



# TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

**It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery... You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.**

*Galatians 5:1,13*

## Freedom

Three Rivers is a foreign film that takes place in Vietnam. One of the main characters is a rickshaw driver named Hai. He falls in love with a beautiful hotel prostitute named Lan. Hai is poor. He can't afford a night with her. A rickshaw race takes place in the city. Hai wins.

With the money he purchased a night with Lan. He took her to a very expensive hotel. As they walked to the room she knew what was coming. But what she expected to happen didn't happen. Hai refused to sleep with her, kiss her, or even touch her. All he wanted was for her to have one peaceful night of sleep. He wanted her to rest well and at peace. He was willing to give up every dollar he had to rescue her from her scandalous life for a single night—one night of restful peace.

Does that sound familiar? Jesus saw us. He saw the scandalous life of sin that we lived. And he gave up everything to set us free. Jesus gave up the riches of heaven to enter this world. And then he gave up his body, his breath, even his very life to rescue us not for just a night, but for all eternity. Jesus gave up everything he had so we could be at peace with God. Jesus gave up everything he had to set us free! Jesus gave up everything to free us from the yoke of slavery to sin. Jesus gave up everything to free us from a life that served only ourselves.

Do you know what happened to Lan, the prostitute, after her good night sleep? She couldn't go back to her old life after being with someone who loved her the way Hai did. How could she after she had been loved like that?!

We know a greater, more extravagant and more lavish love. We've experienced God's forgiveness and gracious adoption to be his children. How can we live any other life than one that serves and loves like that?!

**PRAYER: Lord Jesus, your love is truly extravagant. You gave everything to make me yours for all eternity. You gave everything to set me free for a life of love. Help me to live a life that loves as you have loved me. Amen.**