

## event highlights

**Called to be Free: Restoring Hope for Sexual Healing Conference**  
Saturday, July 23, 2011  
Living Hope Community Church  
San Fernando, CA  
www.livingstonesministry.org

**Equipping Event**  
Tuesday, August 2, 2011  
Sugar Creek Baptist Church  
Sugar Land, TX (Houston)  
Contact Info: 888-264-0877  
conference@exodusinternational.org

**Love Won Out**  
Saturday, September 10, 2011  
Sugar Creek Baptist Church  
Sugar Land, TX (Houston)  
Contact Info: 888-264-0877  
lovewonout@exodusinternational.org

**North Atlantic Regional Conference**  
Friday, September 16 – 18, 2011  
First Assembly of God Auburn, NH  
Contact Info: 888-264-0877  
conference@exodusinternational.org

**Florida Regional Conference**  
Friday, October 7 – 8, 2011  
First Baptist Church Leesburg, FL  
Contact Info: 888-264-0877  
conference@exodusinternational.org

**North Central Regional Conference**  
Friday, October 28 – 29, 2011  
Green Lake Conference Center  
Green Lake, WI  
Contact Info: 888-264-0877  
conference@exodusinternational.org

## giving opportunity

At the time of this writing the Exodus Staff is in high gear ramping up for the Exodus Freedom Conference in Asheville, North Carolina June 8th through 11th. Currently people from 42 different states and 4 countries are going to join us to experience "The Reality of Grace." Another blessing is that 42% of those registered are attending for the first time. The energy around the office is fast-paced, exciting and expectant of what the Lord is going to do.

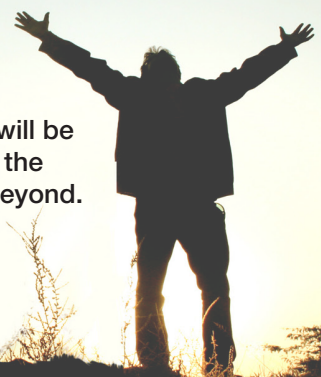
The Exodus Freedom Conference is our largest project each year. It is hosted in the summer when many people take their vacation time. We plan it that way in an effort to help people attend at a time of year that is more convenient. However, the summer time is usually a very lean financial time for non-profit organizations. This is historically true for Exodus as well.

**So our largest project (therefore most expensive project) comes at a time of year when we see a sharp decline in gift giving.**

This year marks our 36th Exodus Freedom Conference. For 36 years Exodus leaders and staff have step forward in faith to bring together the best speakers, ministers, teachers and resources to bless our conference attendees. Every single year we have seen the Lord not only provide the resources necessary to accomplish the event; we have seen Him transform lives. He is glorified and His people are edified ... every time.

**Would you please consider praying for and financially supporting Exodus?**

You can give by returning the attached card or simply give online on our new and improved website www.exodusinternational.org. Your ongoing prayers and financial gifts will be stewarded wisely and efficiently for the Exodus Freedom Conference and beyond. Thanks in advance for your help.



Exodus is a member in good standing with the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), a Christian financial monitoring organization.



# exodus international

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PO Box 540119 | Orlando, FL 32854 | 888.264.0877

## MOBILIZING THE BODY OF CHRIST TO MINISTER GRACE AND TRUTH TO A WORLD IMPACTED BY HOMOSEXUALITY

Dear Friends,

I have been discouraged lately thinking of all of the people who are amending their faith or abandoning it all together in pursuit of a gay life. **We truly have become a society that values our own pleasures, needs and passions above anything and everything else.** For those who marry their theology with their sexuality, or anything immoral for that matter, it is all about fitting God into our will rather than sacrificing our own desires for Him. What's even more staggering is that segments of the Church are now leading entire generations of people toward that kind of humanistic reality with their dangerous theology.

This afternoon I met with two young men in very different places on their journey. One is a young man who pursued gay life in high school; found out that it offered nothing of what he was actually starving for. Eight years ago he decided to pursue Christ over his sexuality and found the wholeness he had always craved. This young man is living counter culturally to many in his generation, even from many within his own church as he chooses to obediently serve the Lord. I encouraged him and promised to pray for him. He is a light in a dark world.

