

Karen Mace



RN., BN., MN., Dip. A & W.T., Grad. Dip. FET (Ed), Dip. Prof. Couns., MAIPC, QMACA

Karen is a Registered Nurse, Educator and Registered Counsellor. After a year of language study in Costa Rica, Karen and her husband Ross worked overseas in Ecuador, South America for eight years as missionaries with, what was then know as HCJB (in Ecuador) and World Radio Missionary Fellowship , in other parts of the world. Initially, they were attached to the hospital in Shell, Hospital Vozandes-Shell, in the Amazon jungle close to the Peruvian border and Karen worked as an interpreter for doctors from English speaking countries who went to Ecuador for short terms to fill ever present needs, as well as having Bible studies with some of the Ecuadorian ladies, particularly military wives as Shell is a large military base. Ileana, their third daughter was born while they were in Shell.

After a Home Ministry Assignment that was extended because Ileana was very ill and needed surgery, Karen and Ross returned to Ecuador, but his time were based in Quito, the capital of Ecuador. While Ross directed the Medical Caravans Ministry, Karen was involved in Bible teaching, writing for the international magazine, and later, editing and writing for the Community Development Magazine, Helping Hands. She spent some time as Infection Control Nurse working with the Infectious Diseases Office of Hospital Vozandes-Quito and also worked with Nursing Home Care for a short while. Karen also helped out with the Prison Ministry, visiting and preaching God's Word to the women of the local prison. During the time in Quito Karen had her own radio program and filled in for other presenters when necessary. In November, 2003 all this changed when Ross and Karen's youngest daughter, Ileana and their middle daughter, Sarah, died in the family's apartment in an accident with a faulty gas hot water service.

As well as the death of Ileana and Sarah, a number of things happened to challenge Karen's faith and she found it increasingly difficult to communicate with God. Those around her didn't see the struggles that were happening inside yet for a number of years there was a distance between Karen and God. In 2006, God stepped in to say, 'enough is enough' and revealed Himself in new and powerful ways to Karen, calling her to a life recommitted to Him and His purposes; the result is Healing Place Ministries.

Initially, HPM was about using writing to help people work through life difficulties and to discover the purposes and plans of God for their lives. The focus was on, and this hasn't changed, working with Holy Spirit to set people free from bondages and oppression that has kept them captive for so long; to help people see who they are in Christ and to walk in the freedom that is ours in Christ into the destiny that He has for us. As God has led Karen to complete further studies, He has also continued to teach her from His Word so that she can teach others. HPM is for men and women, for believers and not yet believers; it is about building up and encouraging believers, but is also a way of reaching beyond the walls that we can put around ourselves as Christians and touching lives of those who often don't have a clue about who God really is.

As well as being a Writing Therapist and offering Therapeutic Writing (Writing for Health and Wholeness) workshops, Karen is a Bible teacher/preacher, Prayer Minister, Motivational Speaker, Life/Career Coach, and Counsellor.