



From the Director, Clay Bergen

Renew! Refresh! Revive! was our theme for the 2010 Freedom in Christ Ministries International Retreat this past August in Alliston, ON. It was an incredible privilege to host 70 Freedom in Christ staff from around the world here in Canada for a week of celebration, fellowship, teaching and significant prayer times. An additional 150 people joined us for 'The Core of Christianity Conference' with Dr. Anderson to finish our week together. Nottawasaga Inn Resort was the perfect venue for us to come together to enjoy God's creation in the Niagara Escarpment.

Dr. Anderson had many opportunities to share the message of freedom—from preaching at People's Church in Toronto before the retreat, to being interviewed on 100 Huntley Street during the retreat, and following the conference to preach at a Community Unity Service in Alliston (held every year in conjunction with their potato festival). The community service was a perfect way to end a conference on church unity as Dr. Anderson spoke to all the local churches gathered together for this worship service. God took care of all the details!

As International Prayer Coordinator for FICMI, the highlight for me was leading the Tuesday night prayer time with the directors/spouses and intercessors from around the world. As an international council, we had our annual meetings in advance of our retreat and it was a powerful time of thanking God and praying for the global outreach of Freedom in Christ.



We were also blessed to have Dr. Grant Mullen teach our staff a balanced view of spiritual freedom, inner healing and physical wellness. God has raised up this Canadian doctor to share a message that is very relevant for the church today. I highly recommend his teaching and resources on transformed living that can be found on his web site at www.drgrantmullen.com.

It was a good week together! Thank you to all of our Canadian staff, ministry associates and volunteers that made this event possible! It was worth all the effort!



Freedom In Christ International Retreat 2010 Group Picture ~ Our theme was Renew! Refresh! Revive!

Council Meetings, Advance Prayer, Dr. Grant Mullen...

The Freedom In Christ Ministries International (FICMI) Council meets every year to discuss what God is doing worldwide with Freedom In Christ, what new opportunities for growth are presenting themselves, learn where each country is at and what God is doing there, and so forth.



FICMI Council Members and Spouses ~ L to R (back): Clay, Neil, Steve, Isaac, Rich L to R (front): Bob, Carin, Joanne, Zoë, Tara, Roger

We have heard the murmurs of a lot of expansion overseas for Freedom In Christ in the last few years, and this year we heard about some of the fruit! The council received updates on the start of ministries in France, the Republic of Ireland, Portugal, Holland, Hungary, Spain, Croatia, Romania, Poland, French-speaking countries outside of France, Nepal, Iran, New Zealand, South Korea, Mandarin Chinese translation work, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela and Central America. This is in addition to the countries that were represented at our international retreat: United Kingdom, Switzerland, South Africa, India, Malaysia, Australia, Mexico, Latin America, United States and Canada. The message of freedom is impacting the world!

For the first time this year, those heading up prayer (or a representative) for Freedom In Christ in their respective countries were asked to come a few days early to be praying and interceding in advance for all that was going to take place—the Council meetings, international staff retreat, conference, and safety and protection for all involved (especially during travel). It was a blessing for all to be a part of this special time. Even though several of these women didn't know each other, they became fast friends and advocates in prayer for the week of events and Freedom In Christ Ministries around the world!

There was a noticeable difference in how smoothly everything went, and we hope to see an advance prayer team for international events continue to grow.



FICMI Advance Prayer Team representing four countries. L to R: Jill, Vicki, Judy, Carolyn, Sherry, Jessica (missing is Linda).



Dr. Neil T. Anderson and Dr. Grant Mullen

Dr. Grant Mullen, a contact from our two years at Break Forth (a large equipping conference held annually in Edmonton), was a great addition to our week. He taught our staff a balanced view of spiritual freedom, inner healing and physical wellness, and did so with a lot of humour and understanding of spiritual battles. Dr. Mullen also taught a workshop entitled 'Transformation of the Heart' during our conference weekend. He was an excellent and highly qualified speaker to those of us in full-time ministry.

