

# THE GREAT RESCUE

A black and white illustration of a young girl with long hair, her eyes closed and crying, with her mouth covered by a large hand. The background is a gradient of grey.

The spiritual abduction of our girls



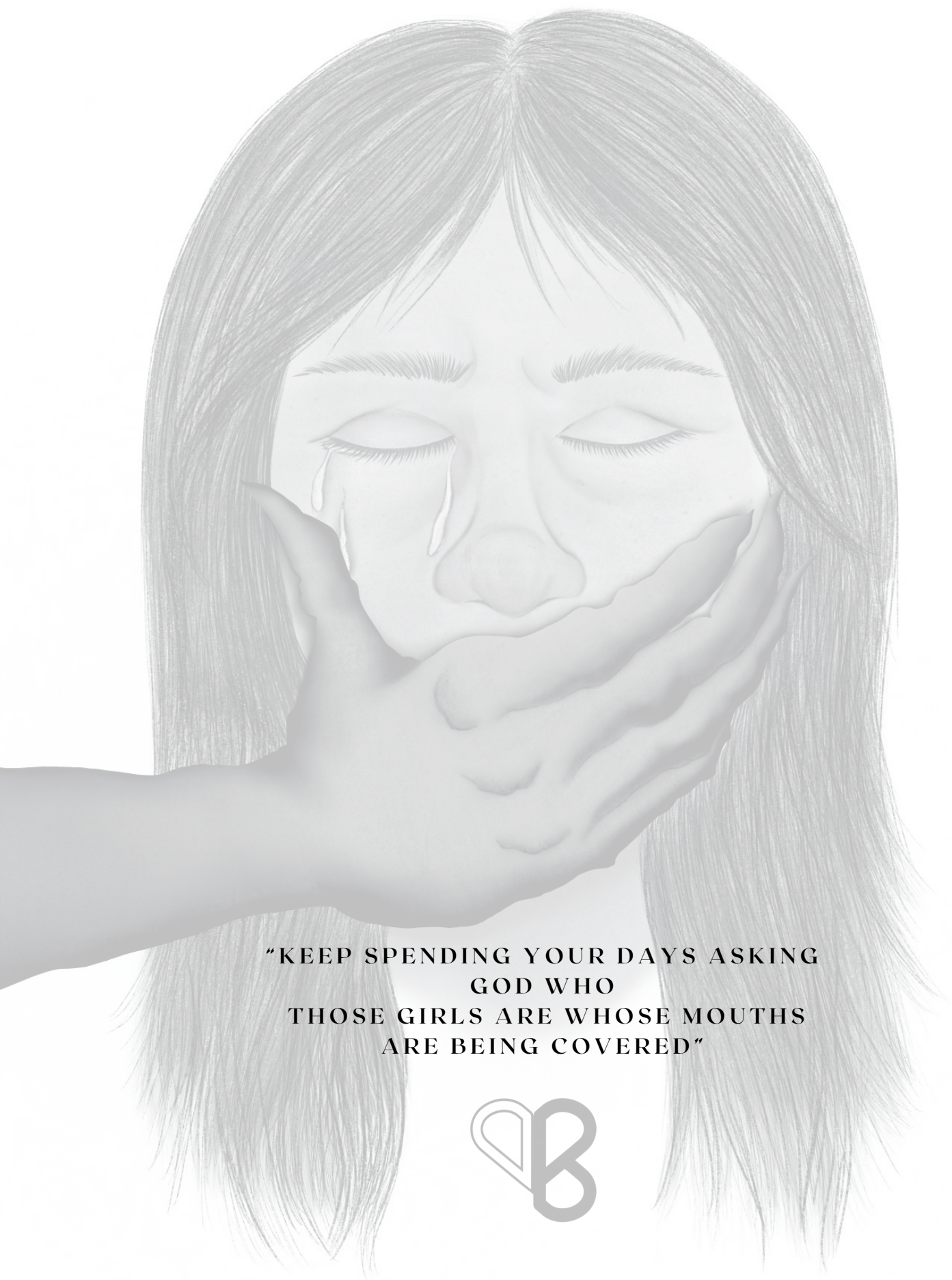
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**"KEEP SPENDING YOUR DAYS ASKING  
GOD WHO  
THOSE GIRLS ARE WHOSE MOUTHS  
ARE BEING COVERED"**







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# Snatched



## Snatched - The Prologue

When someone goes missing there is a pain in our hearts being ripped from our chest that those closest to the victim can barely bear it. Evil has no partiality. The brokenness of this world does not recognize boundaries and it is willing to go after anyone. Evil is present everywhere and lurking around every corner. This should not cause fear, but it should create vigilance. We, as Christ followers, have grown very comfortable living in brokenness. A satanic lullaby has caressed our wants and suppressed our need for a Holy Savior, and we don't even realize we are half asleep when our daughters, our friends and our sisters go missing.

The snatching of our souls, minds and hearts is happening at rapid speed and part of the reason it's happening is because we don't know someone has gone missing until it's too late.

The enemy knows what will work and what will not work with each child, teen and woman. There is a spiritual kidnapping of our identity and we are left roaming around this world in the physical while our souls are crushed in the spiritual. We are already bound and gagged when we realize too late, the enemy deceived us into thinking our choices echoed our demand for independence and landed us captive to our pride and sin. He then bound us in shame and lied until we believed him, our Savior would never want to rescue us anyway...





# The Prostitution of Truth



The prostitution of truth has taken what is absolute and sacred and decided it was up for grabs for anyone who wanted a piece of it. We can twist it and bend it and make it our slave for our own conscience to be satisfied with whatever we need to make us feel better. We don't protect the truth, we compromise it. We let people take it and sell it to the lowest bidder while turning away because it's too hard to protect it.

The absence of truth results in the absence of safety from the snatcher. We live in a world telling us to love ourselves while cryptically creating a self-loathing in our most dark thoughts. The mixed message of our fallen world is the weapon used to create confusion. The confusion pushes us to seek answers and when truth doesn't fit into our self-built kingdoms, we seek the message that feels right. We seek so far that when our tether starts to pull tight, we get annoyed, we feel oppressed. We shout that It's our right to seek higher power, or knowledge for fortune so we willingly loosen our tether. For a moment, "freedom" feels so nice. We find church time invasive and small groups too committal. The truth needs to survive in these environments but we have decided the truth can be whatever it wants. We quickly deny community and then shake our fists at the rate at which believers disappear into the fog of ambiguous living.

Romans 1:25 (NKJV). "who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen"

We want to dress up the truth to make it more seductive, it's true identity is too much for others and us. We soften its edges and look away when truth is buried from reality and taken advantage of by rearranging a few words to make it palatable. Though this may all seem so dark, that is not the end. God made us fighters; Hhe gave us strategy and structure and plan to survive this fallen world. He also commanded us to snatch back.

