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The Call of Refining Fire Ministries, Inc.

Why should a pastor incorporate and start a non-profit ministry? As a pastor, my first call and my first responsibility is to my church. God has called me to be a pastor and that has not changed. However, God has also called me to be involved in ministry that can best be supported by a non-profit ministry that is not connected with any specific church.

One of our primary reasons for starting Refining Fire Ministries is to create a vehicle which allows us to host and hold Christian conferences. Specifically, I have felt a call to minister to married couples for quite some time. I have counseled with many couples but have been seeking another way to minister to them. Marriage conferences are a good way to accomplish this goal. Many

married couples are longing to get away for a couple of days. A marriage conference works because: wives are always looking for a way to get their husbands more "tuned in" spiritually and husbands are always looking for a way to get their wife to leave the kids for a weekend get-away. A marriage conference does both.

The distribution of teaching material is another primary reason for Refining Fire Ministries. Frequently I receive requests for copies of my sermons and Bible studies. Currently, I am working on several projects. I'm writing a book on "overcoming fear" as well as commentaries on Genesis, Esther, Jonah and Psalm 119. Refining Fire Ministries will help to publish and distribute this material via audio CDs, DVDs,



John delivers clothes on a recent trip to Brazil.

and written media.

Refining Fire Ministries will also work in missions in the US and Brazil as well as other countries. We hope to continue working closely with Rick Bonfim Ministries and expand into other areas as well.

This sounds like a lot, but I am not alone. Refining Fire Ministries has a board which is made up of strong Christians who hold me accountable in every way. I hope you'll join us as we bring the gospel of Christ to a dying world.

Your servant,

The Spirit of Achan—Joshua 7

In Joshua chapter 6 Jericho was destroyed as the Israelites simply marched around the city. Well, it's never that simple is it? It was a great act of faith on Israel's part as they took God at His Word. Once the city was destroyed they were to destroy everything—animals, gold, silver and even the people. This seems harsh to us but God detests the things of the world and Jericho was of the world. The lesson here is that after such a great act of faith we

must continue to trust in God. The Israelites were therefore challenged to trust God to meet their needs to the exclusion of the riches of the world of Jericho. However, Achan could not resist Jericho's tempting lure. He took from the banned items of Jericho and mixed them with his personal belongings. Achan then tried to hide his evil deed from the rest of the camp. Fortunately his sin was discovered when the Israelites went to battle with Ai. The Israelites

were defeated because Achan's sin had removed them from God's banner of protection.

When we participate in the spirit of Achan we place ourselves outside of God's banner of protection. It is not God's desire for us to be apart from Him, but that is the goal of sin—to separate us from God. Achan discovered true separation as he was singled out and damned.

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From the President of the Board

As Christians, God has touched and changed all of our lives. We don't even recognize the people that we were before Jesus filled our hearts. Our first encounter with Jesus usually came about because God put someone in our lives and anointed them with the right



Refining Fire Ministries Board President, Barry Hyatt, makes friends while on a mission trip to Mexico.

words to say—at the right time and at the right place. God partners with people to bring the lost to Him as well as taking His sheep to higher levels of intimacy and knowledge.

Many families have witnessed the anointing God has placed on John Freeland. John has been given the gift to understand what God wants to say to people. He understands the love God has for each of His children in a special way. We have tried for many months to convince John to expand his ministry to include marriage conferences, to make his Bible teaching and sermons readily available and to speak anywhere God needs captives set free.

Through much prayer, John has founded Refining Fire Ministries, Inc. We invite you to join us as we help John do what God has called him to do. As with Moses in Exodus 17, God caused the Israelites to prevail

over Amalak as long as Moses' hands were in the air. This task could not be accomplished by Moses alone, so God gave him Aaron and Hur to under gird and support him in his calling. Refining Fire Ministries, Inc. and John Freeland are no different in the callings that have been placed on them. Most likely you have received an Aaron and Hur support card. Please prayerfully consider your place in this ministry and the calling God has placed on your life for support of Refining Fire Ministries (your financial gifts are tax deductible). Your prayer support and financial support is very important as we work together for the Kingdom of God.

Your servant,



The Spirit of Achan (Continued from page 1)

A spirit of Achan would have you keep things in your life that are not of God. (Paul has a couple of lists: Romans 1:29-31 and Galatians 5:19-21). A closer look will reveal that Achan was controlled by five spirits:

1. Spirit of Fear—a spirit of fear weakens our faith and drives us to supply our own needs.
2. Seducing Spirit—Achan was seduced by the banned items and brought a curse on the entire assembly.
3. Spirit of the World—compels us to hide and deny our sin. The world deceives us by telling us that sin is not really sin.

4. Spirit of Bondage—Achan mixed the banned items with his own personal items. A Spirit of Bondage would have us mix the things of the world with the things of God.
5. Proud Spirit—Achan allowed the camp to go through the process of drawing straws to find the culprit in the vain hope that he would not be found out.

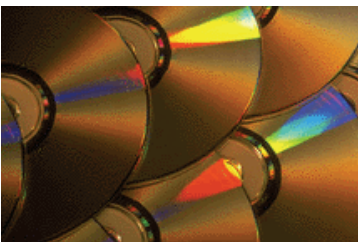
Thank God we live in an age of grace! The way of destruction is broad and easy but the way of life is narrow. (see Matthew 7:13-14) Few find this way and even fewer follow it. But there is grace that provides such a way for us. We have to make a choice. "Those who cling to worth-

less idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs." Jonah 2:8. Repentance releases the power of the cross into our lives. Through repentance we can find God's grace. What would have happened to Achan if he had stepped forward, confessed, repented and then destroyed the banned items? God would have forgiven him. Grace is not just a New Testament word. God operated with grace in the Old Testament too. Consider how many times He allowed the sacrifice of animals to cover the sin of man until the final Sacrifice, Jesus, was offered.

Jesus didn't die for our sin, He died for us! Grace is available today for all who ask.

What would have happened to Achan if he had stepped forward, confessed, repented and then destroyed the banned items?

How You Can Participate!



Watch for www.refiningfire.org for a list of our Bible teaching materials.

Everything seems to work better when it has a web site. Just think, a few years ago we thought it would be impossible. Now you can find out just about anything you want to know (and many things you don't want to know) simply by typing in a few words. Soon our web site will be complete and up for your benefit. We hope you'll make it one of your favorite sites to visit.

You can also participate by providing prayer support and financial backing.

Your offerings will be greatly appreciated and used for God's glory.

Our web site is still being "refined," but it is up and running, so you can check us out at www.refiningfire.org. There you will be able to order CDs, see our upcoming events and donate online using [PayPal](#)

We're looking forward to God's blessings being showered into your life through Refining Fire Ministries, Inc.

You may send your tax-deductible offerings to:

Refining Fire Ministries, Inc.
P.O. Box 72071
Newnan, GA 30271
or

Donate online at:
www.refiningfire.org