

## **BARRY & KAREN FIELDS BIOGRAPHY**

*Barry was born on September 24, 1951 in Newark, New Jersey and Karen was born on April 13, 1953 in Jersey City, New Jersey. They met in September of 1966 at a church youth event although they both came from dysfunctional non-Christian families. They began dating and were married on December 25, 1971. At the time, Barry was pursuing a career in the music industry as a musician. He played in a few bands in New Jersey and New York. Barry and Karen met and became acquainted with a lot of high profile musicians and people in the music business. Barry played on some recording sessions with ex-Beatle, John Lennon and his wife, Yoko Ono and became a member of his Plastic Ono Band as a back- up singer for two concerts at Madison Square Garden in New York City.*

*During the time of being part of the New York Rock music scene Karen worked a corporate job while Barry lived the lifestyle of a Rock star by night and a carpenter by day.*

*He always used and dealt a lot of drugs, but due to this lifestyle of little or no sleep, he would use drugs to go to sleep and drugs to stay awake along with huge amounts of cocaine and other drugs given to him by record industry people.*

*While promoting a record album on several college campuses, Barry and Karen started hearing a lot about Jesus and something about being saved. All of this was totally foreign to them as Karen was raised Catholic and Barry was Jewish. They had never heard anyone talk about Jesus like that before. They had a lot of questions and they wanted answers.*

*In 1975, during the height of the Jesus revival, they both began to seek God. They began talking to anyone who might have the answers to their questions. In the fall of 1975, Barry and Karen went to Hollywood, Florida on vacation and to see a friend who lived there. To their surprise, their friend told them that he became a born again believer. On the last night of their vacation, their friend invited them to a bible study. At the bible study, someone shared the gospel with them, and answered their questions. On October 29, 1975 Barry and Karen gave their hearts and lives to the Lord and were radically saved. Many things in their lives drastically changed seemingly overnight.*

*Upon returning home from Florida to New Jersey, they began telling everyone they knew about Jesus and about what had happened to them.*

*While attending a bible study in a friend's home in New Jersey, Barry and Karen began to experience a deep hunger for God and for the Word of God. They began reading through the bible and attending the bible study every week. They were the first to arrive and the last to leave because they didn't want to miss anything of God. This is a trait that they still have to this day.*

*They started attending the Clinton Baptist Church in Clinton, New Jersey and were water baptized by immersion in November of 1978. Barry enrolled as a student at a satellite campus of the Philadelphia College of the Bible and began a deeper study of the bible. At the Lord's leading he laid down his music to devote all of his time to reading and studying the scriptures, and to work as a carpenter.*

*God did a miracle in Karen's and Barry's life when Karen became pregnant with their first child after the doctors told her that she could not get pregnant, she gave birth to their first son, Eric on August 30, 1979.*

*Around this time, the Lord opened a door when Barry was asked to join a traveling music ministry called the Carpenter's Tools. They were an independent outreach ministry of the Clinton Baptist Church. Barry ministered in music in hundreds of churches in the Northeast section of the country. Karen worked in the church's nursery and children's church. On August 5, 1982 their second son, Jamie was born.*

*In the spring of 1983, Barry and Karen received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and experienced a powerful personal revival and renewal. They were totally transformed by the power and the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Once again they started intensely studying the scriptures, listening to tapes and reading every "full gospel" Christian book they could get their hands on. During this time, the Lord led Barry to quit the Carpenter's Tools and to form his own music group called "The Rock Band".*

*The Rock Band was very different than the Carpenter's Tools in that they were extremely evangelistic. They would minister in the streets, campgrounds, churches, colleges, prisons and wherever people were. They played loud rock music to draw the people. Then led them into God's presence by gently switching into worship music. Then they would preach the Word of God and minister one on one to people. During this time, they saw many come to the Lord to receive salvation, healings and manifestations of miracles.*

*The band members would come together once a week in Barry and Karen's house for bible study and fellowship. Soon other people came. It grew to a point where they would have 25-30 people crammed into the living room and kitchen of their small house.*

*God, again moved mightily and they saw people being healed, restored, delivered and Saved and some received creative miracles.*

*Many of the people in the fellowship group were brought into membership of the new church that they were attending called Faith Christian Fellowship in Hackettstown, New Jersey. During the time Barry and Karen were at Faith Christian Fellowship, they served as deacons, Pastor's advisory board members, worship team members, youth group leaders, event planner and coordinators, and evangelism outreach team members. Barry served as a construction supervisor for part of their new building project. Karen acted in illustrated sermon dramas and preached in women's meetings. They both completed courses at a two year bible school at the church, in addition to ministering in the Rock Band.*

*In 1988, the Lord led Barry and Karen to attend church at Faith Fellowship World Outreach Center in Edison, New Jersey. At that time, it was the fastest growing church in America. They served on the evangelism team and the ministry to the poor. They ministered on the streets and brought food to the poor, house to house. Again they saw the Lord move mightily with many salvations and healings.*