The enemy is no longer hidden, the lies are no longer so opaque we don't see them. However, the delusion of reality and truth is heavy, dense and making it hard to discern. The snatching happens when we are not tethered to the truth. We can be swept away in a moment when the tether becomes undone. The knots no longer hold tight when we slip away into isolation and feed our fleshly desires. What seems like a sudden departure has been a slow unraveling, going unnoticed and undetected. Like any good predator, a savvy kidnapper will see their moment. They will wait ever so patiently for the weak moments to unveil themselves. It won't take but a moment, but that moment is so vital. It will be the right moment; the perfect moment and the snatching will take place. All the while the kidnapper will take their time observing our humanity. They will create distractions to keep us from our source of truth and every so slowly, while we run about from thing to thing the enemy is loosening our tether to the truth. There's darkness lurking right around the corner, and we hardly notice.

It is not like we haven't been warned. The scriptures are full of warnings, examples and clear boundaries to keep us safe. We deny it by the way we live. In our words we may claim knowledge of false teachers or cleverly speak about deception, yet behind our words we are letting lies in the back door.

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# The Prostitution of Truth



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Jude 1:22-23 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. 22 And of some have compassion, making a difference: 23 and others save with fear, snatching them from the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

We must no longer wrap ourselves in blankets of contentment with our Sunday podcasts, but we will have to grab the whole armor and train for what is war.

We must claim back those who have been snatched, we must make sure we are tethered to the truth and we just join the army of saints arising. They are arising. They are coming as God has anointed them. The victor cries you hear faintly in the distance, the one you aren't sure is real, yes that one. It is faint because you will only hear it when you fight too. The army of the Lord is not a children's tale, the armor of God is not just for Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, it is because the militia of holy living must be unleashed in our town, communities and schools. We must start living like warriors ready to fight for those who have been taken. We must warn others that there are those leading others to a trap for the one who will snatch them up in shame, sin, lust, porn, pride, self-love, envy and every wickedness. The enemy does not look to spare any one. Nor will we. They will not go missing right in front of us any longer, we must contend.

Jude 1:3-5 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed them that believed not.

BRAVE



# Lured by Love

Like any groomer seeking to use a child for their own malicious appetite, the enemy is just that. We all are innately born with a need for relationships. Some of us have become so jaded that we feel we don't need anyone. That again is a fallacy. The need and desire for a relationship was designed so we would desire one with our creator. We would have the choice of course to go searching elsewhere, but in His holy work He was designing us to walk in His holiness with him. He wants us. We just don't want Him.

We have yet to arrive where we fully understand God's love for us and most days we can admit we take it for granted.. It's always there. We have heard of God's undying love for us since we were children and somewhere in the middle of growing up it became a dull linguistic rather than an all-empowering reason to live and share Jesus with others.

It's a powerful moment when we realize someone finds us interesting and attractive. It can be a simple glance or the first text that sends our stomachs fluttering. The reeling sensation when this small little crush is being reciprocated. It keeps you up at night and you spring out of bed in the morning as we look forward to the next encounter with this other person who has somehow changed the chemical makeup of our brain. We search out moments to be around this person or anxiously check our phones to connect on any communications. Those crushes sometimes turn into something much more, sometimes we learn to love that very person who was just a stranger with pretty eyes a few months ago. It's quite the phenomenon to see attraction turn into real friendship and love. It's as if we were designed for it.



Equally fascinating is our deep desire for friendships, parents, children or groups that are compatible with our same interests. There's a deep desire to belong in a community with others that share the same interest so we can perfect our craft or deepen our understanding of a certain subject. We like to gather with like minded musicians or athletes, we enjoy being around coffee lovers if we love coffee and we enjoy camping with others who like the outdoors. We are designed for integrating our lives with others.

Our enemy knows this about us and he has been crafty and extremely cunning in dementing our need for love, friendship and belonging. We will sacrifice great things to belong. Most teenagers, when asked if they truly enjoyed the taste of alcohol, responded with a no. In fact, the teens we have talked to do not enjoy the party all that much. If that is truly the case, then why is there such an epidemic of underage drinking and partying? The answer is simple. No one likes to be left out. We have communicated partying and alcohol with some sort of right of passage into teen-hood, adult-hood, mommy-wine time and so on. We are lured into something we don't even like to be with people who may or may not even be our friends.

We stay dating others because we hate feeling alone, despite all the right reasons to break it off. We are lured by the idea of love because it's enticing and at first it feels good, even powerful.



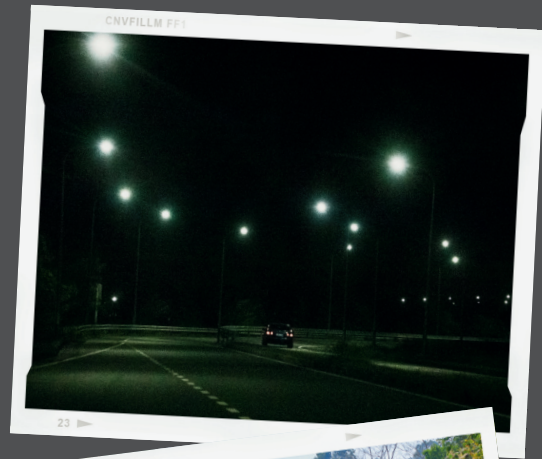
## Lured by Love

The body's chemical reaction to attraction is one of the most powerful feelings we experience as humans. The first crush, the first kiss, the first time someone's eyes locked with ours. The feeling that goes through us is physical fire and we yearn for it. The hit of attraction dopamine is addictive. We love falling in love. Worldly love is enticing, alluring and feeds on our most immediate physical needs. Streaming platforms keep us attentive in sexual nuance and forbidden love. The entangled love story that keeps us holding on to the end cheering for the first kiss as it builds toward the final credits satisfying our romantic daydreams

We are lured by love, but not just in cinematic fashion. We were created for love by the One who defines it. It should be no surprise that we want love, it's uniquely intertwined into the fiber of our humanity. This beautiful thing called love has been ransacked by culture and hijacked by the enemy. It has been reduced to physical attraction, sex, porn and the allure of passionate feeling rather than what is true, good and acceptable to keep us sustained in community with one another and our Jesus.

Love is alluring. The idea of love is enticing and exciting. We must recognize the vast difference between a good love story told to us by cinematic geniuses or poets and lyricists. We must understand that love is more than a promise to feel something for another person. If God said, "the greatest of these is love" then we must wonder if it's so much more powerful than just feeling accepted.

A corrupt concept of love is usurping generations into a falsehood of acceptance and tolerance that is anything but those things. The world opens its arms wide to our ego and strokes our pride to the point that we are drunk on comforts and immediate satisfactions.





# Lured by Love

We have a hard time walking away from that which placates our human desires. The simple need for friendships allows us to compromise those who we allow in our life. We profess to want to pursue Jesus, but it gets too lonely so we start to surround ourselves with anyone who will pay attention. We begin to find belonging outside the church or Christian friends, because it's just easier to fit in. We are a peculiar people following Christ and at some point we can't stand the chasm between everyone else and us. To be honest we don't want to be peculiar and set apart. Not really.