The second young man I met with today is just entering adulthood. Despite the fact that he grew up in church he is really struggling with making Christ his entire focus. He knows the truth but fears giving himself to what he perceives to be the rigidity of Christian life - a set of do's and don'ts. I get it. As I listened to him I could remember being in his very shoes 20 years ago. I knew what was right but I didn't want to do it out of a legalistic motivation. I wanted more. I wanted to want Christ because I knew He truly was more satisfying. I wanted relationship not robotics. At that point I did pursue a gay life, a counterfeit, because it seemed better to me than the real thing - the community of Christ known as the local church. Like me at his age, this Christian boy is teetering on the edge of pursuing one or the other knowing full well that trying to have both will only make him miserable. **No one can serve two masters with their whole heart. Ultimately one must win.**

As I talked to this second young man he asked me something profound. He said, "What about the people who say they are happy with their decision to pursue gay life?" My response was honest. I think people can find happiness in almost anything - at least some level of happiness. Sometimes when the battle is over and one simply decides to live one way or the other it's just a relief. But, it has been my experience that those who decide to pursue gay life do so at the expense of or in absence of an authentic relationship with Christ. For those who have experienced salvation they must deny Christ (altogether or His truth concerning morality). **When individuals haven't encountered the person of Christ and are simply following some kind of Christian moral code the happiness seemingly available in counterfeits can be very attractive.** They just don't know Him and therefore they don't trust Him to meet their needs. I have so many friends who don't know Jesus who are amazing people living quite happily pursuing whatever their god is: money, religion, sex, fame, etc. While I believe God created us to know there is something missing I think a lot of people learn to live with that void - settling for what they believe is all the good they will ever have.

I went on to tell him that I can't completely speak for others, but I can speak for myself. While I was a Christian pursuing homosexuality I lived with a burning question that wouldn't go away - a nagging doubt that I could ever be truly at peace or happy with gay life. That was one of the motivating factors in me leaving that life behind. Today, I don't live my life wondering if I am living the life God created me to live. I don't question the path I chose nearly 20 years ago. I know with all confidence that I am who God intended for me to be and will continue to become more of who He created me to be. I have never once doubted my love or commitment to Christ or my love for Leslie.

As we continue to endure this soul-ravaging culture that is seeking to devour us may we seek Christ and His righteousness and fight to the death for the freedom He died to give us. I cling daily to, and experience the reality of Psalms 27:13-14 that says,

*I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD In the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD.*

Battling with You and for You!

*Alan Chambers*



alan chambers  
Exodus President

**YES!** I want to help Exodus continue offering hope and healing to those seeking freedom from homosexuality.

- Please charge my credit card (please use form on back).
- I have made changes to my mailing address below.
- Please sign me up to receive monthly electronic newsletter.  
My email address is : \_\_\_\_\_
- Please remove me from your mailing list. [Note: you may receive additional issues, due to timing of our mail cycles.]

**Thank you for your gift!**  
Please mail this form with your gift in the envelope provided, made payable to Exodus

Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$25
- \$50
- \$100
- \$250
- \$500
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Mail To:  
PO Box 540119  
Orlando, FL 32854  
For More Information:  
888.264.0877 | Fax: 407.599.0011

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# real stories by matthew walker

In my youth I lived about 10 years as an active member of the gay community. I read gay literature, boycotted Pepsi, dated guys, attended and served at AIDS benefits and steeped myself in gay culture. I was a victim of bullying and true hate speech and I buried a few friends and one family member after their lives were cut short by the ravages of HIV. I crafted an identity out of a feeling that started when I was around 4-6 years of age. It was a feeling common in the childhoods of most gay men and women. It's a feeling of "feeling different". I was led to interpret that feeling to mean that I was gay. It was only later in life that I began to wonder, "Who told me that the benign feeling of 'feeling different' meant that I was gay?" That interpretation was fostered by the verbal contributions of my peers and the contemptuous need of society to label anything that appears different. But maybe, just maybe the feeling didn't mean that I was different. Maybe it meant that I was set apart for something different.



