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“UNSHACKLED!” - Pacific Garden Mission
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Daily Devotional

“A Solid Foundation” – Vickie Baker

ANNCR: April 21st, “A Solid Foundation” Have you ever been to the beach? Do you remember how difficult it was to walk in the sand? (*Chuckles*) I can tell you there’s a reason Olympic sprints aren’t held there! It can be so hard to get a good footing! It seems the more you try to push off, the deeper you sink in! There are a lot of things in life as unsteady as a sandy beach. But we may not realize we’ve secured our whole livelihood to this unpredictable foundation. Today we’ll hear from a woman who found out through very difficult circumstances that this is exactly what she’d done. She’s here to share her true story on this Unshackled Daily Devotional.

VICKIE: In my search for thrills, I became a trapeze artist. My partner and I went on the road, first performing in malls and then with the Shrine Circus. We fell in love and got married. During a practice session, I landed on the back of my neck and couldn’t move. In a split second I became a quadriplegic.

We were unable to cope with this tragedy. As the years passed, we became more and more depressed. I tried to end my life with my

husband's help. We tried carbon monoxide, which failed, and then I tried starvation for two months, but the pain was just too great. Our third attempt was intercepted by the police, and my husband went to jail. I ended up in the psychiatric ward.

I made the choice to live and go to graduate school to help others. My husband and I divorced. Caregivers helped me during the day, and one of them talked about the Lord so much that I went to church with her. For the first time I learned that God has a plan for our lives, that He loves us and gave His Son to die for our sins. I prayed to receive Christ as my Savior and found inexpressible joy. Knowing Jesus is the greatest thrill of my life. Today I have a ministry writing to inmates, the disabled and others around the world. I tell them, "Whatever your situation, Jesus will set you free."

ANNCR: After defining a true disciple, Jesus said in Matthew chapter 7, verses 24 and 25, "*Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.*" Friend, Jesus is not just the one who saves us, He is the foundation for our daily life. Everything else is fleeting, unpredictable. And if we find we are hanging the value of our

existence on these temporal things, we should beware. Because we're gearing up for a collapse. On Christ the solid rock will you stand, all other ground... is sinking sand. 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 Kennetha Gaebler and Elizabeth Kupfershmid and narrated by Tim Gregory and Connie Foster.

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