a particular attack of the enemy on them. There had been a very painful period for them several years previously where a man had committed suicide and his wife had threatened to sue the church and the pastor because she held them responsible. There were a lot of tears as they remembered that. They stood up, recognised who they were in Christ as people who were called to leadership in that church and they renounced that attack. We broke for lunch and after lunch one of the guys shared that he had gone out for a walk and had bumped into the lady who was going to sue them, the first time any of them had seen her apparently for seven years. And she had been very smiley and had wanted to send her best

wishes to the rest of the leadership team. So there was a very clear demonstration that you stand up, you break a spiritual attack or a stronghold and it is broken. I've seen a number of churches completely turn around. *[Steve gives a couple more examples on the podcast. Ed]*

Could we imagine taking that up to the level of the one Church in a particular town or city or place? We're coming from the position that says that the normal state of the Church should be one of growth and taking back what the enemy has. How do you do that? Well, one of the major principles is unity. In John 17, pretty much the one thing Jesus chose to pray for those who would come after the disciples is that they would be one, "so that the world may know". If you take that and you put it alongside something like 2 Cor. 4:4 which says the enemy has blinded the minds of the unbelieving you think "OK, there's something to do with unity that will stop the minds of the unbelieving being blinded". Although we might have great evangelistic programmes, there's more going on than that. If we want people to respond to those in a bigger way, we have to do something about what you might call 'the spiritual climate' or 'the spiritual environment'. All over the UK, there are groups of leaders who are gathering together, and have been for a decade in some cases, in genuine, unforced unity. When you have a group like that, they can stand up and do a sort of "Setting Your Church Free" as the leaders of the one Church in that area. We have tried it in a small way in Reading. *[Steve relates some amazing results including a fully-funded outreach project worth £10,000+ that they weren't even looking for. Ed]* You see the results when the Church takes its own responsibility seriously.

**Rick: For you personally, your role in FIC is evolving...**

Steve: Our Trustees and our intercessors have had a sense that what the Lord wants to do is put Zoë (my wife) and me into what you might call a wider role. We are a small organisation and I am very hands-on. I tend to get involved in just about everything. They want Zoë and me to be released into focussing on the things that the Lord has particularly gifted us for. That would be offering direct encouragement and support to church leaders, developing the international role and developing

new resources. They want to free me and Zoë up to do that, the implication being that we will then need to fill my day-to-day hands-on role by putting someone else there. So we are going to try to change our support model. We want to free up the money that we have been taking out of the ministry for someone else. We are looking for a team of people who will support us financially, but not just financially. We would ideally like a team of churches and individuals who will take a real interest. We'll update them on what we're doing and they will be a team of people who are right behind us in prayer.

**Rick: What are you doing this year to celebrate the tenth anniversary?**

Steve: We've persuaded Neil Anderson to drop in on us. On May 13, Neil will be back at Greyfriars Church in Reading where it all started, where we first met him. There's some lovely symbolism. Greyfriars Church is one of those really old Anglican churches and at one time it was turned into a prison. We like the fact that it was once a prison and now we're celebrating freedom there. Neil and I are going to hold in the daytime an event aimed at leaders but anyone can come. It's about envisioning the Church, looking at the sort of things that we've talked about, the direction we're going in, teaching again some of these key principles that we can never get enough of. Then in the evening we are going to have an all-out celebration, thanksgiving for what God has done in ten years. We'd love as many people as possible whose lives or ministries have been touched by FIC's message to be there. There'll be opportunity for some testimonies, there'll be worship, we'll get Neil to do a little bit of teaching but essentially it will be a celebration of our ten years.

**Rick: What has been Neil's response to what has been happening here in the UK?**

Steve: He's been delighted by it. In our early days, the likes of Neil & Joanne Anderson and Joe & Kathy Wasmond who were running the ministry in the States spent a lot of time here in the UK which really got us moving. In our new role we want to do the same in other places.

To listen to the podcast, go to the News section at [www.ficmi.org.uk](http://www.ficmi.org.uk).

