

Thursday, January 07, 2010

Good morning family,

Many have been asking about the 2010 Encounter schedule so I thought I'd write to you about the plans we have for this year.

Over the last five years we have sponsored 34 Encounter weekends, ministering to over 3000 men and women. The testimonies that we've heard over the years are simply amazing and the lives that have been profoundly touched are numerous. We are so thankful to the Lord for the opportunity to be used in such a capacity.

Our last Encounter (the Men's Encounter on October 9th) was one of the largest, most exciting and receptive groups we've ever had. During that weekend, I sensed in my spirit that this ministry would change in 2010. Although I knew that in my heart, I wasn't sure what the change would be, so we pursued the process we go through every year to plan for the upcoming year's schedule. Well, this year's process was different from the last five ... nothing seem to be working in our favor. Knowing that the Holy Spirit wanted to take us in a different direction, I believe He was getting our attention by closing doors and positioning us to seek Him further about this ... which we did. From that, we believe we are to bring the Encounter to where the people are at rather than bringing the people to the Encounter. By that, I mean seeking opportunities to go to places with 'captive audiences' (detention centers, juvenile centers, prisons, addiction rehabilitation houses, etc) with a team of servers and minister to them on their grounds.

This significantly changes the profile, logistics and dynamics of the Encounter as we've come to know, but it's all about hearing and responding to the direction of the Holy Spirit ... and that's what we are committed to do to above all other things.

We are also working with other ministries wanting to pursue this platform. For example, we are now partnering with Jerry Page to hold an Encounter in North Alabama on the weekend of March 4th. (By the way, we need men to serve at that one ... so if you're interested, please let us know by sending an email to info@wocic.com)

I ask you to keep the leadership at WOCIC in your prayers ... that we hear His voice and step in the imprints He's already made for us as a church family. We want nothing more than to please the Father as Jesus did.

May the Lord bless you this day! PV