*In 1990, they started another bible study/home fellowship group in their new house in Independence Township, New Jersey. For one of the meetings they invited a friend to come and preach and minister to the people. Their friend told them that she was planting a new church and asked them to come and help with the new church plant.*

*In 1992, they began attending the new church plant, Inspiration Center in Flemington, New Jersey. During the time that Barry and Karen were at Inspiration Center, they served as Youth /young adult pastors, prayer ministry team members, evangelism outreach leaders. They preached in Sunday services whenever the pastor was out of town.*

*Barry also served as the senior worship leader, establishing the church's first worship team with their sons Eric and Jamie, who were becoming competent young musicians.*

*In November 1995, the Pastor sent Barry and Karen to a conference at The Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship in Toronto, Canada. The Lord was moving mightily in their midst. He was pouring out a renewal and a revival that would ultimately touch the whole world. While there, they received a very powerful touch and renewal from the Holy Spirit, they knew, that from that day forward their lives would never be the same. Upon returning home, they realized the Lord was calling them to plant their own church. Their Pastor also confirmed this to them.*

*In August of 1997, they both were ordained as ministers of the Gospel with AFCM, The Association of Faith Churches and Ministers, and held the first service of their new church, The Father's House Christian Fellowship on August 1, 1997 in their house in High Bridge, New Jersey.*

*In the first few years, the small church attracted a lot of the youth and young adults from the surrounding area. Some were on drugs, some were alcoholics, witches, warlocks, lesbians and strait. Young people from all walks of life showed up every week to hear and learn the Word of God.*

*During that time, they had some big outreach events with live music, food, preaching and prizes donated by the local Wal-Mart and various Supermarkets.*

*In September, 2000, Barry and Karen moved the church to a neighboring Methodist Church, that let them use their building on Saturday nights.*

*By that time, most of the young people stopped attending, but a small core group of adults and young people remained.*

*The Methodist church was located in rural Annandale, New Jersey. Upon holding services there for ten months, once again the Lord spoke and directed them to transplant the church of ten people, fifty miles west into the inner-city of Easton, Pennsylvania.*

*In Easton, a leased building was renovated with little to no finances and the first service was held on Sunday morning December 2, 2001. The building and ministry were dedicated to the Lord on January 6, 2002 with approximately eighty people in attendance. During the time in this building, there was always a very heavy and powerful presence of the Lord in all of the services resulting in renewal and revival. The Lord demonstrated His power With salvations, signs and wonders.*

*They also started an evangelistic ministry called Joel's Café. It was similar to a Christian coffee house except they would hire local non-Christian rock bands to play music. The band would bring all of their non-Christian friends. A second Christian band was also hired to play music and speak to the crowd after the non-Christian band played. Joel's Café would serve coffee, soft drinks, hot dogs and pizza. This method worked well to bring young and not so young people to hear the gospel message preached to them in a non-threatening manner.*

*In June of 2004, the Lord directed Barry and Karen to leave AFCM, their covering ministry, and connect with Partners In Harvest, a world-wide fellowship of churches and ministries partnering together for global revival. Partners in Harvest is based in the Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship in Toronto, Canada. During this time, they were outgrowing their building.*

*They needed a larger sanctuary, more space for children and more parking. A new building was found after a two year search and it underwent extensive renovation.*

*Much of the renovation was done by Barry, his son Eric and some volunteers. The building is located fifteen blocks uptown from the previous location. The first official service in the new building was held on Sunday, August 6, 2006 and was dedicated to the Lord on November 4-5, 2006.*

*Since moving into the new facility, the manifested presence of the Lord is still very powerful, resulting in many first-time decisions for the Lord and prodigals coming back home. There are many instant healings and creative miracles. The power of God confirming the preaching of the uncompromised Word of God is setting captives free and transforming the lives of many people, some with many years of alcohol and drug abuse and dependency.*

*The church is growing and consists of a mixture of people of different ethnic backgrounds, new believers, and mature Christians. The great commission is being fulfilled in Matt. 28:19-20. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you."*

*Barry and Karen currently reside in Pen Argyl, Pennsylvania. Their sons Eric and Jamie and their wives, Corrinne and Jessica also assist in the ministry. Barry does most of the preaching and Karen does most of the administrative work. However, they both teach a bible study and lead intercessory prayer, as well as overseeing the church.*

**Both Barry and Karen are committed to see the lost saved and discipled, as well as to equip God's people to find and use their gifts and talents to further the Kingdom of God. Their desire is to see people's lives touched, impacted and changed by God's Glory so that they in turn, can touch, impact and change the lives of others with God's Glory.**

*In October of 1994 Barry received a Doctorate of Divinity degree from the Saint Thomas Christian Collage in Jacksonville, Florida.*

*He still plays bass guitar with the worship team on occasion.*

*Barry and Karen look forward with great expectancy to the days ahead of the end-time Global revival and harvest which they believe is upon us.*