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VIDA JOVEN NICARAGUA

Spring 2012

INSIDE YOU CAN FIND -

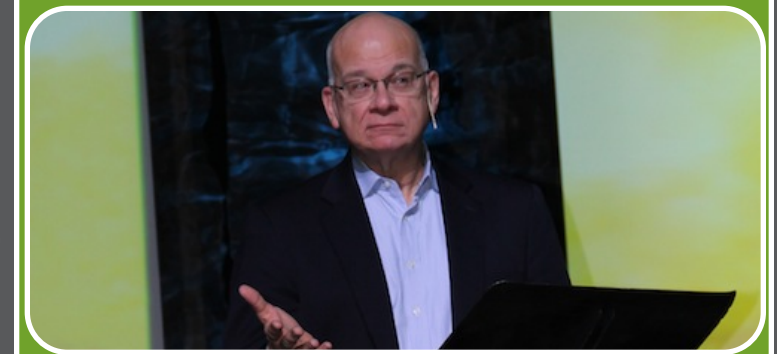
- Training and New Kids Camps
- Holman and Omar's trip
- Cuban friends came to visit
- VJ coffee was given to 4000

YOUNG LIFE CELEBRATION INVITES 4000 PEOPLE TO ORLANDO

Every four years the Young Life Mission gathers for a time of renewal, vision casting, hilarious fun and long talks with old friends. Prior to the large Young Life Celebration, we enjoyed an International Pre-Conference. This year Holman and Omar were privileged to attend. We learned that Young Life exists in 76 countries. In four years, when we gather again, Young Life hopes to have ministry in 90 countries. We were inspired by the stories of our African and Czech leaders who came to know Christ through the ministry of pioneering Young Life leaders, and who are now leading their own national ministries. We were challenged by our African partners to "double double," that is, in the next five years double the impact of Young Life International and then double again.



The International South team met for a salsa lesson.



Pastor and author, Tim Keller, was a featured speaker.



International Pre-Conference — January 2012

INVESTING IN LIVES

Continuing to be a part of students' lives is what Vida Joven is about. We encourage you to remain an active part of this ministry! Here are two ways you can continue to be involved here in Nicaragua:

PRAYING

Keep up-to-date on Vida Joven by visiting nicaragua.younglife.org.

PARTNERING

Give online:
giving.younglife.org
 designate to area X306

Give by mail:
 Young Life
 P.O. Box 520
 Colorado Springs, CO 80901

Gifts are tax-deductible if made payable to Young Life with X306 in the memo line.

COFFEE FEATURED AT YOUNG LIFE CELEBRATION

Young Life purchased 4000 four ounce bags of our coffee to give out to each of the 4000 conference participants. Imagine that! We also sold 600 one-pound bags at the Celebration World Market. And recently we learned that the Young Life Service Center will be serving our coffee to the Service Center employees and guests. Young Life areas are using Beyond Beans Coffee mission-wide as fundraisers for U.S. camping. Check out the new web page at beyondbeanscoffee.com.



Our church partners from all over the Orlando area joined us to package 4600 bags of coffee. Thanks to all our friends for their great help!

FIND OUT MORE

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YOUNG LIFE

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TRAINING AND NEW KIDS CAMPS

We finished the year with six new kids' camps and two training camps. What an amazing story of growth, and we don't mean only in the numbers of campers. Jeff Greenway led the charge, working to help our Vida Joven leaders embrace a new vision for new kids' camps. He put together a training team to improve camp talks, food service, camp themes, and every other area of camping. By all accounts this was a great success. Martha Tinoco said she had to revise her talks five times before her trainers, Sergio and Pratt, would give her the thumbs up. And God used her powerfully. Holman had to revise his growth camp talks over and over again to get it to a place of excellence.

Our training camps in January included 400 leaders attending from all over Central America. Arturo from the Dominican Republic led our evening talks, while teachers from Nicaragua, El Salvador, Panama, and the United States taught classes on topics relevant to the leaders.

A pastor from Managua came to "check us out" at our training camp. He was amazed to see Catholics and Protestants working side-by-side, sharing the power of Jesus to transform human hearts, and growing in ministry skills. He returned to Managua, taking the training he received and sharing it with his own church family and youth leaders.



Our leaders will do just about anything to help kids open up to hear the good news of the Gospel.

VIDA JOVEN QUICK FACT

Vida Joven Nicaragua has over 20 leaders with between five and eight years of experience as volunteers. This is a deep leadership bench indeed. These capable men and women are ready to be hired full-time. Might you consider supporting them and help us bring them on as full-time leaders?



We hung the flags of each country represented at the training camp on the front of the auditorium.



TOGETHER, OMAR PICADO AND HOLMAN MENDOZA TRAVEL TO THE STATES VISITING VIDA JOVEN PARTNERS

Holman and Omar spent three weeks in the U.S. attending the Young Life International Pre-Conference and visiting churches in Texas and Florida. For these two national directors, this was quite a challenge -- especially for two guys who didn't know how to drive three years ago. And yet they finished a meeting in Sarasota, Fla., and quickly drove five hours north to visit with another church in Saint Augustine, Fla.

During their trip they visited with 13 partnering churches and had conversations with others. We are amazed at the courage and commitment of these men who are providing, along with Rosa Maritza, stunning leadership to Vida Joven Nicaragua!

WOULD YOU BELIEVE ... VIDA JOVEN "CUBA"?

Nicaragua and Cuba share a common cultural history, both being recently affected by Soviet influence. So in God's providence, Gisela and Wilder, from Cuba, are spending three weeks in Nicaragua learning about Vida Joven. These two amazing Christ-followers are hoping to bring Vida Joven to the hurting youth of Cuba.

When Gisela first walked into the Vida Joven Megaclub at La Finca, she was undone. She'd never seen kids having outrageous fun in one moment and then listening intently the next moment as Doña Martha Tinoco shared about the power of the Gospel to change human hearts.

Please pray that at the next training camp the Cuban flag will fly among the others in front of the auditorium.



Omar and Holman arrived at Orlando Airport.



Holman and Omar spoke at the services at St. Paul's Church.