

"And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: 'Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means, God is with us.'"



# When Your Heart Rises From the Dead, I'm Gonna Tell the World



We have a couple of our staff who are working in a closed country with a rescue home for women who are being rescued out of ISIS. The women stay in this home for 10 days for therapy to help them process their time in captivity with ISIS, before being returned to love ones, evacuated, etc. Please be praying for these women and the staff who are working with them, as they are dealing with extremely hard situations. Here is a recent update from one of our staff workers:

"Big day out there. We had our first full day of the trauma workshop for young women that have been tortured and enslaved in captivity with ISIS. In the middle of art therapy time, one of the girls had a flashback and fainted. When she woke up, her body went rigid and she started shaking and shrieking. There was nothing any of us could do as we sat there and waited for her flashback to end. I have never felt so powerless than in that situation. As I sat beside her with her clenched fist in my hand, I felt hopeless and overwhelmed. How could anything help such pain? I looked at this girl that had been reduced to mere fragments of a human and my heart BURNED. After her flashback ended, she got up and went on with her day; she painted her painting and kept walking forward

and I realized that she's gonna make it. I realized that torture cannot win; slavery cannot win; death cannot win; genocide cannot win. This tiny girl's courage is bigger than all of it. And I realized that in the coming days I'm gonna watch this small, but steady spark of courage grow into a wildfire. Alright sweet girl, we're all gonna watch you rise up...and when your heart rises from the dead, I'm gonna tell the world."

# 2015 Eastern North American Gathering



From November 8-13 we had YWAM's annual regional conference. We had just over 700 attendees. Our theme this year was SURGE. It is all about preparing for the surge of new missionaries that will come from this generation. In 2 Kings 3:9-20 God forewarned Israel of the coming release of water for the army, but in order to receive it they had to prepare. We have heard for the last several years that a wave is coming - a wave of

SURGE

(n.) a sudden powerful forward or upguard survement
2015

missionaries like we have never seen before. But what happens after the wave has hit? When a tidal wave hits there immediately follows a surge of water that covers the land. The water

rises, then recedes over time. Once the wave hits, we have only a short time to capitalize on the surge of new missionaries or we risk missing our opportunity. This year's conference was about preparing, so we don't miss what God is sending us!

#### Love = Wholeness

Our Fall school's lecture phases are in their last few weeks before the students depart for outreach after Christmas. A few days ago, one of our students (Abby S.) wrote something about what they were learning in class that I wanted to share with you.

|| Love = Wholeness || Today in class, we were given a handful of lavender seeds as we learned about Destiny by Design. Basically, how who we were and what we loved to do as a child ties into what God has created us for and what our ministry could look like now. It was a completely eye-opening day and God revealed so much to me about my own dreams and future plans, as well as the hopes of my classmates as they shared. And throughout the whole morning, I just kept playing with these seeds. The seeds that represent MY original and



unique design. And somehow I ended up creating this. And the phrase that came to my mind was "Love equals Wholeness." When we come to accept that we are completely loved by Jesus, and He gives us a limitless capacity to love others, we enter into a new state of wholeness in Christ. A confidence based on His faithfulness alone. And it's amazing! So yeah, just a little revelation of what Jesus showed me today through tiny seeds!

# He Healed You and He Loves You Very Much!

Our Summer Discipleship Training School just returned from 2 months in Central Asia a couple of weeks ago. Here is just one of the amazing stories from their outreach:

"It started off as a normal day. We woke up, ate breakfast, then volunteered at a local church. Later we returned home to get ready to go back out; we were going to spend the evening making new friends! We split into small groups and headed off to get dinner, with the goal of forging new friendships to invest in while we're here.

After dinner, one group decided to get waffles for dessert. When they sat down at the restaurant, they noticed that their waitress (we'll call her Ana) had a limp, so they asked her about it. She said she had rolled her ankle and it was hurting her. Then the girls asked her if they could pray for her ankle to be healed and she said yes!

The girls started to pray for her, and when they were done, she had been healed! Ana was beside herself with excitement and typed "How?" on her phone translator. One of the girls told her, "We believe that Jesus is a healer! He healed you and He loves you very much!" Ana then told her coworkers, who had been intently looking on at the whole situation (everyone in the store knew something was going on). Another employee asked the girls to pray for his back because it was hurting. When they did, his brother said, "I believe he will be healed; I believe in Jesus."

Before they left, they got Ana's number and planned to meet up with her outside of work. I think it's amazing that this extraordinary thing happened on what was, otherwise, an ordinary weekday evening. Some people were walking around touring, while some were at work; others were just minding their own business. In the middle of a major tourist city, with thousands of people walking around, time stood still for a moment, and in that tiny restaurant the hand of God reached down and touched earth."

This is not the end of Ana's story! They were able to connect Ana with a local Christian to continue sharing Jesus with her. Will you join us in praying that God would continue to reveal Himself to Ana and the others in the restaurant that day and that they would receive Jesus?

# God Bless, Colleen Crawford Serving With:

### 20th Celebration

Last month, we celebrated our 20th Anniversary for YWAM Orlando! God has been so faithful over these last 20 years! We have trained 6,336 people in our various programs and have shared the Gospel with over 280,000 people around the world. We have grown from five people in 1995 to over 123 staff today, from a home office to 184-acre campus. It has been an incredible journey and I have been so privileged to be able to be with YWAM Orlando for all of these 20 years! I can't wait to see what God has in store for the next 20 years!