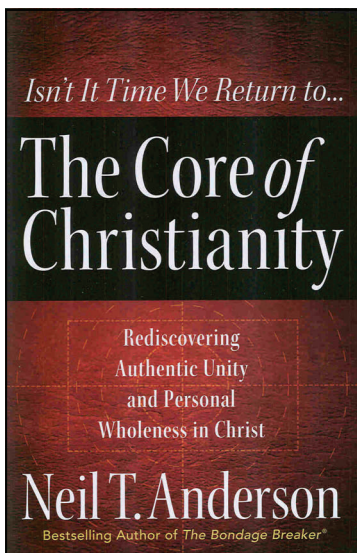
More information about Dr. Mullen can be found on his web site at www.drgrantmullen.com.

Retreat, Conference, and Community Unity Service!

Seventy staff from all over the world joined us here in Canada for the international retreat! This event is held every other year in one of the countries that has a Freedom In Christ office. A lot of work, thought and prayer went into this event, and all were blessed because of it! We had no serious health issues; we experienced God's safety and protection; everyone enjoyed the venue and had positive comments ranging from the food (and the amount of it!) to our day trip to one of God's natural wonders—Niagara Falls—to the times set aside for prayer and building relationships with each other. In 2012, the international staff retreat will be held in and hosted by the United Kingdom.



Dr. Anderson teaching *The Core of Christianity* at the conference.



Approximately 220 were part of *The Core of Christianity* Conference with Dr. Neil T. Anderson! It was a pleasure to have so many come in the middle of summer to hear this teaching on unity in the church (the body of Christ). The extremes of legalism, liberalism, spiritism and false prophets were discussed and then brought into subjection to the Word of God with Scripture and examples of how the enemy can take something truthful and twist it into something destructive and divisive. It was an excellent teaching for the church today!

C.S. Lewis wrote, "I believe that in the present divided state of Christendom, those who are at the heart of each division are all closer to one another than those who are at the fringes."

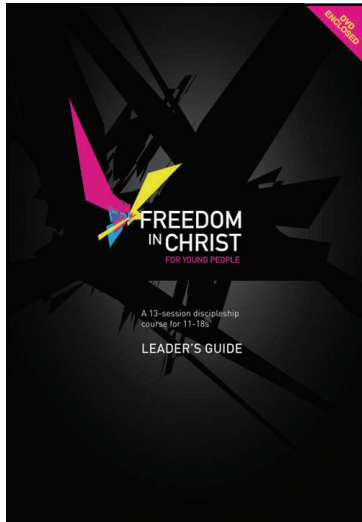
Dr. Anderson has ministered in a wide variety of churches and observed that what we believe and what we have in common is far greater than the issues that divide us.

If you weren't able to attend the conference, it's not too late to pick up your copy of *The Core of Christianity* by Dr. Neil T. Anderson. The cost is \$15 through our office.

On Sunday morning, Dr. Anderson spoke at Alliston's annual Community Unity Service. Each year all the churches in the community come together for one service under one roof! Amazing! We know God was in the planning and details of bringing us to this town north of Toronto—what better way could there have been to end a week of encouragement, prayer and building relationships across the body of Christ and around the world than to speak on unity to a diverse body under one roof!



Dr. Anderson speaking Sunday morning at the annual Community Unity Service in Alliston, ON.



Youth Bible Study from Freedom In Christ UK and Youth for Christ UK

The aim of Freedom In Christ for Young People is to set young people firmly on the way to becoming fruitful disciples who are sold out for God and will make a radical difference.

The course addresses three of the biggest issues facing Christian young people:

- 1) *In a generation that is searching for identity, it helps them understand who they are in Christ.*
- 2) *In the face of so much temptation and pressure, it gives them the tools that enable them to walk free from the rubbish that holds them back.*
- 3) *It empowers them to take hold of the authority they have in Christ and take responsibility for their relationship with God so that they grow to become fruitful disciples.*

“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 become all that God has made them as a result.”

~ Mike Pilavachi, founder & director of Soul Survivor

Freedom in Christ for Young People Leader's Guide & DVD (BFYP) \$50. Student Guides (ages 11-14 and 15-18) are also available for \$5 each.

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