The intoxication of acceptance begins to rumble with its never satisfied hunger for more and we let go of what is hard and fall into what feels so right and good. We do not stop to run our feelings through the mill of scripture and make our thoughts captive to Christ. It's why we find ourselves having affairs with the world. We want to stay married to our Savior, but sometimes His love seems so hard. Sometimes the relationship is strained and lonely as if you are the only one in this whole "bride of Christ" scenario. The first time you glance at the world longingly the enemy takes notice. He watches the straying eye. At first, it's just a glance, because who doesn't look sometimes? The glance sometimes makes eye contact with what seems so very attractive. The forbidden fruit becomes a fruit that enters our thoughts, and we rationalize that we would never act on our thoughts, but we entertain the what if? We find comfort in our sinful thoughts and as they play out in our minds. Our desires for things of this world begin to grow.



It's slow growing, sometimes so small we don't really notice. It's easy to feel the love of this place here on earth because it ignites things in us, we had no idea we were there, and we start to feel alive. Our faith begins to lie dormant, and we don't usher in a prayer of desperation for this need to find love in a world filled with brokenness. What is broken appears extremely satisfying and even our knowledge of the broken is no match for a lust that has been kindled inside of us that we deem love.

Our lust is for immediate satisfaction with our bodies or our minds. It's never one size fits all. Physical attraction to another human being is just one way our lust is misunderstood and disguised at potential love. We can yearn for status and money more than another person. The hit we receive when our paycheck grows or we can flaunt, even just a little, the next expensive thing. We find community in those wealthier than most and find identity in position and power. We learn to love that addiction of more and we are once again lured away by love.

We fall in love with the here and now of earthly power and yet fail to recognize that we are our heirs to the Kingdom that lasts forever. Bracing for eternity requires waiting and we are not fond of waiting. We are fond of falling in love right now and it feels good. Sin has the power to feel good. Once we are lured by love, we realize love has been dressed up to look like romance, when it's really seduction on the hands of the father of lies.



# Lured by Love

How do we know when love is not of this world, but from the source of all love himself. Love IS the greatest of these. Love is no Hallmark movie. Love is hardcore, sustaining, gritty, deep and loyal. It is beautiful beyond measure and it's what we were created to be. Loving our neighbors, loving our spouse, loving the unlovable, but most importantly, loving Jesus. The more we know Jesus the more we fall in love with all that He has for us. His love becomes a supernatural experience that may seem like a steady stream of life, but moments of cataclysmic reaction. We find ourselves wanting to serve others rather than our desires. Our love becomes unselfish and life changing rather than life damaging. The allure of the world does seem to fade considering what Christ is offering us. The discipline of the Christian walk leads to freedom and the ability to see heaven on earth as Christ's return grows closer. Our hearts stop yearning for immediate satisfaction and start posturing toward a day when all brokenness becomes new. The fervor for power lends itself over to a desire to serve the most powerful and holy Jesus Christ. He doesn't have to lure us because He died for us. No love is greater than those who lay down their life. Love is sacrifice, but it also leads to freedom when it flows through the Holy One.



The love of Jesus will never ask us to break our vows or compromise our bodies in sexual escapades. The love of Jesus protects and does not entice us into empty promises that will surely break us. He says to seek Him because in Him is perfect peace, the world will scream for peace but offer only anxiety. The Father asks us to look up and rest in his love while the world demands you earn its love. The Father is gentle, and firm and the world seeks to torment your soul for its own evil demands. In Jesus we must decide to forgo some of the immediate pleasures of our world in exchange for what is coming... true love that will make us whole. It's the greatest love story ever told.

Jude 1:4 For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

- **1 John 4:16-18** And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

**1 John 2:16 (NKJV)**

For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.

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# Trafficked By Deception

Decoys and deception are the tools every predator perfects to abduct his prey. Our girls are no different. Human trafficking has come more to light in recent years than ever before. There are more people in slavery now than ever before in the history of mankind. It's hard to believe that with more knowledge we have more confinement. The war rages on between human traffickers and rescuers.

In talking to those who have been trafficked it's wildly common for an adult to take advantage of a child and then as the child grows they have no real perception of healthy relationships because they have been "owned" for so long. Their reality has been heavily distorted because they can barely remember a time where they weren't being assaulted mentally, emotionally or physically. It makes the average human sick to discover the most evil side of humanity sells and distributes in its own kind for power, money and stature. The level of grotesque leaves no words to accurately describe the manufacturing of business deals based in forced labor of nefarious levels.

We often wonder; how did it start? How did we get here? Why is it so pervasive? The questions are complicated, and the answers are unsettling. The lines of good and evil seem so clear in this instance. How did we become so compromised? Deception is beautiful. It is enchanting and overflowing with promise. The trafficking of humans is sick and it's beyond sad, but our faith and our girls are being trafficked every day. We are being ever so gently deceived as we go about daily life. Our faith is compromised with our digital screens making promises it can't keep and lies that come to us wrapped up in all of their glitter.



It begins ever so softly. The first whisper of body hatred as we compare our bodies over social media and in the locker rooms. The first-time parents and guardians avoid a conversation about hard things and leave young women to figure it out all on their own. The growing need to promote yourself to followers while compromising in the dark with your partner. Just a little further before you step from safety in the line of fire.

Our naivety to the war for our souls allows the predators of this world to erode the plan God has set in motion for us. The great deceiver makes it look like our choices make us freer, but in reality, pimp us out to a carnal world that seeks to kill and destroy. We walk the balance beam of faith and destruction and do not seem to care too much that one misstep can lead us into slavery.

His lies are nothing new. His tactics are the same. He's been around.

Our souls grow weary with the many lies that assault our perceptions as it feels exhausting to carry secrets or constantly be alert to the deceivers tactics.

Deception unfolds in so many ways. We go to parties that everyone goes to where the promised fun of alcohol and socialization will be rampant and freeing for everyone involved. We have arrived for a night of fun only to be taken advantage of when alcohol impaired our judgment of reality. The lie that we can't be left out of the social scene so we go anyway. The lie continued with just having one drink and the lie exposed itself the day after. The freedom of compromise imprisons us for years to come. The shame assaults us and the lie grows stronger. The lie began with a pretty dress and a promise. It ends in destruction.







# Trafficked By Deception



The lie also can begin in the pursuit of a good thing. That's the crazy thing about deception, it can haunt and tackle good things. The pursuit of good health is wise and a great steward of the body we have been given. The deception creeps in with the first dark thought of comparison and begins to grow with insidious intentions disguised as healthy choices. The desire to control food, body weight and exercise begins to slowly warp. Deception places promises at just the right time so health becomes obsession. Deception lurks waiting for just the right moment to whisper that "if you can't control your life, you can control your food". It gives false power. Our fake control sabotages our mind and body and where we once thought we were free, we realize we are slaves being sold repeatedly to body shame and terrorized by our need for perfection. It's a hard realization when we begin to see that we have been trafficked for the world's pleasure. When we started looking around and realized we have spent years chasing people's approval and overworking for success that

no one really cares about anyway. It's a gut punch to see that life has been deceiving you to think that if you just had a little more money, a different boyfriend, a different attraction, a better childhood, then you could be happy. The pursuit of happiness and comfort lands in an empty prison with nothing more than false hope of a different outcome.