# Get Equipped To Make Disciples!



Andrew Miles, Senior Pastor of Herne Hill Baptist Church in London (pictured right with wife Talita), recently joined our teaching team. He says, "I was introduced to Freedom in Christ by our friends at Kingdom Faith Ministries who told me the course was 'really something'. The course is dynamic and challenges a lot of the thought patterns that so many of us struggle with. It is not complicated nor is it over simplistic. It moves people away from 'coping' with situations towards dealing' with them. In my role as a pastor, I realise that I am called to train eagles, not to fly kites - this course is a great resource to get people airborne or to help those who are flying to fly higher."

Anyone who is interested in making fruitful disciples will benefit from attending our regular events. There are three different main events (see opposite page) which, between them, are designed to equip a church completely with "the FIC approach". They follow on from one another in a series - we often run them all in the same area over a 6 to 9 month period to enable your team to attend them all in sequence.

We spread the events out around the whole of the UK and Ireland so that you should not have to wait too long for one in your area. New dates are added all the time so please check the website or make sure we have an up-to-date e-mail address for you and we will alert you when an event is booked for your area.

The events are run by a team of around 40 fantastic practitioners who have a passion for sharing principles that have proved so helpful in their own ministries. They are a mine of helpful information, hints and tips.



## "I Was Set Free To Be Myself"

Ten years ago, Prue Magee was working as PA to Jonathan Wilmot, vicar of Greyfriars Church in Reading, when she became an integral part of the story of FIC.

During a Lent Study of The Bondage Breaker by Neil Anderson, peoples' lives in the church had been changed so significantly that an invitation was issued to Neil to come to the UK to run a conference. Prue was given the task of masterminding that event.

She heard that a small Baptist church nearby had been using Freedom In Christ material and contacted them to ask if they would help. She well remembers her first meeting with Steve Goss (from the Baptist church) and how he said, "He may not know it, but I'm pretty sure the Lord is bringing Neil Anderson to Reading so that we can open a Freedom In Christ office in the UK."

Although she was busy administering the event, she heard enough of the teaching to pique her own interest. Over the following years she and husband Stephen became more involved in the fledgling organisation. Stephen was one of FIC's original trustees and together they taught on "Setting Your Marriage Free" retreats.

As she looks back, she sums up the difference in her own life by saying, "The Freedom in Christ course set



me free to be myself."

It has been an ongoing journey as she has gradually uncovered the roots of personal struggles. "I did not grasp where my sense of insignificance, insecurity and lack of self worth came from. Over time I have learnt to recognise the strongholds; not to condemn myself; and to ask for forgiveness, bring down the stronghold and walk in the opposite Spirit. I now know that I am a saint who sins, not a sinner striving to become a saint."

# A Guide To FIC's Equipping Events

## Getting Started With The FIC Approach

### *Making Fruitful Disciples*



This one-day event sets the scene, introduces the Biblical principles involved in making fruitful disciples and explains how to implement them using the FIC Discipleship Course (main and youth versions). First we establish a foundation of key Biblical principles. Then we look at practical ways to implement them and how to run the course.

- How to help every Christian mature and become fruitful much faster
- Why many Christians do not know what they already have
- Equipping people to win the spiritual battle and stand firm
- Helping people assume responsibility for their walk with the Lord
- Introduction to taking people through The Steps To Freedom In Christ to resolve personal and spiritual conflicts
- Tips for running the FIC Discipleship and FIC For Young People courses
- Running the courses after Christian basics courses such as Alpha / Youth Alpha

#### Who should attend?

- Church leaders who want to know more about the FIC approach and the Discipleship Course
- Youth leaders who want to know more about FIC for Young People and how to run it
- Anyone involved in leading a FIC course at their church

Preparation? None.

Suggested next event:

Helping Others Find Freedom In Christ

Some comments from attendees:

"Sounds clichéd but why didn't I know about this sooner? Excellent, excellent, excellent."

"Tremendously inspiring. A key to the way forward."

