Jody Kennedy International

Spiritual Awakening · Evangelism · Discipleship · Church Planting · World Missions

The ministry of Jody and Trisha Kennedy Winter 2004-2005

Seasons Change in '04 and '05!

God continues to amaze us with his grace and blessings! We stand back in awe of how God is working around the world and using all kinds of people, from all walks of life to reach people with His beautiful gospel.

Our daughter, Sara, has graduated from East Texas Baptist University and is now a school teacher in Marshall, Texas. Our son, Aaron, has begun his junior year at Texas A&M. Casey, our oldest son, and his wife Ashley gave birth to our second grandson, Drew.

All this is to say that life goes on around us and God is giving us more time to serve him. We pray daily for strength, wisdom, provision, and opportunity to use our time wisely as we serve Him and our family.

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Report on Hulen Street

Jody is working with our new church a couple of days per week when he is in town. In the year since we joined Hulen Street Baptist Church, from the Hulen Street family, Jody has taken teams to Ukraine (3 times), Germany, Mexico (twice), and to numerous prisons around Texas. This church has turned a corner and is embarking on a new focused involvement in missions for every member and we are excited to be a part of it.

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Report on Eastern Europe Ministries

Beginning in June 2004, we conducted four separate two-week events in Ukraine and Belarus. In Zhitomir, Kiev, and Dniepropetrovsk, Ukraine and Minsk, Belarus there were 60+ volunteers reaching more than 3000 adults with the gospel of Christ. More than 1500 of those adults made a first time decision for Christ. Until you have seen God work through this venue, you cannot believe it.

Follow-up teams of missionaries stationed in those cities are continuing the work by conducting English Bible studies, English classes, integrating the new Christians into churches and forming new congregations.

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Meet Rodolfo

Each of the hundreds of adults that accepted Christ this summer have a unique and special story.

One of these was a young man we met in Rio Bravo, Mexico. About 19 or 20 years old, we'll call him "Rodolfo", he was one of the neighborhood tough guys in the area that surrounded the small, three-week old Baptist church. He

News about a changed life....

and his small group of teenage friends stood around the periphery of our VBS/evangelism event. They were laughing, making jokes, saying crude things, all in Spanish of course. During the break between the children's VBS and the beginning of the evangelism event, I went over to talk to Rodolfo and his friends. As lovingly as I could, I told Rodolfo and his friends that they were welcome, but they could not be disruptive and would need to stop the crude language and rude comments. I simply told them that if they would listen for only a few minutes, they would hear something that could change their lives forever.

They hung around for a while and then disappeared. The next day, they were back, but instead of disrupting, they joined in with the group of teenagers that were engaged by team members, Jay and Angie. Amazingly, I watched as these tough guys joined in the activities, following directions and enjoying the attention they were getting from our team. Ultimately, Jay and Angie clearly presented the gospel and Rodolfo and some of his friends said "yes" to Christ.

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Report on Mexico Ministries

Thirty-five adults and youth from Hulen Street Baptist Church (Fort Worth) and Crossroads Baptist Church (Rowlett) joined with Jody to conduct VBS, women's Bible study and evening evangelism services in Rio Bravo, and Reynosa, Mexico during June. The most important result was that 70 adults and dozens of children accepted Christ. Pastor Saul, our host, will work hard to integrate these new believers into the Baptist church. In fact, the Baptist church in Rio Bravo was only three-weeks old when we arrived. Most of the adult decisions were made in Rio Bravo and now this new church has a great opportunity to work with these new Christians. These short-term trips have proven to be a very effective way to introduce adults and teens to direct, evangelistic missions.

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Champions for Life Prison Ministry

We volunteer for the Bill Glass Champions for Life Prison Ministry whenever possible. Jody is one of the coordinators for this ministry which takes us all over the United States. In 2004, we were in six Champions for Life events. For more information about this dynamic prison ministry, look on the web at **www.lifechampions.org**. More volunteers are needed and

"...when I was in prison, you visited me"

Jody is happy to introduce this ministry to your church or group. This is an excellent venue for men's groups.

Coming Events

Contact us to find how you can be part of these vital ministries. We need more and more volunteers as our ministry expands to reach more and more people with the gospel of Christ.

- January 1: *Two-week English Language Evangelism Event in Managua, Nicaragua.
- January 16-22: Holzhausen, Germany ministry to Western Europe IMB Missionaries.
- March: Spring break trip for youth and adults to the Rio Grand Valley (Mexico)
- June 2005: Trip for youth and adults to the Christian Children's Home, El Crucero, Nicaragua
- June 20-30: *Two week English Language Evangelism Event in Minsk, Belarus.
- July 11-21: *Two week English Language Evangelism Event in Belarus
- July 25-Aug 4: *Two week English Language Evangelism Event in Belarus
- September (dates TBD): Trip to Christian Children's Home, El Crucero, Nicaragua
- September—December: various prison ministries
- January 1, 2006: *Two week English Language Evangelism Event, Managua, Nicaragua
- January 16, 2006: *Two week English Language Evangelism Event, El Crucera, Nicaragua

*student enrollment in these locations cities is expected to be from 600-1000 adults at each 2 week English Language Evangelism Event (ELEE)

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PRAYER is the essential ingredient in preparation and execution of any ministry. Without prayer, failure is almost always the result.

Who Can Go With Us?

To join us on a short-term mission trip, one must:

- Be a born again follower of Jesus Christ
- Be an active member of a Bible believing church
- Be 18 years of age or older (unless traveling with a parent)
- Be able to speak English
- Be ready to share the gospel
- Be willing to be a servant to the rest of the team
- Have a valid U.S. **passport** (for international ministries)

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Our Focus

- Train and equip lay teams for short-term direct mission projects
- Organize and lead lay teams for domestic projects and international projects in Latin America, Cuba, Poland, Romania, Ukraine, and Belarus and other countries as God open doors
- Involve men and women in prison ministry in cooperation with Champions for Life
- Mobilize and motivate church members to get involved in Christian service

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What is a "Faith" Ministry?

This simply means that we do not receive a full-time salary from any church or organization. Instead, we rely on God to provide for us through his people. God leads individuals, churches and organizations to support this type of ministry. We let people know of our needs through letters, phone calls, speaking engagements, email, personal contacts, and our newsletters. Then we simply wait on God to provide. These finances are used to supply our living and ministry expenses, which allows us to devote our full time and energy to ministry.

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"What will you do today to impact the Kingdom of God today?"

How Do You Get a Passport?

On the internet, check out the U. S. Department of State web site. Type this link into your internet browser: **http://travel.state.gov/passport_services.html**

Many local U.S. Post Office locations and County Clerk offices will help you with passport applications.

How you can support our ministry

- ***Pray for us.*** Ask about our specific needs
- ***Encourage us*** with cards, letters and emails
- ***Support us*** financially
- ***Go with us*** as a team member
- ***Share about us*** with neighbors & friends that might be interested in our ministry
- ***Invite us*** to speak to your group about missions

All donations to Jody Kennedy International support our ministry. Donations are tax deductible. To receive more information about supporting our ministry financially, please contact us at the numbers listed below.

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About Trisha and Jody…

Trisha grew up in Arlington, Texas where she was an active member of First Baptist Church, Arlington. She accepted Christ as her Savior during a VBS event. Trisha got her first taste of missions as a teenager.

Jody grew up in Commerce, Texas. At the age of 34 years old, his life was transformed after asking Jesus to take control of his life.

Jody and Trisha are members of Hulen Street Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas where they attend and serve when not traveling in ministry.

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