The overachiever who earns perfection in their studies but feels shame when perfection isn't quite met. The idea that all plans must be to take the next step paralyzes us from ever doing anything because we have been deceived by the obscurity of real life not working that way.

The truth is so hard to believe because the lie is so easy to digest. That is why Jesus brings light to the dark and destroys deception with his ability to rescue us with just himself. His truth brings oxygen when we have found ourselves suffocated by the lies, we believe. His Word removes the entangled web of sabotage we have succumbed to. It's in His words that you are fearfully and wonderfully made we realize the lie of body perfection. It is His words of overcoming the world that renew our strength to walk away from those who use us into the arms of the One who wants to bring us peace

He fights the battle of worldly attraction as in his death He brought us eternal life. We don't have to live up to the world's expectations because He has already called us to the highest standard of holy by being the very bridge we have to walk on to get there. He has said that in Him we find our purpose not our perfection. In Him we realize our bodies were made to run the race He has set before us.





# Trafficked By Deception

He is the one opening the prison doors when we lift our eyes from our shackles of shame and place our hope in Him. He promises us that one step toward destruction will not destroy us when we call his name. He calls us to Him and his promises are more than we could ever imagine. His claims for peace and hope do not disappoint us or lie to us. His redeeming love goes to our darkest places and fends off the deceptive ties around our soul. How great is our rescuer? How fierce his love for us. He is our protector and our healer. It doesn't matter how long we have been trafficked in this world, He is our great rescuer and our defender. He lifts us from the ashes and calls us by name. He shows us the truth, so deception no longer lingers so the shackles of shame fall away, but sometimes they don't.



## **2 Corinthians 11:3**

**But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.**

## **Matthew 4:6**

**And said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"**

## **Jeremiah 17:9**

**The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?**

## **2 John 1:7**

**For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist.**





# Shackled By Shame

Once we have been snatched, lured by love, and deceived; we are shackled to our shame. Our shame over choices we've made or circumstances we have endured gives root to the growing monstrosity of being ashamed of who we are. Perhaps we went too far with a boyfriend, or we have woven an intense web of lies to create a falsehood about who we are. Maybe we struggle so much with food that it's embarrassing or we willingly ingest an addictive drug for a moment's relief from reality. The shame of certain physical attractions or destructive thoughts creeps in. We search for porn not only for its visual enticement but its emotional sensations. Our daydreams border on erotic and our need for attention is horrifying. If anyone knew any of these things about us, we would never be able to face the world again.

Our shame puts us in hiding and we feel forced to isolate ourselves. We may not isolate ourselves from other people in the way we think, but we isolate the truth of what is going on in our hearts and minds. We protect against anyone getting to know and we certainly would never offer information about ourselves, because what if they knew?

Our double life causes us anxiety and soon enough we name depression as a constant partner in our day-to-day activity. We try to ignore the faint knock of conviction, but the truth seems frightening and extremely unsafe. It would shed light on the darkest part of us and we would rather die than expose what is truly behind the façade of perfection. To feel shame means we understand we have been duped for a lie but can't return to the way it was before the lie was believed. It is understood that by our choices or our circumstances we have deemed unworthy.

Our un-worth suffocates us into silence. It's been so long since we have heard our actual voice, we fear we wouldn't even recognize it. So, we stay silent. We believe our secrets will keep us safe, but slowly suffocate the truth. The retreat into isolation begins with a few small steps until we ponder that it's better to be alone than fake among friends. We willingly stretch out our hands and arms and agree to the shackles that will keep us in our emotional prison. Once the shackles click in place and lock out freedom, the enemy goes to work. It is here in our isolation he whispers lies that no longer seem so beautiful. He weaponizes all we know to suit his destruction and blocks our view toward the hope of the heavenly Father. He creates storms we can barely weather and beats us with our weakness. He starves us for attention so when the dulllest promise of love is offered, we give ourselves away and then he shames us one more time for being so vulnerable. He picks the scabs of our wounds and exposes them to the infection of desperation. Soon we have forgotten what it feels like to be free and are willing to bow to the world as it turns at a nauseating pace leaving us all to try and adapt to its ever-changing levels of tolerance and acceptance.



# Shackled By Shame

Ashamed of who we really are, we adapt to whatever is accepted in the moment and we run toward whatever will give just the smallest hit of satisfaction. We pretend we are free as we stay shackled to carnality. It's ok, we think. We can break free whenever we want to, the shackles aren't that tight. Yet after we retreat from trying to prove ourselves to the status quo of culture we hide away from ever having to measure up to our real purpose or holy calling. The shackles keep us tucked away from the light. We begin to feel as if the light is the real enemy, and the darkness is our friend. The lies give way to a truth we want to believe. The shackles are very tight.

How could we ever confess what truly imprisons us? We believe we are the only ones to ever experience such temptation and even more so, agree with the temptation. Worse yet, we profess we are Christians. How could a Christian ever fall so easily? The shame of sin and the shame of knowing better through our Christian faith is a double-edged sword puncturing our worth and our anointing. We cringe at the thought that we are so easily tempted and even more so how much harder it is to turn our eyes from the instant gratification we want in that sin. It's shameful to admit that for a moment, the sin was pleasurable.

We enjoyed its intoxication and its pseudo relief that made us feel so alive in this world. How could we admit such things and then lies begins to unravel our minds... maybe this faith thing isn't so real. The doubts creep in because our isolations seek to leave us alone with our doubts. Who could we ever tell that we grapple with the harsh realities of our world that make us wonder if God even sees us. We don't dare open the scriptures because long ago we were afraid to say they didn't make much sense to us. Honestly it was boring to read and now that's so hard to admit those who are seemingly giants in their faith. You pity yourself because maybe your intellect just isn't enough to understand the verses everyone else seems to adore. You are afraid to verbalize the struggle between reality and the Bible and so you stay silent with your Sunday morning plastic smile. It doesn't seem right to admit you don't understand it all when you have grown up with the Bible as the foundation of your family. It's embarrassing to ask questions, so we silence the doubts until they begin to build the prison.



# Shackled By Shame

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Yet, even then, shackled in our prison of shame Jesus touches our lips with his truth. He beckons us toward him. He looks at our shame and doesn't shudder or gasp. He touches our wounds with such gentleness that the disease they harbor shrinks back. The light, for just a second, doesn't seem awful, but we can't quite accept its truth. We resist the idea of redemption because it seems so impossible. The truth seems unattainable from our prison. However tight our shackles, every time we glimpse toward the flicker of truth it's as if they loosen. There's something about the light that makes the shackles feel less powerful. Could we truly be free? Is it possible that there could be a great rescue from this cage you have so willingly accepted to lock yourself into? There's a rescue on its way. We were made for more than shackles. We have an identity to claim.

## Romans 10:11

For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

## Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.









