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“UNSHACKLED!” - Pacific Garden Mission
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Daily Devotional

“Desiring Truth” – Felicia

ANNCR: February 14th, “Desiring Truth.” Have you ever allowed yourself to be misled? Maybe you knew in your heart-of-hearts that the advice you’d received or the philosophy you’d been taught was deeply flawed, but you still wanted the things it offered. So you charged ahead, choosing not to look too closely at your surroundings, at the “home” your lies had created for you. The great theologian C.S. Lewis spoke of this sort of surrender when he said, “like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.” Well, today we’ll meet Felicia, a woman who ran the gamut of lifestyles that promised her happiness...that is, until she set her heart on the Truth. She’s here to share with us her true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

FELICIA: I was a middle-class girl ready to begin college when I went to San Francisco and fell into the hippie lifestyle of drugs and social revolution. Back in the Midwest at college I met a man and followed his twisted logic into street demonstrations. I also followed him back to San Francisco where an old friend led me into witchcraft. Each

new venture seemed to promise fulfillment. With each I was disappointed.

When a friend died of a drug overdose, I was scared but not enough to change my ways. Three more years of drug abuse and confusion followed. Then I awoke one day in the locked ward of a psychiatric hospital. The doctor warned me that I would end up mindless if I continued to use drugs. After looking at the vacant people wandering the ward around me, I left the hospital and never used drugs again.

I became part of the establishment instead, getting my degree and a good job with an advertising agency. Once again, though, I was duped. Work was not the answer to happiness. I became overbearing and arrogant and very unhappy. A woman at work shared the gospel of God's love and salvation with me for two hours one day, and I prayed to receive Christ as my Savior. He gave me the peace I'd always longed for, the purpose I'd lacked.

ANNCR: Jesus warned in Matthew chapter 7, verse 6, "*Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.*" Friend, as God's image-bearing creation and His children, we have been

given incredible and holy gifts! But we still have to be careful what we do with these. If we allow ourselves to follow empty philosophies and errant teachers, we are casting our gifts into the mire and settling for a false sense of fulfillment and joy. Rather, we must protect what we've been given, seek after the truth, and allow it to continue transforming us. Only then will we trade our slums for that beautiful seaside holiday. Will you receive this truth today?

CREDITS: Unshackled Daily Devotionals are produced by Pacific Garden Mission along with our Unshackled Audio Dramas. To find even more true stories of God's saving, transforming power, visit our website, unshackled.org.

This episode was written by Jack Odell and Elizabeth Kupferschmid and narrated by Tim Gregory and Lisa Keefe.

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