



Encouraging and
Equipping through
God's Word

www.wordofjoy.org



"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13

In Every Detail



Every trip to Cuba is special, but the September trip stands out in my mind for a multitude of reasons. While the economic situation in Cuba continues to deteriorate, oppression against the church increases, and every aspect of daily life remains difficult; God was in every detail of this trip.

We were scheduled for three women's conferences in three cities over the course of twelve days. At the last minute, one conference canceled due to weather concerns, and our schedule quickly changed to include the small town of Canase'. Our four days in Canase' were filled with divine appointments - God-ordained opportunities to share Christ and encourage women. While it was a physically challenging location, God provided every need, often reminding us of manna in the wilderness.

In addition to Canase', we held conferences at Sancti Spiritus and Cienfuego. In all three locations Word of Joy provided lunch and snacks each day for the women. Many times, we heard women say they were thankful for the chicken that was served because they had not had a piece of meat in four to five months. God was in the details of locating and serving food that is often scarce.

Fuel, electricity, clean water, and food are all in short supply, but God provided everything we needed at just the right time. Most importantly however, He supplied an outpouring of His Spirit all along the way. Women were encouraged. The gospel was shared. Needs were met. Relationships were strengthened. Every detail, everyday, the Lord was in it all.



Joining Hands and Hearts for Peru '22



The Venice Team: (L to R) Charity Roof, Lisa Plummer, Jennifer Speer, Kim Roof



Over 10 million people live in Lima, Peru, a city built in a desert yet also on the Pacific coast. It is a city of great diversity...geographically, economically, and spiritually.



One of the greatest joys of ministry is partnering with other like-minded ministries. Peru '22 was a collaboration born in the heart of my friend, Kim Roof, a missionary kid who grew up in Peru, and later returned with her husband, Tom, to serve in Peru for nineteen years. Now living in Venice, Kim asked if I would consider going to Peru with her. I jumped at the chance!

Grace Community Bible Church came along beside us, and God put together a team of four women who traveled to Peru in October. We were met in Lima by Pastors Paul and Alida Bowers who lead Hearts in Action Peru,

<https://www.corazonesenaccionperu.com/> Paul and Alida orchestrated every detail of our time in Peru. Together, Word of Joy, GCBC, and Hearts in Action experienced the goodness of the Lord as we ministered to women in churches, a prison, a children's hospital, a home prayer meeting, an after-school program, and a variety of other places. Additionally, a book printer in Lima printed 1000 copies of *Mujeres de Gracia* and *Mujeres de Esperanza* which were distributed at each ministry event.

To me, ministry is always better when shared with others. As you look at the pictures in this newsletter, I pray you see the joy we experienced as we served together. Currently we are working on a video of Peru '22. It will be posted on wordofjoy.org hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter.

Thank you to each one of you for joining hands with me throughout the year through your prayers, your encouragement, and your giving. I pray you each have a blessed Thanksgiving.

Joyfully,
Jennifer



Kim Roof served as an excellent translator.



Pastors Paul and Alida Bowers

Every woman at every event received a book.

PERU '22. Busy. Beautiful. Blessed.



4 Women's Events

**Sunday morning service at
Hearts in Action Peru**

**Santa Margarita Women's
Juvenile Correctional Facility
Mahanaim House, Home for
Children**

Children's Hospital

Pastor's Meeting

**Hearts in Action Afterschool
Program**

**A home prayer and
encouragement meeting**





WORD OF JOY, INC.
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News from Word of Joy newsletter is written by **Jennifer Mathewson Speer** and designed by **Kate Burda**

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As we move toward 2023, your year-end giving makes a difference in the lives of women and families.

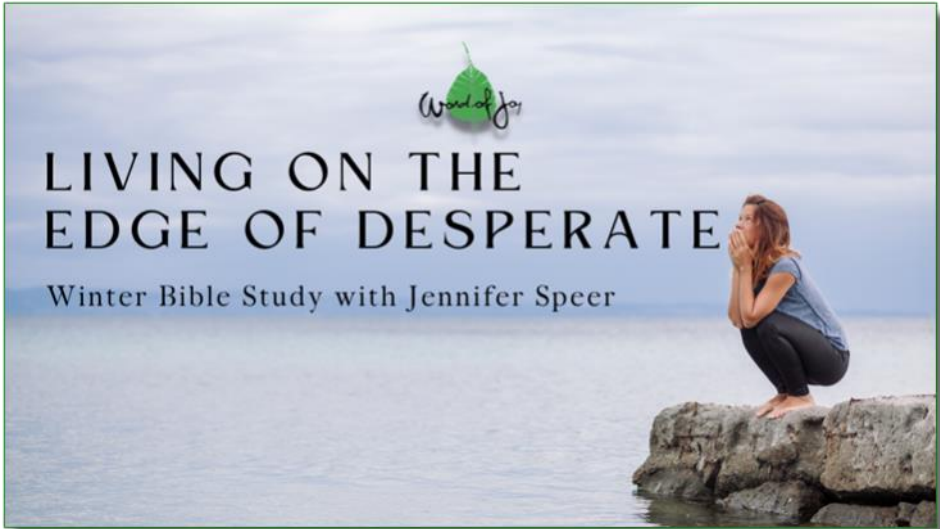
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Winter Bible Study



Join us for our 2023 Winter Bible Study. This year we will examine seven people from Scripture who are in dire need of God's intervention in their lives. Through their stories, we will discover that God often meets our needs in unexpected ways - doing a much-needed work in us while also declaring His glory.

Grace Community Bible Church

Tuesday evenings, 6 p.m., beginning January 10

www.gbcfl.com

Venice Presbyterian Church

Wednesday mornings, 10 a.m., beginning January 11

www.venicepres.org

First Baptist Church Venice

Wednesday evenings, 6 p.m., beginning January 11

www.fbcvenice.org

Please check with the individual church for registration details.

2023 will be the seventh year that Word of Joy has been incorporated. Looking back, it is thrilling to see all the Lord has done. Please pray for the Word of Joy team as we move into a new year of ministry. Please pray that every need will be met, and that doors of opportunity will open wide as



we minister to women. And as you pray, give thanks with us for the abundant blessings we have experienced.

