



Tom, Dennie, Janet and Randy together in Colorado



## Meet the Murphys

by Heidi Robison

*As the editor for the CTO newsletter, I had the opportunity to interact with Randy Murphy about his new role as Executive Director of CTO. Here is a synopsis of our discussion:*

### 1. Tell me about your family.

Janet and I have been married for 20 years(!) and have lived in Arizona for the past 17. We met through my sister while Janet was living in Michigan and I was living in Southern California where I was serving as an associate pastor. Having our own marriage impacted personally by Dennie and the ministry of CTO, we have been given quite a platform of ministry to others. For the past 12 years, we have discipled a significant number of couples and individuals and continue to serve together in CTO in a number of ways. We also enjoy opening our home to others. We are anticipating discipling more ministry couples in the near future as we launch a new "fast track" for leaders. I am currently discipling a number of guys and am leading a small men's group through the *Brokenness* Study. Janet also has a number of gals with whom she is interacting. And as you all know, discipling relationships are usually life-time relationships - and hopefully life-time friendships at the same time!! We enjoy breakfast dates, going to music concerts, and following our Phoenix sports teams. While Janet likes to read in her spare time, Randy enjoys golf whenever he can find the time and someone else pays the green fees!!

Mostly we enjoy hanging with our two kids, Blake, almost 16 and Lynne, who is 13. Blake is doing well in his first year in public (high) school where he is very involved in the theater program and with the *Student Venture* Christian club on campus. He enjoys Christian music—listening to it on his iPod, trying to play it on his electric guitar, and going to concerts. Lynne is attending a charter school where she is involved in the student council, chorus and the basketball team. She is very social and enjoys spending time with her friends as well as making new friends.

### 2. What are your responsibilities as the Exec. Director?

My primary role is to provide overall leadership in stewarding the existing ministry and providing vision/direction for the future. This involves developing a system to connect, encourage and shepherd disciplers around the country/world, equipping and training disciplers through regional workshops, seminars and conferences, assist in curriculum development that fulfills the strategic plan, coaching key disciplers, consulting with churches/ministry leaders in developing biblical models of discipleship/counseling, and discipling key ministry leaders who can reproduce and multiply the ministry. It is also my responsibility to raise the funds necessary to accomplish all of this. That's it for right now!!!

## Upcoming Conferences/Seminars

**CTO REGIONAL CONFERENCE:**  
April 11-12 Ft. Wayne Indiana  
Hosted at Fellowship Missionary Church

**CTO DISCIPLESHIP SEMINAR:**  
May 2-3 Pleasanton, California  
Valley Bible Church @ the Crossings

The purpose of our conferences and seminars is to encourage and equip disciplers who are answering the call to "make disciples." As this ministry continues to grow "life to life," we desire to keep you connected with disciplers in your geographic area so you can be a support to each other!! For more information or to register, visit our web page at:

[www.ctoministries.org](http://www.ctoministries.org)

## Ministry Updates

### GOD CONTINUES TO PROVIDE IN SOME MIRACULOUS WAYS!!!

God is clearly providing for the expansion of the CTO Ministry. In just over eight weeks, we received enough financial gifts and commitments to initially launch Randy in the role as the full-time Executive Director of CTO. Over \$300,000 has already been committed over the next three years – Wow!!! Thank you for your sacrifice and commitment to see God touch other individuals and marriages with His life-transforming truth. **However, this is just over 50% of what is needed to cover salaries for Randy and Dennie, the existing overhead and most importantly, the expansion of the ministry.** Much needs to be done in providing the infrastructure necessary to further equip existing disciplers and then to respond to the requests to train disciplers and implement biblical discipleship at a church-wide level. Pray with us as we move forward as the finances are provided. Pray also about becoming a financial partner with us in this exciting ministry!!

## Meet the Murphys - continued

### 3. How has God prepared you for your new role experientially ?

Most importantly, I have been personally impacted and transformed by the biblical principles and approach of CTO. God initially used Dennie and continues to use both Tom and Dennie in such a significant way in my own marriage as we continue to be recipients and hopefully, reflectors of His grace. (You can hear our marriage testimony at [www.ctoministries.org](http://www.ctoministries.org)). I don't just know about CTO or even just talk about it – we attempt to daily live out the biblical principles we personally learned and continue to learn. Secondly, I have served as the Chairman of the Board of CTO since it formally incorporated in 1997. I have been involved in developing the infrastructure, studies and direction of entire ministry. In addition, my experience as a pastor and elder and in a number of roles and in a variety of contexts gives me a platform to speak to the personal struggles of ministry leaders as well as the ministry needs of the local church.

### 4. Is there a new vision for CTO? Does it include Tom and Dennie?

One of my personal goals is to take the weight of leading this ministry off of Tom and Dennie. This should allow them to focus on ministering to the many key relationships they have developed over the years and to free them up to write more as God leads. Tom and Dennie will continue to be involved as much as they desire and as much as God gives them strength and energy.

CTO has always been a “grass roots movement” as individuals share “life to life” what God is teaching them personally. We trust this will continue!! This has created a need to provide additional equipping and training for the many disciples around the country to fulfill the great call to “make disciples”.

I also desire to see CTO taken to churches and church leaders in a way that can impact not only individual families but entire communities. There is a great need in churches today to develop a comprehensive approach to discipleship that takes people deeper in their relationship with God and with each other. I dream of whole communities being impacted by local churches who are living out the gospel in such a way that God is put on display and draws others to Him. This starts with ministry leaders who are modeling authenticity and then, in turn creating biblical community within their congregations. CTO can be a significant part of this process. So my desire is that CTO is expanded beyond individuals and that we are “taking it to the church” – seeing marriages saved and strengthened and churches putting Christ on display in their communities and spheres of influence. Transformed lives through transformed churches and transformed churches through transformed lives -- it happens one life at a time!!!

Each of you are a significant part of all of this happening. Thanks for your commitment to share your life with others. Hang on!!!! It is becoming clear that God is doing something significant with CTO. I look forward to enjoying the ride together will you!!

## TAKIN' IT TO THE CHURCH...

from Randy

I am encouraged by the responses I am getting as I interact with church leaders. For example...

*“I have understood these principles for many years but did not know how to put it all together... What you have here has the potential to help so many people... how soon can I get involved with this myself – I can't wait to get started.”*

This is just a glimpse of the excitement that was shared in a recent conversation with the Counseling Pastor of a large church. As I am sharing the vision for how CTO can be an effective tool for personal discipleship, I am getting similar responses. I am in dialogue with a number of churches where we hope to implement a new “fast track” for training key leaders who can, in turn, impact their entire church!!! Change an individual and God can change a church. Change a church and God change a community. Change a community and God can change the world!!!

***Transformed lives through  
transformed churches  
Transformed churches through  
transformed lives--  
It happens one life at a time!!!***

## MINISTRY FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We welcome financial gifts to sustain this work from those who are being encouraged to grow in the Christian faith through this ministry. As a Section 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, donations are exempt from federal income tax to the extent allowed by law.

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