"An eye-opener. I am deeply challenged."

"I have been longing for something like this for a long time!"

"Really well presented and excellent content."

## Helping Others Find Freedom In Christ

*Everything you need to know about taking people through the Steps To Freedom In Christ*



This one-day event will give you confidence to lead others through The Steps To Freedom In Christ whether you are planning to lead personal freedom appointments or a "Steps Away Day" as part of the FIC Discipleship Course.

- Why the primary responsibility for the outcome of the Steps appointment does not lie with you but with the freedom seeker
- Why your role is not to work out what is wrong and to "fix" it but simply to help the freedom seeker connect to the One who is the "Wonderful Counsellor"
- How to set up the appointment and manage it effectively
- What each of the seven Steps is about and how to lead people through them
- How to help freedom seekers identify faulty beliefs and begin a process of renewing their minds
- Hints and tips from experienced practitioners

#### Who should attend?

- Those leading FIC Discipleship Courses
- Those who want to help others take hold of their freedom in Christ

#### Preparation?

Assumes that participants are familiar with FIC's basic teaching.

Suggested next event:

Helping Others With Deeper Issues

Some comments from attendees:

"Inspiring. Can't wait to get started."

"Excellent day - encouraging and equipping"

"I especially enjoyed the video clips of personal experiences."

## Helping Others With Deeper Issues

*Equipping for church teams who are helping people with deeper issues such as abuse, addiction and depression.*



Discover why every Christian - no matter how badly "messed up" - can find their freedom and become a fruitful disciple as you encourage them to choose truth and to resolve their personal and spiritual conflicts. Typically runs Friday afternoon and evening and all day Saturday.

- Why every Christian (no matter how "messed up") can become fruitful
- Why Christians with deeper issues need to know what they already have
- Equipping people to win the spiritual battle and stand firm
- Understanding who is responsible for what and helping those with deeper issues assume responsibility
- Setting up a church team to work with a person with deeper issues
- Understanding issues such as abuse, dissociative disorders and addictions
- Tools to use with Christians with deeper issues

#### Who should attend?

- Those who want to understand and help people resolve deeper issues
- Ideal for whole teams

Preparation? Assumes that participants have attended a Helping Others Find Freedom In Christ workshop or have read Discipleship Counselling by Neil Anderson.

Some comments from attendees:

"Very interesting, very full and helpful, filling in gaps in my knowledge, especially Dissociative Identity Disorder."

"Excellent presentation - encouraged me to offer help to those in deep need."

"Very encouraging that presenters had been through and shared their own experiences."

Find dates and venues online at [www.ficm.org.uk](http://www.ficm.org.uk)

Want to be alerted to events in your area?

E-mail [events@ficm.org.uk](mailto:events@ficm.org.uk) with name, address and postcode and we will e-mail you details of local events 4 to 6 weeks beforehand.

## Could Your Church Host An Event?

We are so grateful to the many churches around the country who host our events and so help other churches make fruitful disciples. We are always looking for more host churches, especially in areas that have not had many FIC events. Could your church host one?

It's not a complicated undertaking and would be a real blessing both to us and to those local leaders who come to the event. It is also an opportunity for key people in your own church to get hold of the principles. Our main events are shown above. You may like to host just one or possibly a series. The events build on each other so you could host all three events over a period of, say, 6 to 12 months.

Interested? We are looking for churches who will be real partners with us, not just those who are offering a "venue". If you are enthusiastic to share this approach with others, are prepared to promote the event locally, and can organise prayer in your church for the event, we'd love to hear from you. Of course, you also need to have a suitable building, one that can seat 50 or so in reasonable comfort.

You can download a document with much more information from the Events section of our website. Then please get in touch!

# Freedom In Christ For Young People Available From July 2009 - Order Now!



“Every young disciple is looking to engage with Jesus in a way that will change lives. This innovative, exciting course will help young people discover the truth of who they are in Christ and be set free to be all that God has made them as a result.”

