

# Terri McFarland



August 2019 Newsletter

[terrimcfarland.org](http://terrimcfarland.org)

## I Dare You...

Staring out the 2<sup>nd</sup> story window at the snow drift below, I heard the words of my college roommates echo off the walls of our dorm room. “*We dare you to jump.*”

Resisting a challenge is not my default, due in part, that as a teenager I was given two books: *I Dare You*, by William H. Danforth, defying me to be part of something bigger than myself, and *I Love the Word Impossible*, by Ann Keimel, stoking the fire of my imagination. It was then, I began to contemplate what life would look like *When Faith Dares*.

*Daring* faith is more than jumping out a window or pulling a fire alarm, it involves the courage to **Breakthrough**, **Step Out**, and **Stay the Course**.

I saw a young boy swing a heavy sledgehammer at the “Test Your Strength” booth. He barely moved the puck up the tower. Then his dad grasped the mallet and along with his son, slammed the puck to the top, ringing the bell. The **Breakthrough** moment, impossible for the boy to attain on his own, became real with a vision and strength beyond himself.

Daily I encounter roadblocks of fear and doubt, even strongholds that stop a **Breakthrough** without the Lord’s vision and supernatural strength. When God said, “Let there be light” He envisioned light before it came to be, He then followed that up by creating us in His own image...out of nothing. You can’t be more *image-inative* and powerful than that! To consistently **Breakthrough**, I need to be connected to the One who holds the sledgehammer – and let Him swing it way more often.

When we **Breakthrough** our roadblock, we are presented with the choice to *dare* **Step Out** into what we can’t see. My niece Alexa, at four years old, would stand on the sofa, call my name and jump. There were times I turned around and she was already airborne. She *dared* to believe I would catch her, and I did...again and again.

The Israelites *dared* to follow Moses away from what they knew into the barren Sinai wilderness. One step at a time, they moved from the green into the tan learning to trust God’s wise, loving, and merciful heart. Will we *dare* **Step Out** into our own significant life change, one, that involves turning away from our familiar to obediently follow Jesus?



### *Praise Report:*

- **Open doors** to serve
- Incredible **summer!**
- **Faithful** support
- My **changing** heart



### *Please Pray for:*

- **Conference** w/Ken Wadley
- Women’s **Genesis** study
- **♥’s** to follow **Jesus**

*Daring* to **Breakthrough** and **Step Out**, puts us face to face with the challenge to **Stay the Course**. To keep going when success appears futile or at a minimum, feels painful. It's the point in the Marathon where you hit the wall and *dare* continue anyway. Even when fighting utter exhaustion and heartbreaking disappointment, to *dare* believe as David, "The Lord who delivered me from the jaw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." (I Samuel 17:37)

*I Dare You* to **Breakthrough** your roadblocks, to **Step Out** into the unknown, and to **Stay the Course** the Lord is calling you to; trusting and embracing His power even when you can't see, and it doesn't make sense. Yes, a *dare* without risk is meaningless, but the Lord desires we embrace *daring* faith. Let us "Trust in the Lord with all our hearts, and not lean on our own understanding." (Proverbs 3:5)

## Ministry Update

The past few months have been rich with life-altering experiences! Our NW Indiana **FCA Night of Champions** and **Power Camp** were instrumental in inspiring coaches and athletes to commit their lives to Jesus Christ. *Truly amazing!* Sharing at the **Catch the Fire** youth retreat and at **Tri-Ponds Family Camp**, was a delight!

A high point was returning to **Egypt, Jordan** and **Israel** as a facilitator with **Under The Fig Tree Ministries**. The Text in its context, powerfully draws people into deeper intimacy with Jesus through His Word. It *never* gets old. You should plan to join us on our next trip! **Underthefigtree.org**

I am THRILLED, on **September 13-15<sup>th</sup>**, **Ken Wadley** and I will be back together for a three-day women's event at Center Lake Bible Camp in Tustin, MI. Sign up to be a part of our weekend at **centerlake.org** ❤️

Praying you and I *dare* **Breakthrough, Step Out**, and **Stay the Course!**



Terri McFarland Umlauf



*FCA Night of Champions with Mike Singletary.*



*A refreshing dip in the Nile River*



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