I have long since physically left the gay community, but my heart is still there. Because my own life was touched by homosexuality, I know the trials and tribulations that gay men and women go through today. I know that just like me, there are men, women and teens trapped in a gay-identified world that they long to be free from. There are others who are still quite happy being gay. The liberal media would have us believe that the Church's strong voice in the world is the cause of many gay teen suicides. When I was growing up, it wasn't the church that caused me inner turmoil with my sexuality. Deep down I knew the attractions I was starting to feel were wrong. They were awkward for me. The church didn't have to tell me that. It wasn't the voice of the church, I heard. It was the voice of God making me aware of how the sin I had been born into had manifested in me, but also how I could bring peace to the chaos brewing in the area of my sexuality.

I felt like killing myself as a teen not because of the church, but because of a very real spiritual enemy that was trying to destroy me anyway that he could. His whispers and lies twisted the Bible into a condemnation of me, not of the sin that was overtaking me. I was honest with myself about how homosexuality developed in my life. Many gay men and women use the act of "coming out" as a great dismissal of the developmental history that shaped their gay identity. Genetics becomes the great enabler that keeps many bound to a life of destruction. My heart breaks a little more each day as false hope is communicated to susceptible youth with slogans like "It gets better". When I hear how many kids are empowered to embrace homosexuality, because some celebrity has come out, it simply takes the wind out of my sails. Today we desperately need courageous Christians who are willing to stand up against the gay agenda and say enough is enough. Unfortunately many times it's a message churches are unwilling to tackle. There are millions of kids out there looking for answers and looking for a savior – is that not a compelling enough reason to get involved? The truth is that life only gets better if Christ is actively involved.

# exodus news



As many of you already know, Randy Thomas has recently transitioned from Executive Vice President at Exodus to a part-time role as our Director of Digital Media and Development.

Due to that change, a huge hole was created in our office regarding his former duties. In order for Exodus to continue to thrive, we felt it vital to fill the Executive Vice President position. We are very pleased to announce that **Jeff Buchanan**, currently our Senior Director of Church Equipping and Student Ministries has been promoted to serve in the EVP role. Jeff is an incredibly gifted administrator and critical thinker. He will continue to oversee Church Equipping and Student Ministries until the recession lifts and we are able to hire others to help in one or both of those areas.

Before coming to Exodus in 2008, Jeff was an Associate Pastor in Nashville, TN and was the director of Journey, a sexual wholeness ministry in his local church. He is an ordained minister and has a Masters of Theological Studies from Liberty University.

We also want to welcome **Amy McDonald** who has recently joined our staff to serve as the Administrative Assistant for Church Equipping and Students Ministries.

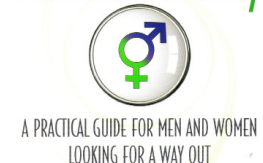


**Kristen Tremba** has transitioned into a new role as the director of Exchange Ministries at First Baptist of Orlando. Exchange is an Exodus Member Ministry that has served men, women and families in the Orlando area and across the nation for the past 29 years.

Previously, Kristen spent five years as the director of OneByOne, a national ministry dedicated to educating and equipping Presbyterian churches to minister to those with unwanted same sex attraction and their families.

We are excited about this new role for Kristen and believe Exchange Ministries will continue to be a great blessing to many under her leadership.

For information about OneByOne, contact Jeff Buchanan at the Exodus Office at [jbuchanan@exodusinternational.org](mailto:jbuchanan@exodusinternational.org) or at 888-264-0877.



Alan Chambers  
PRESIDENT OF EXODUS INTERNATIONAL

## featured resource

### Leaving Homosexuality: A Practical Guide for Men and Women Looking for a Way Out

by Alan Chambers

When a gay man or woman is faced with the reality that a growing and vibrant life in Jesus Christ is incompatible with their sexual attractions, what exactly does he or she do? What steps can be taken toward leaving the gay life and identity?

In this accessible book Alan Chambers, president of Exodus International, explains the process and clarifies the expectations for those who are skeptical of change or frustrated by an ongoing struggle with same-sex attraction.

Men and women of all ages who struggle will find Leaving Homosexuality indispensable in their own walk of faith...and an excellent resource to give to those who haven't yet heard that there is a new life of freedom beyond homosexuality available to them.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (amount)

Please make this a one-time donation.  Please make this a Monthly Gift.

Name on Credit Card : \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # : \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ (csv)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(credit card cannot be processed without a signature)

Dear Exodus, Please pray for:

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