**Mike Pilavachi, Founder & Director of Soul Survivor**

“Freedom in Christ is a creative and relevant course for teenagers with the potential to produce a generation of fruitful young disciples.”

**Martin Saunders, Editor of Youthwork Magazine**

It's the culmination of 18 months' work by a team from FIC and Youth For Christ. Freedom In Christ For Young People is finally set for launch! We are so grateful to those who contributed a total of £20,000 towards it.

The aim of this brand new resource is to set young people firmly on the way to becoming fruitful disciples who are sold out for God and who will make a radical difference. It is, of course, based on the main Freedom In Christ Discipleship Course and can be run alongside it in your church (the sessions correspond exactly).

The course contains relevant, interactive, multi-media based material split into two age ranges (11-14 and 15-18). It is packed full of games, activities, discussion-starters, film clip suggestions and talk slots. Each session includes a video teaching component (right: the Strongholds session filmed at Bodelwyddan Castle).

The course is scheduled to be available from July 2009 but may be ordered in advance to ensure that you get yours as soon as it is in stock. More details on-line.

#### **Leader's Guide including DVD (£30.00 FC227)**

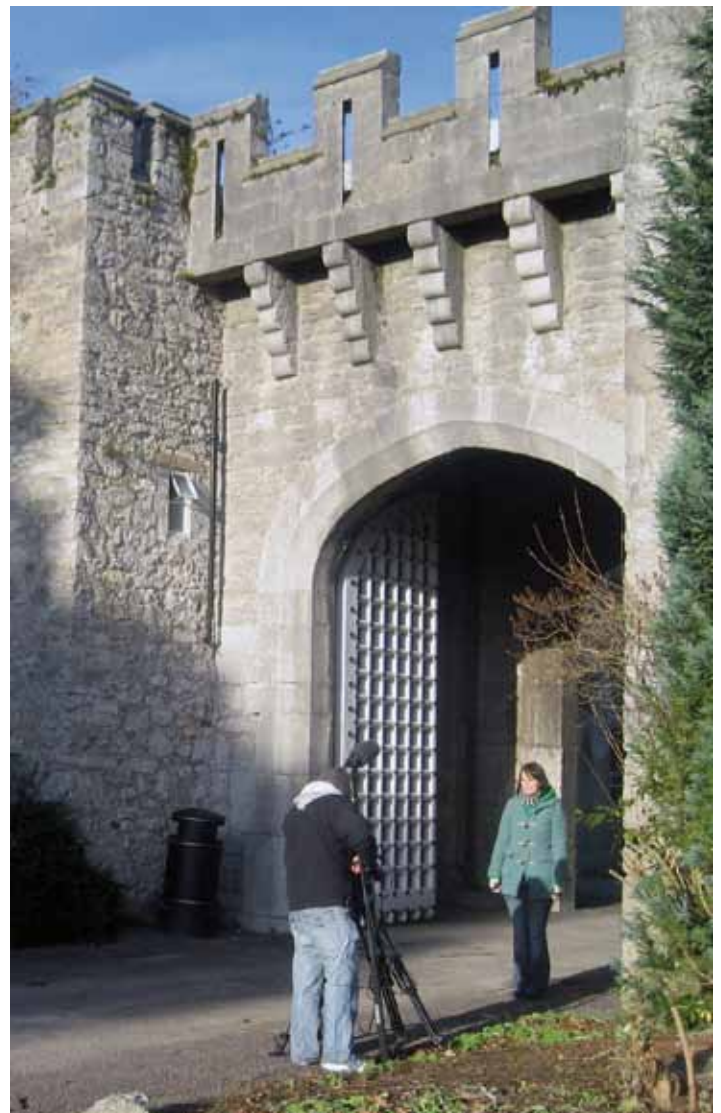
The Leader's Guide contains the complete teaching material for both of the two course versions (11-14 and 15-18). Included with it is the video teaching material: a DVD with around two hours of video material presented by Nathan Iles and Kate John of Youth For Christ plus a youth leader orientation session with Steve Goss.