# Bait and Switch

Bait and switch is the not so easily identified lie of the enemy. In marketing terms, bait and switch means when a prospective buyer is enticed by an advertised deal that seems attractive; However, the advertised deal does not exist; the promise is delivered at extremely low quality.

This seems like it would be easy enough to catch, but the delusion of the lie seems too good to be true. In fact, many times we want “the lie”. The lie gives us what we want when we want it. It’s arrogance at best to claim you would never be baited. The bait is enticing, it is not repulsive to us. The bait is curated to suit our weaknesses. It’s the promise that if we go a little further in our physical relationship you will satisfy the raw urges of your desires and it will land us in euphoria. Marriage will seem old fashioned and oppressive. We want to call the shots, we want to do as we deem best and the very freedom we claim, builds a cage around us. The bait of instant pleasure promises freedom, gratification and powerful connection. The switch may not come right away, because the longer the bait keeps you coming, the longer the bait will be dangled in front of us. The switch will come when the prison of freedom we have built is just about finished and the enemy can lock us inside of our guilt, our betrayal and our brokenness.

To think we are not easily tricked would be to assume we are the first generation to ever exist that did not fall prey to the lies of the enemy. We see the enemy has studied his prey and has calculated our desires with precision. This is not to create fear, but we must understand we are not fighting against simple desires of the flesh, we are fighting against the darkest of evils disguised as brilliant and beautiful promises that stroke our egos and promise to dull our pain.

He knows the bait needs to possess some goodness, even though he revolts against anything good; he knows goodness needs to be presented at first before the destruction can begin. Our bait and switch can take a lifetime, if he can keep us chasing after empty things then he can keep us from chasing Jesus. Satan knows our attention span is weak and our desire for instant gratification wreaks havoc with our discipline of patience and waiting on the Lord. The enemy shades the glory of the Lord with lesser light and we are easily distracted.





## Bait and Switch

Dangled before us in our need to discover our purpose is the attractive initiative for self care. The concept in itself is not inherently wrong, but it can open the door to self worship in ways we never saw coming. The bait we become allured by is our desire to control our destiny. WE like the idea of self-help, mindfulness and ability to overcome because those are attributes we can muster and we can create, we do not need God to help ourselves. We follow its path of beauty and entitlement wrapped in the false dichotomy of healing ourselves. The path is smooth, the path is easy to manipulate. The path slowly curls away from the forest of protection where our heavenly father covered us with his branches.

We decide the forest is too suffocating and we must "find ourselves". The gentle breeze has us breathing in the power of self-affirmations and forsaking the promised identity of the child of God. We strive for something greater, but greater is the false promise.

The bait begins like the false promises made in the garden of Eden. If you eat this, it will make you like God. Isn't that a problem for all of us? Our need for control and our endless pursuit of self-preservation and happiness.

If we buy the clothes we desire to create a persona we want with a budget we don't have, the bait commits itself to making us feel attractive, the switch comes that even with the best of clothes, something still feels empty. The financial strain eventually hits, and the guilt of overspending is shoved down to the pits so we can enjoy a few fleeting moments of approval.

The bait comes in our ever-increasing self-awareness to be better. It's a holy idea to keep our bodies strong, healthy and committed to physical strength. The idea starts so simply, it starts in the innocence of wanting to be a healthier version of you, but slowly the idea of health begins to fade and it's switched with the notion to lose a little more weight, perform a little stronger or restrict a little longer. The satisfaction of control ebbs away from healthy disciples and creeps toward destruction.

# Bait and Switch



We have been created by the highest of high and the holy of holies who has made us heirs to inheritance with a future of complete healing and protection and somehow our inner self does not find that good enough. We are baited out of the forest only to find that the wide-open world is filled with storms, insanity and fear waiting for us to arrive with our entitlement. Outside the protection of the forest, comes the switch.

The most dangerous bait of all is the idea that we are “Christians”. The enemy serves up just enough good works and church attendance that if someone were to ask if we followed Jesus, we would say yes. In fact, we would say we read our Bibles and pray often. The bait of all things Christian surrounding us like smoke and mirrors keeps us from truly understanding our need for a Savior.

The bait keeps good works as our motivation and allows our ego to feel full, while our confession and repentance remain silent. We never quite acknowledge our sin and confess He is Lord; we simply perform well. The most frightening thing is the switch. That moment we stand before our Jesus and He says, “depart from me I never knew you”, the switch is unveiled, and the enemy will have won our soul while our works disguised our brokenness.

It can seem like a cruel thing, except the scripture is clear. If we know our Bible, we know the character of our God. The more intensely we study His word against our theories we begin to see the bait dim. The more time we spend in confession and repentance and crying out to know the heart of God, his holiness begins to shine, and the bait looks so fragile. The forest of His protection looks like home rather than oppression and when we win our time alone with Him, we win at understanding how the enemy has been marketing his schemes to us all along.

The self-help we have come to abuse is truly our free will giving us choice in our world. The choice of following our decrepit egos or following the One who has proven His love for us is the only choice we have to make. We must pray through the bait that stands before us and pray for spiritual eyes to see what is the good and perfect and acceptable will of our sweet Jesus verses the temptations that present what is good only to unveil its evil once we are trapped.

God is so good that even when we chase the bait and find ourselves entangled in the snares of the unforeseen switch, He wants to rescue us. If we allow His grace to untangle our snares and gently touch our wounds, we will see that freedom is not that far away. His forgiveness washes over our ignorance and rebellion and still welcomes us back to the safety of His arms. We must insist that our disciplines give way to everlasting life. God has always delivered on His promises, He has never switched them up. He can not lie. He can not deceive. How powerful it is to trust in the One who says He will make us like new and He will give us the keys to his kingdom. Be wise, be kind, be vigilant, be warriors, be Brave.

Matthew 6:19-21 NKJV

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 10:16 (NKJV)

“Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.



# Stockholm Syndrome

Stockholm syndrome describes the psychological condition of a victim who identifies with and empathizes with their captor or abuser and their goals. It's a rare phenomenon in the physical world where a victim begins to feel affection for safety with her captor. However, in the spiritual world it is much more common. Once upon a time our sin grieved us or at the very least allowed feelings of guilt to pass through here and there. Over time, as we continued to dabble with things we knew we shouldn't, we found that they were much more fun than abstaining. Sure, the alcohol on Friday night was not a big deal, after all at least we were drunk every weekend. The doubts we had about our faith bothered us until they didn't, and our parents began to seem out of touch and unreliable.



