



June 19, 2009

This past June 6<sup>th</sup> was the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “D Day”. In some ways it seems like that invasion took place so long ago but in the grand scope of history it is like it was only yesterday. I am a bit of war buff so I enjoy watching the documentaries and the Hollywood portrayals of what took place in the second world war. In honour of the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “D Day”, the History Channel showed second world war movies 24 hours a day the first weekend in June. Needless to say I immersed myself in the programming until my eyeballs were practically square!

One of my favorite movies is the docudrama “Band of Brothers” which follows “Easy” company of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne from their training to “D Day” and through the European campaign until they took Hitler’s mountain retreat the “Eagles Nest”. There are so many parallels and lessons that hit me as I watched the stories I have seen before. Many of them centered on “D Day” itself. One of the things that took place before the landings on “D Day” was a massive artillery bombardment to try to soften the German defenses up for the troops who would be landing on the beaches early that morning. Battle ships fired tons of ordinance that was designed to smash the strongholds the Germans had set up on the cliffs above the beaches. The men of the ships never saw the enemy the soldiers were going to engage. In fact, they were so far away that they couldn’t even see the target they were firing at. Those on the ships probably wondered if what they were doing was making any positive difference. The soldiers on the beach, however, could see the effect of those shells and were very thankful for anything that would disable or limit the enemy they were trying to overtake.

I don’t want to be over dramatic but that is the picture I get when I go to a speaking engagement. When I step onto the property of a camp or some other venue where I am speaking, in my mind’s eye it is like the landing craft door has just dropped and I am off to the beach. Donna and I get to land on the beach, and you are the artillery behind us. Your prayers are like artillery shells that are being lobbed into enemy territory. As you pray I believe that you help break down some of the strongholds that the enemy has set up in the lives of individuals we get to speak to. Are there times you wonder if you are doing any good at all? I want to encourage you, yes you are!!!!

Thank you so much for being a part of a growing flotilla of individuals who don’t get to see the front lines of what Donna & I do but are a critical part of the invasion force that hits the beach.

As you know summer is a time of heavy ministry. As you will see the summer and early fall is booked solid. I am thankful to God that He still allows me to do what I love: speak to students. The summer schedule tends to take a lot out of me with long weeks, early mornings, late nights and lots of one on one student contact. A few people have made the comment “you get sick every summer.” Last summer was the first in a few that I didn’t get sick, which I see as a significant work of God in my body. I don’t think you can ever have too much prayer! I have set my watch to beep at 9:30 every night to remind me to pray for some people who are important to me. Perhaps you would consider doing something similar for us over the summer. However and whenever you pray, please know we value the part you play in the work God does through Straight Talk! Please don’t stop!

In His Grip

# Straight Talk Schedule

## July - September 2009

### Praise God For...

The contact made with Stonecroft USA. They have purchased 1500 10 Smart Things books and 1000 participant guides to use with their women all across the USA.

A full speaking calendar for Randy.

Linda, who accepted Christ in the 10 Smart Things session that just concluded at FAC.

### Please Pray...

For health for Randy. Summer camps mean up early and to bed late, a whole lot of busy in between and a tendency to get run down. Pray that his voice and body would stay strong straight through.

As always pray for safety. There are many extra miles to be traveled on the roads.

That God would soften and change hearts this summer. I don't think it has ever been harder to be a student than it is now. Ask that God would reveal himself to students this summer and the trajectory of their lives would be changed as they fully surrender to Him.

For a distributor in South Africa. We have has some discussions but we still don't have anyone committed to distribute the 10 Smart Things material there.

For wisdom as Randy gets sessions ready for summer camps.

For clarity and creativity for Donna as she spends the summer working on a new book proposal.

### Randy's Schedule

- June 30 College students - Wycliff café' – Calgary
- July 2 – 5 Family Camp - Camp Nakamun – Busby Alberta (Randy & Donna are sharing the speaking duties)
- July 9-12 Phillipino National Youth and Young Adults Conference – Ambrose University – Calgary, AB
- July 13-18 Jr. High Camp – Camp Evergreen – Bergen, AB
- July 25- Aug 1 Jr. High Camp – Camp Chamisall – Waiparous Valley, AB
- Aug 7-15 Vacation
- Aug 16-22 Jr. High Camp – Camp Qwanoes – Duncan, BC
- Aug 23 -28 Sr. High Camp – Bayside Camp – Sambro Head, NS
- Sept 4-7 Youth Camp – Burnaby Alliance Church – Rockridge Camp, BC
- Sept 11-13 Youth Retreat – Innisfail Alliance – Gull Lake, AB
- Sept 16-18 Spiritual Emphasis Week – Regina Christian School
- Sept 20-22 Kick Off Retreat – White Rock Christian School – Rockridge Camp, BC
- Sept 25-27 Morinville Alliance Youth Retreat – Belle View Bible Camp – St Paul, AB

### Donna's Schedule

- July 2-5 Family Camp – Camp Nakamun
- Sept 12 Symons Valley Full Gospel Church – Women's Event
- Sept 25-27 Women's Retreat – Rough Acres Bible Camp – Terrace, BC