**Workbook for 11-14s including Steps To Freedom In Christ (£2.99 each FC229, pack of five £12.99 FC230)**

**Workbook for 15-18s including Steps To Freedom In Christ (£2.99 each FC231, pack of five £12.99 FC232)**

The full-colour workbooks contain key point summaries, discussion questions and age-appropriate versions of the 'Steps to Freedom in Christ'. (Note: page designs are for illustration only and may change.)



#### **Youth Leader Training**

Our highly popular "Getting Started With Freedom In Christ" one-day course has been adapted so that it is now suitable for youth leaders as well as church leaders (see details on page 9).

PLUS! We have invited Dave Park, the author with Neil Anderson of much of Freedom In Christ USA's original youth material, to visit the UK in September. Dave has a unique understanding of communicating with young people and will be conducting workshops for youth leaders on the weekends of 4-6 and 11-13 September. Venue details and further info on-line.



# UK Co-ordinates New FIC International Council in 2009

For two years or so, leaders of Freedom In Christ Ministries from around the world have been working on a completely new structure designed to take the life-changing message of the ministry much more quickly into new areas. That is now complete.

Every fully-functioning FIC office around the world now has a seat on the "International Council". Neil Anderson, FIC founder, also has a council seat and provides spiritual oversight and direction.

Members of the council are pictured above right and are (from left to right): Roger Reber (Switzerland), Isaac Manogarom (India), Rich Miller (USA), Clay Bergen (Canada), Neil Anderson (founder), Steve Goss (UK), Bob Genock (Latin America).



**"For the first time we are intentionally gearing up to take this life-changing message anywhere in world where the Lord gives us opportunity."**  
**Steve Goss**

chairman) recently accompanied Tim and Monique Baynes Clarke (below) to present to French church leaders with encouraging results.



Other members are responsible for representatives in Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Germany, Mexico and Liberia. The picture below shows representatives from around the world praying for the new team in Mexico.

Rich Miller (USA) has co-ordinated the International Council to date. He handed that responsibility over to Steve Goss and the UK on 1 January. The Council meet next in Chennai, India, in July 2009.



The new structure frees council members up to help identify and support people in other countries who may be called to start an office. We in the UK are currently working with people in Portugal and The Netherlands. Pictured above is Andy Moxon from the UK team running a conference for church leaders in Northern Portugal recently.

Clay Bergen (Canada) co-ordinates prayer for FICMI and has been working on a

global prayer strategy with input from the UK's Director of Intercession, Sue Lindsay (pictured below with translator presenting our "Helping Others" workshop to a German-speaking audience in Switzerland).



Between them, they have responsibility for other representatives of FIC throughout the world. For example, we in the UK are responsible for Jono & Sandy Christie, representatives in South Africa (pictured above with Neil & Joanne Anderson), and for France. Steve and Zoë Goss and Mike Benford (UK board



## Canada 2010

The FICMI Council is planning a further international conference and gathering along the lines of the highly successful event held in Interlaken, Switzerland last year. It is open to all.

This time it will be held in Canada, 6 - 8 August 2010. If you are interested in coming, put the dates in your diary and watch this space for further information in due course!

## "The Baton Is Being Passed"

"Twenty years ago Jerry and Sally Friesen sold their business and were looking for a way to serve the Lord. I invited them to come with me to a "Resolving Personal And Spiritual Conflicts" conference. After two weeks they were sold on the ministry and Jerry made space available at his store and lock facilities. They had one room, a one line phone and one computer. It was a humble beginning.

Twenty years later we are meeting in Interlaken, Switzerland, hearing reports from Africa, Mexico, India, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Canada, France and many other places. Freedom In Christ Ministries is now organised internationally with 50+ books and other resources translated into 45+ languages.

The baton is being passed to a younger generation and they are determined to finish the race. I want to thank all our staff for the incredible love you show one another, the passion to see others liberated in Christ, and the humble spirit of servanthood that is always demonstrated when we meet together. It is a privilege for Joanne and myself to be a part of the Freedom In Christ family."