We begin to accept our capture. Freedom was just an illusion while the syndrome of guilt, shame and lies is what we are used to and where we are known to exist. Outside of the room where we are kept with our demise, we are unsure of what to expect. We might have to reconcile with the real issue out there. To be honest, sin feels good and elicits fun where restraint of the same thing is met with frustration. God doesn't seem very fun or even compassionate. Our choice to indulge strokes our pride and gives us instant gratification and that is where the addiction of staying close to what captures us begins. We like the room it leads us in. It feels good here. Inside here, we know what to expect even if it steals from our nightmares. We resist the urge to reconcile with reality, that we really should not be caged in with our guilt. We rationalize it's normal and that outside those doors never existed anyway. The trauma of all we know is here, in this room where we know every crack, crevice and dark alley. We may be beaten down, but our deception believes we deserve it. When we look at others across the room or on our screens we can judge easily. It's almost enjoyable to spot their capture because then we feel like we are not the only ones duped into thinking our shame isn't our prison. There is a weird comfort in knowing that others are imprisoned too. Somehow that should make us feel better, but instead we just look back on our prison and feel we have no real desire to leave.



It was here at the precipice of choosing to follow Jesus or the world that we fell into the arms of the world. We enjoyed some of the lies we told because they felt good for just a second. We know they aren't reality, but in other people's minds they exist because we created the lie for them to believe. We begin to feel safe with our sin.

# Stockholm Syndrome



Our pride keeps us there, like a security blanket. We should have no need for a blanket, but we desire something familiar even if it is childlike. Our bingeing and purging of sin or food seems to bring us into a pit we no longer want to climb out of because the climb is too hard and too high. We have begun to serve our shame and idolize our pain. Our insecurity is our security because we have known its presence for so long we almost do not know how to function without its presence lurking in our mindset.



There are things we allow our eyes to view, and they cause a lust we can barely contain. The distortion of God's design for physical intimacy is replaced by a screen of strangers that for all we know are captured too. We are prisoners at war with the same battle playing different roles in the deadening of each other's souls. We try to rationalize it will be the last time, but the last time never comes in prison. Despite the desire to let it go, the call to return is so strong and so normal, that a day without a "hit" of its intoxication seems like a lifetime. We might want to leave, but we have grown a distorted affection for what enslaves us. The lockdown comes with a cost, but the cost is an abstract idea and since we know what our captor looks like and how he acts and how he makes us feel we shrug our shoulders and agree that this is just how it is. True freedom is too much to fight for after all we have been through. We begin to feel comfortable with our capture. We wish it could be different, but our choices led us here and we do not deserve the door to life to be unlocked. Our enemy led us here with beautiful lies of hope, self-promotion and dreams he knew we couldn't resist. It is here in the room we admit defeat. We didn't stop it; we could have made better choices and outside of this room we would have to give up some of the sin we have come so used to knowing. Sometimes it's the bad choices that make us feel most alive and sometimes we just need to feel something. So we stay where we are familiar and even if it's false safety it feels better than trying to escape. It feels better than admitting the enemy never really had our best interest in mind, he simply wanted to prove he could take us captive. He did.



# Stockholm Syndrome



Stockholm syndrome is a coping mechanism. Instead of feelings of fear, terror and hostility toward your abuser, you may begin feeling a sense of humanity and compassion for them. Despite our longing to syndrome of sin and our affection for things of this world, our Jesus is still on a rescue mission. He sends reminders that there is hope beyond that door and that He has unlocked the bolt we perceive to be there holding the door fastened shut. He sends an army ready for us to choose Him and together He wants to walk right out that door and into a new life of freedom. He wants to do the hard things in life together and release you from the affections that let you follow your enemy into capture. He wants to be the rest you need and the Savior we can't live without. He knows your heart and He sees your deception for what it is, the tactic of our enemy. It just takes us to rise and start walking to the door. We will still hear our captor sweetly calling our name to come back, we may even stumble as we make our way to the door. In the effort to lift our hearts to our Savior we may fall with some bumps and bruises, but they will all be erased with one touch of our Jesus. He is the great rescuer. He will break through that door, and He will promise your life with him, but He will not force you to leave. You will have to choose to walk into freedom.



# Awaken the Sleepers

Romans 13:11 "since we know the time, it is already the hour for you to wake up from sleep, because now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed".

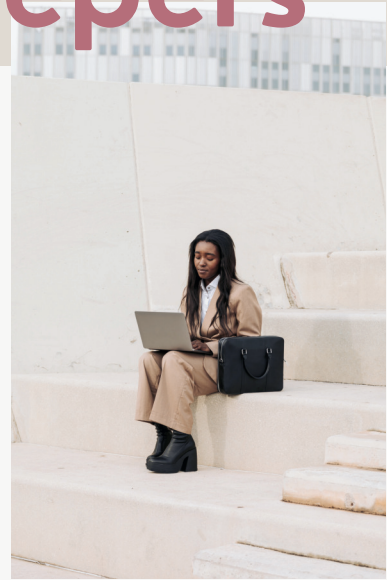
Once we have recognized how crazy the lies that keep us entrapped in a life stunted with worldly pleasure and we can see with our own eyes how easily deterred we are from the things Jesus offers, it's time to awaken others. We are in a battle, but there is an evil lullaby playing in our midst that keeps people unaware of the enemy at work. The lullaby keeps them in their sleepy stupor never really awake or wanting to be awake to the spiritual war that encamps our physical reality. We need to wake up those who have warrior hearts but weary souls. We must shake awake those who know the truth and walk with Jesus but have grown tired of the war.

We must wake up those who have fallen asleep at the enemy's feet and have allowed him to feed them the dreams of earthly, deadly desires. Once we surrender our hearts over to Jesus, we must pray for eyes to see what He sees. Once we are fully awake to what Jesus has for us, we will want others to wake up to.

One by one as we wake up the sleepers, encourage our warrior teammates, the cry for revival begins. It takes just a few to realize they are not alone in this fight against the father of lies. Once sleepers arise and take courage, the Great Rescue grows stronger and fiercer. The Holy Spirit is given room to move and flex His spiritual muscles as the sleeper's yawn and sit up, rub their eyes and awaken to a new day.

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stronger and fiercer. The Holy Spirit is given room to move and flex His spiritual muscles as the sleeper's yawn and sit up, rub their eyes and awaken to a new day. We are here. There are so many of us walking through our day without our spiritual eyes open to what is happening around us. We numb ourselves to the truth that Jesus will return, and others will fail in knowing Him and will spend eternity without our sweet Savior. We must not grow weary, we must not fall asleep. We must join with others to keep ourselves awake and vigilant. We must not be content with just living our lives unto ourselves and never bothering anyone for fear of losing friends or losing what we thought others perceive us to be. We must cast aside this insane need to protect ourselves. What if we do everything in us to find those who need to be rescued and awakening those who have fallen asleep.

There is a war, we must fight.

Do not grow weary:

Galatians 6:9 (NKJV).

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

Isaiah 40:31 (NKJV).

But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.





# FIGHT FOR THE TAKEN



The sleepers must be awakened because we must fight for the taken. Many times, the taken do not want to be rescued. There's a pleasure in the darkness and most often they do not realize what has been stolen. The beautiful deception leads them to believe that God has evil intentions and only wants to suppress who they really are. It's a fight that begins in our hearts. Sometimes the biggest fight is against our own ego. However, the more who awaken, the more the fight intensifies. Our warriors' hearts must stay postured and focused on what is true and what is a lie. We must circle up and realize that together we can cause an uprising unlike any other. The fight begins on our knees. Our prayer life needs to be ripe with consistency and asking the Holy Spirit to show us where to go and whom to chase after. We need to be in communication with our Jesus so that we know when it's time to speak and when it's time to be quiet. Our fight needs to be led by the Holy Spirit, so we are in step with His timing.

