

YWAM Kerygma Texas
The Vision
January 2013

Kerygma is a branch of Youth With a Mission. YWAM gives lay people the opportunity to grow in their faith through training and then put it into action through short-term and long-term missions, locally and globally.

Purpose Statement:

The specific purpose for which this corporation is organized is to know God and make Him known, through evangelization, training and mercy ministries, using all means and methods possible.

History and Goals

Beginning in 1960 YWAM focused on giving youth opportunities to reach out in Jesus name through short-term mission work.

Currently thousands participate each year in YWAM's short term outreach through Discipleship Training Schools (DTS) or mercy ministry projects. Our full-time staff of over 16,000 lay missionaries serve in 170 countries and 1200 locations.

Kerygma has a main focus on the Catholic world. We utilize the evangelization and discipleship opportunities of YWAM to unite the whole body of Christ in an ecumenical, cooperative way.

Pope Paul VI and other Catholic leaders saw the importance of discipleship training of missionaries in 1965 when these words were published:

Therefore, all missionaries - priests, Brothers, Sisters, and lay folk - each according to their own state, should be prepared and trained, lest they be found unequal to the demands of their future work. Ad Gentes

In the United States, Kerygma Texas works across the state of Texas. Our operation is based in the Diocese of Tyler under the guidance of Bishop Joseph Strickland. As Catholics we are passionate about awakening the "Sleeping Giant" (as the Catholic Church is sometimes referred to) in America. We are seeking to become a non-profit corporation in Texas through the IRS, under section 501 (c) 3 of the code.

Ministry Goals: What Makes Kerygma Different?

1. Reaching the Unreached

Kerygma strongly embraces what is commonly called "The New Evangelization," and especially its emphasis on reaching the unreached. Encouraging lay-people to be involved in reaching out to those who have never heard the Gospel is

relatively new in our era. All of our activities are meant to directly or indirectly lead to equipping the believer to reach the nations.

2. Protestants stepping in the Catholic World

In the past, Catholics have often joined Protestant-initiated programs and projects. We also believe that God desires Protestants to be able to serve Catholic-initiated endeavors. Kerygma wants to help facilitate this.

3. Catholics and Protestants working together to grow the Kingdom of God

We believe that true Christian unity not only entails mutual respect and appreciation, but also partnering together to fulfill Jesus' Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). Part of Kerygma's bridge-building call is help make this happen.

Vision:

The vision of Kerygma Texas is to be the bridge between the Catholic and Protestant worlds, as well as an open bridge between YWAM and the Catholic Church. Here in Texas we are taking our love for discipleship and evangelization and contextualizing it for Catholic groups.

In the past, collaborating with Catholics and the Catholic Church has not always been easy for YWAM. We believe we can help make this "cross cultural" adjustment easier for the rest of YWAM through training, communication, mentoring, making use of our contacts in the Catholic world, and through sharing some of the lessons Kerygma has learned over the past 20 years.

Because we are "Youth With A Mission", we know the best time to reach a generation is when they are young. We are doing our best to tap the Catholic youth of Texas, as well as their parents and grandparents. Being committed members of the YWAM family, our vision is to see all of the Body of Christ set on fire with a passionate love for God and a commitment to reach all generations in all nations with the Gospel message.