Neil Anderson speaking in Interlaken



# “I Struggled For Years But Now I Am Free”



Emma Wright and her husband, David, moved to the UK almost three years ago from New Zealand.

“Coming from a background of sexual abuse as a child, but being in a churchgoing family, I struggled to reconcile ‘happy Christian life’ with the torment that was going on inside me. When I reached the age of sixteen I couldn’t put up the mask of the ‘happy face’ anymore. I became bulimic to try and keep ‘window dressing’ my life so I could survive. I didn’t realise that my wall of protection was walling me off from everyone around me. Counsellors I went to weren’t helpful.

Bingeing became my ‘escape’, my refuge I ran to when life got too much. Depending on how well I was ‘coping’ with life, I could be throwing food up four or more times daily.

I was bulimic for about 17 years. Even the times when I seemed to have it under control I still had what I called the ‘dark thinking’. I was going to church all this time and was even leading a Sunday school.

I did the Freedom in Christ course as part of my search to be set free from issues in my past – most noticeably bulimia. I was really struggling and at the mercy of my emotions and not knowing how to handle things.

I heard the teaching on stronghold-busting but didn’t really believe it would work. Consequently I didn’t do it so I was stuck with my faulty thinking.

However, some time later, I read some other material about confessing what God says about you over your life and how powerful this could be. I wrote a confessions list. I used a lot of the lists in Freedom in Christ to complete it. This time I was determined and desperate enough to ‘give it a go’. I read aloud who I was in Christ and the promises He had for me for about six weeks.

One morning I woke up and the ‘dark thinking’ was gone! I was set free from bulimia and I have never gone back there since. I was amazed that it ‘worked’!

Since then I have gone back over the stronghold-busting material that is in the FIC course and am currently doing another stronghold-buster. It is so practical and it really works.

I struggled for years and thought that I would always be in some kind of ‘recovery’, but now I am free and feel I can spiritually ‘breathe’.

I want to share my story because I really believe that once you have killed your own giant, you have the keys to help unlock the chains of others who are still struggling.”

## Yes, I want to help FIC equip the Church

Your regular giving to Freedom In Christ will make a huge difference and will enable us to do so much more to equip the Church and see many more changed lives, churches and communities. At this time, we particularly need regular giving to enable Steve and Zoë Goss to take up their new role in which they will be able to devote much more time to the things that are making a real difference (see page 5).

Please complete this form and return it to us using the reply-paid envelope provided. If that is missing, send to Freedom In Christ Ministries, PO Box 2842, READING RG2 9RT.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my gift to go towards:  support of Steve & Zoë Goss  general support of Freedom In Christ

If your gift is for Steve and Zoë, would you also like to be their “friend” on Facebook so you can easily see what they are up to and keep in touch? Yes / No

I enclose a one-off gift of £\_\_\_\_\_ (Cheques payable to Freedom In Christ Ministries)

I have set up a standing order from my bank account for:  £100  £50  £20  £\_\_\_\_\_ per month to:

Account Name: Freedom In Christ Ministries

Sort Code: 60-17-21

Account number: 54191653

If you prefer you can download a Standing Order form from our website (on the “Become A Partner” section) and send that to us.

I would like to donate by credit / debit card  a one-off gift of £\_\_\_\_\_  or £\_\_\_\_\_ per month until I notify you otherwise.

Card number:  Expires: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Security No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Starts: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Issue No.: \_\_\_\_\_



GIFT AID (please complete if you pay UK tax)\*

I am a UK taxpayer and wish Freedom In Christ Ministries to treat all donations I make as Gift Aid Donations.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Please note that you must pay an amount of income or capital gains tax equal to or greater than the tax we reclaim on your donations. Please remember to inform us of any change in your tax status.

Note that where you have specified a particular purpose for your gift, the Ministry will endeavour to use it for that purpose but may at its discretion apply it to a different charitable purpose within the Ministry.

**Many  
Thanks!**