He can use us and give us the knowledge we need to know, when to go, and when to stay put. When our egos take over, that is when we begin to lose ground. The war is fought in the heavenly realm and God looks to use us so He can show up and show us His glory and His compassion as well as His righteousness. When we join in the fight for the lost and take up the Great Commission there is something within us that awakens and intensifies. Why? Because we were saved for this. Obedience to the call of telling others about Jesus puts a fire in our belly that we never knew was there because our disobedience kept dowsing the flame. One small step of obedience brings us to the next one and the next one and now Jesus can work. The fight then extends from our prayerful time with God into the halls of our school and workplace where the darkness is evident. We begin to see with spiritual eyes as we pray for Jesus to give us His eyes to see. We do. We see the hurt, the pain and the anger that entraps those around us.

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We see beyond the foul mouths and promiscuity, and we understand that maybe a night of drinking is filling that hole of needed community. Many times, what we were tempted by becomes clear that it was evil all dressed up in a good time. As we begin to fight it becomes very clear that we are not fighting others, they have been taken in by the pleasures of life and we know that destruction is coming for them. It becomes a humbling process and constant act of checking in our ego for surrender to what Jesus has for us in the moment. It becomes a spiritual battle and we realize that we are His soldiers ready to fight for those that are lost. When we become burdened for others, we begin to understand Jesus and His heart for us.

# FIGHT

# FOR THE TAKEN



## Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV)

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

We can grow weary because many who are asleep with the truth will remain there under the blankets of self-preservation. Let's not grow weary. Let's champion the truth, let's fight while we can and shed any need for other's approval. Let's not let the enemy use our minds to condemn our ineptitude or our inabilities. We can't let the enemy have any more ground, it's time to stop giving in to his lies and walk in the victory that has already been won.

If we are going to fight for the taken, then we must be disciplined and adamant about our preparation and spiritual fitness. We do not have to be perfect, but we do have to be prepared. We can't go on a rescue mission without diligence in prayer and knowledge of our scripture. We need to pour over what has already been written down in scripture and consistently learning while walking ever so close to Jesus. The war we are about to enter is not against flesh and blood and we must continually acknowledge that as we counterattack by surrendering to the Holy Spirit

We must strengthen our spiritual muscles and as our faith deepens our doubts dissipate. We become strong and courageous, not because of our own will and desire, but because we have made room for the Holy Spirit to come alive in us. We have suppressed Him so long that we don't recognize His voice, and we have rarely felt the warrior in us rise up because we have been locked down in fear. The enemy's hand has clamped over our mouths and stolen our words of truth more times than we care to admit. It's finally time to let Jesus rip the silence hand off our face and speak the truth in Jesus' name where He can set the captives free.

It should get us excited; it should do something in our soul when God has promised the win. He has promised to crush the enemy, He has promised this is not the end, because there is a Great Rescue coming and He wants us in on it. He wants us. Before that time comes, He is asking us to know Him, because in knowing Him we begin to see what He sees and understand what He wants us to understand. We step out of our dungeon of "people pleasing" into the freedom obeying our Lord. We are joining in the greatest win of all time; the Great Rescue is coming.



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# The Great Rescue

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The Great Rescue involves a team of people in desperate search for the lost. There are the front-line workers, the dispatchers, the experts in search and rescue and the negotiators all working together to find the one who is missing. In a search and rescue there is press coverage and instruction manuals. People have been trained in the art of understanding the enemy and his tactics. There are those who work as profilers to better understand who would do intentional evil to innocent victims.

The great rescue comes as we begin to better profile the enemy. He is the father of lies, the great deceiver and masquerades as an angel of light. He will settle for the good if it deviates from Holy, and he welcomes truth if it ends in a lie. We must recognize his tactics to better search for those who are lost. We must understand he mimics the traits of God in his effort to pervert the pure.

## John 8:44 (NKJV).

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.



The great rescue involves us all. We train and teach the next generation to understand who is missing and who is deceiving. We study the scriptures to know what is true and what is almost true with holy discernment. We are no longer blinded by what presents as true with false promises of freedom. We acknowledge that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life and therefore we must free others from anything other than the foundation of His promises. We must go on the great rescue.

Rescuing others comes with a cost. There is danger when you want to take back ground from the enemy and disrupt the harmony of truth in lies where people welcome their imprisonment and refuse to believe they are captive. We must be wise as serpents and gentle as doves as we understand what shackles torment them and what lies are drowning them. We will have to be willing to face danger. We must be willing to go where others will not go. We must believe the promises that God is with us, who will we fear? We must trust and walk so closely with the Holy Spirit that He guides our footsteps, our decisions or supernatural ability to navigate what seems so cloudy and confusing.

We must be warriors of truth against the lies that want to entrap us and we must use our words, the power of our testimony to set others free from their own dark nights.

It is useless for us to sit paralyzed with the thought that we cannot rescue them all. We are called to go and tell and risk it all, even for just one. One by one the great rescue unfolds as those freed from their own prison of darkness use their freedom to go after others. We are called to go and tell; Jesus does the saving. We are here sharing truth and telling others; we are here to answer the call.

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# The Great Rescue

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6:33 (NIV)

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

Our Father has promised to be with us, the Holy Spirit will give us what we need when we need it. We must be willing to rock our comfort zones and go looking for those who are captive. The Great Rescue is for those tired of seeing the worldly chaos suffocate our innocence. Rescues are ready to stand in the face of evil knowing Jesus reigns supreme and go after those who are chained to their lies.

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We are not here to sit in our self-made prisons where the enemy slays us with his tactics and lies. We must want to be rescued for the sake of our soul and for the sake of all others that need to encounter Jesus. It is time to rise and act.

Ezra 4:10 Rise up; this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it

The fear among believers leaves us hesitant to use our voices. We have the ability to call on Jesus for His strength and his vision. We must ask our God what He wants us to know and what He wants us to do. We then must step out in immediate obedience. There is no time to weigh all the what-if's. God is Jehovah Jireh, He is the Great Provider. We must align ourselves with the truth that we are already conquerors





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# The Great Rescue

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When light pierces the darkness it demands to be seen. You can't ignore it because it's shattering everything the darkness wants to hide. The first touch of God's forgiveness begins discovery of truth in every lie wrapped up in suffocating darkness. It all seemed so beautiful when we first played with fire, but the fire consumed us quickly and our burns became numb to the heat. As God sees fit, He enables His followers to join in the rescue as they speak truth to their lives and love the unlovable. The rescuers must realize that the taken may resist rescue and lash out, that is what sin does to a captured heart. We must prepare for rejection; we must also prepare for rescue

As one emerges from the darkness there will be great resistance because her captor will not let her go so easily. The confession we will want to make as we recognize Jesus is Lord will be refuted by the enemy who screams in anger. His hand has covered our mouth for so long we never realized we never really spoke for ourselves. His deception colored our darkness and his perceived beauty let us put down our guard. The enemy will fight for those he has detained, he will not be ok with the rescuers that have come, he will fight back but his lies will be weaker, his beauty will be made ugly and his grip that silences the voice of worship and confession will begin to loosen.

As the ones who have been taken realize the truth of their captivity there will be reckoning, wrestling and then... freedom. Freedom to walk away from captivity and to recognize the fleeting comforts it offers. There will be moments of turning back, maybe even wishing for the comfort of darkness, but the grace found in the light will beckon their souls and give life.

We must want to be rescued. We must see past the physical and ask Jesus what we need to see and then we must ask what He wants us to do. We will grow better and better at our rescue efforts the more we understand the heart of Jesus.

6: We will one day see the glorious appearing of our Savior, we will one day see all the pain disappear, we will stand renewed, perfect and without scar or pain. We will be given a new life. We will watch the suffering die, and the jails break open, we will live without knowledge of fear or regret or shame. We have so much to look forward to if we know Jesus as Lord, we have so much to do in His name. He gives us strength for each battle and for each rescue mission because we will stand before Him; and how much do we want to hear "well done good and faithful servant"? Whether we rescue one or a thousand, if we have been obedient to the warriors' call to rescue others, we will hear "well done". We will stand before the King of Kings, and He will call us His. The War will be won, the captives set free, those who are stolen will be returned, those who called out will be found, there will be victory over death and destruction, and we get to be a part of it.



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# The Great Rescue

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To prepare we must be deep in prayer with our Father, ridiculously committed to His word and greatly humble in our ability to serve.

The Great Rescue is all around us and interwoven throughout scripture as God reveals to us who He is. He is the creator, He is the redeemer, He is the Great Rescuer all throughout time. His rescue is closely tied to our obedience. He rescued Noah and Noah was obedient to build the ark when it didn't make sense. He rescued Moses because his mother was obedient to put him on the basket. He rescued Ruth because she was obedient to work in the fields, he rescued Joseph because he was obedient in his faith. He rescued his own son, because He was obedient to the cross. We would be wise to reckon the close ties between our obedience and the supernatural had of God. **What will our obedience offer?** It may offer its own rescue, but most likely it is much bigger than us. The mother of Moses was most likely not thinking her obedience would save a nation and we can gather that Joseph did not think the same thing when he was sold by his brothers. We cannot possibly know what God will do without obedience, but He has revealed enough about Himself in scripture that He wants to work with us. Our obedience is for our strengthening and sanctification, not for God's need for help. We experience Him when we can't control the outcome, but we can control our steps in faith to God who wants to redeem is lost and uses the found to do so.



# Prepare in Prayer

The more time we spend in scripture the clearer the Rescue Mission becomes as we discern between the voice of our enemy and the voice of our Shephard. Humility is the weapon we need so that we are obedient in every moment. That way, when the God of victory calls us into action, we move immediately and without question.

What does that actually look like? Proverbs chapter two gives us guidance

Here's verses 1-16 a "My Son, if you accept my words, store up my commands within you listening closely to wisdom and directing your heart to understanding; furthermore if you call out to insight and lift your voice to understanding. If you seek it like silver and search for it like treasure then you will understand the feat of the Lord and discover the knowledge of God. The Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding. He stores up success for the upright and He is a shield for those who live with integrity so that He may guard the paths of justice and protect the way of his faithful followers. Then you will understand righteousness, justice, and integrity, and every good path. For wisdom will enter your heart and knowledge will delight you. Discretion will watch over you and understanding will guard you. It will rescue you from the way of evil from anyone who says perverse things, from those who abandon the right path to walk in the way of darkness, from those who enjoy doing evil and celebrate perversion whose paths are crooked and whose ways are devious It will rescue you..."

There will come a day, and it is fast approaching. To be victorious in Jesus will be the greatest moment we will ever know. It's time to let Jesus lead us to those who have been abducted and hidden. It's time to rip the hands of the enemy off their face and give them their voice in His name.

**Be a part of the Great Rescue.**

**Disciple someone.**

**Resources can be found here: [www.fcabrave.org](http://www.fcabrave.org)**

**Acts 5:20 (NKJV)**

**"Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life."**

**Matthew 28:19 (NKJV)**

**Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,**

**Mark 16:15 (NKJV)**

**And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."**

# Prayer for the Prodigal

Some of us come to this place aching for those who have walked away from Jesus. They have willingly taken the hand of their abductor and agreed to slavery in false freedom. This is a space where we take a moment and we pray. We pray for the lost to be found, we pray for the darkness to be brought to light, we pray for the lies to be exposed.

Though we are called to be a part of the great rescue, we must know each heart has to encounter Jesus. Jesus can go where we can not go and He is the ultimate Savior. Our obedience to the call is to bring us close to Him and know Him more. We can be His words and His hands and His feet, but He is the only Savior. The greatest battle we face is on our knees crying out for those to know Him and asking for opportunities to make Him known. We pray for the prodigal and for the taken.

## ESV

Matthew 18:12 What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray?

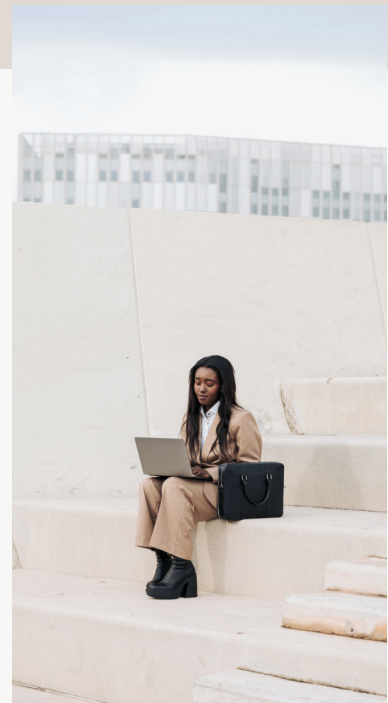
There will come a day when we will see Him face to face. There will come a day when pain, sorry, betrayal and death will be unknown.

## Revelation 21:5

(New International Version) He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Rise up, take Courage and Act. He can make us Bold, He can Redeem us, He has Anointed us, He will give us Victory for Eternity.

Be. B.R.A.V.E





WRITE DOWN THE NAMES  
OF THE GIRLS...

PRAY  
GO  
RESCUE

BOLD | REDEEMED | ANOINTED | VICTORIOUS | ETERNAL

BRAVE

# FCA BRAVE MINISTRIES

HAVING CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER



## SPEAKING FOR YOUR EVENT

We would love to serve you at  
your next  
women/teen event.

Amber and her FCA staff are  
available for event speaking,  
Brave  
Workshops, or wherever the  
need may be.

The Great Rescue is happening  
now.

We would love to engage your  
community of women  
and equip them to be BRAVE.



### CONTACT

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