



# The Storey Story

Mar 2014

## Let's Start With an Update

Dear friends,

It's been awhile since I've updated you on the day-to-day work that's been going on in the life of our ministry. Last month, I shared our strategic priorities for the year. This month, let's glance at the tactical steps we're taking to accomplish those priorities. It's been a busy month!

- **We re-started club outreach after our break in January and were welcomed back with open arms.** Several employees have expressed to us how much the girls appreciate the gifts we bring and our heart of love rather than condemnation. We met resistance at only one club, which has recently changed management, but we are confident our favor at this club will resume this month.
- **We delivered a sweet gift to our favorite club owner.** This gift—a short video expressing our heart for him and a Bible marked with our favorite passages of Scripture—was well-received. This owner told us he spent two hours reading those Scriptures and our notes to him the night he received the gift. Wow.
- **We held our first training session for mentors.** We have six NL team

members actively pursuing relationships with about 8 women in the industry. These 6 mentors met for coffee and an informal syncing of goals, strategies, and boundaries for these relationships.

- **We have begun to better mobilize volunteers.** Two volunteer discipleship groups have launched, a prayer mobilization effort is in the works, and we've been working on identifying and recruiting the next layer of leadership within the NL Branson team. This is exciting work that paves the way for both expansion and sustainability.
- **Mindy (Branson Director) spent 2 weeks in Bangkok, Thailand doing ministry with our team there.** This was a time of refreshment and vision-casting for Mindy, as well as a time to dialogue with NL leadership.
- **We've crafted job descriptions** for new positions we're looking to fill this year. We're looking to hire for 5 new positions!
- **We've been part of a million awareness events.** Ok, maybe not that many, but several. We've had great opportunities to share with community members about this issue and what they can do to get involved.



### St. Patty's Day Fundraiser

A small team of volunteers planned a St. Patrick's Day fundraiser event for us this month. Inspired by our volunteer appreciation event, they planned a "mystery dinner" benefit event. The event was great fun for all guests and garnered both donations and new outreach volunteers. We are grateful for these volunteers and delighted by the fun they had pulling it all off!



(Above) Another team member and myself having sushi with one of the girls from a Springfield club. (Right) Asher!



## The Real Battleground

This past month, I've been learning something. People often ask: "What's it like going into those dark places?" "How do you go somewhere where there's so much evil?" "Aren't you afraid?" "Wow, you're really on the front lines!"

But here's the truth: First, the battle against evil is not just in these places; it's everywhere. NightLight's battle is against physical oppression and sexual brokenness, and these things may look particularly dark to many of us. But there's a battle raging against so many other things, too. Materialism. Bitterness. Apathy. Love of comfort. Those battles may look less scary

because they're so much more familiar. But they are just as dark, just as evil, and just as serious.

Second, our battle is not fought in these physical places. It's fought in prayer. We often talk about how we can spend an entire night in prayer, not go to a single club, and God would still move. But if we go to a club without bathing it in prayer, we probably won't accomplish a single thing.

Our battle is not in these places. And our battle is not fought by us. It's fought by God on our behalf—and he just lets us be a part of it.

So who's on the true front lines? It's those who hit their knees before the Father and cry out for him to move in these places. That's where the real battle rages. And that's where I want to be!

### CONTACT ME

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### Start Your Spring Right!

Shop for your spring jewelry collection at <http://store.nightlightinternational.com/>. Every purchase creates dignity for women exploited by the sex trade. Join us by purchasing these hand-crafted pieces and praying for these brave women.

### Donate

Give online or mail your donation to NightLight, PO Box 74850, Los Angeles, CA 90004.

## Join Us

### Pray

- NightLight is beginning to implement the organizational restructure that our Board of Directors outlined in February. **Pray for unity, wisdom, and flexibility as many of the details have yet to be worked out.** This will be a long process for all of us, and will likely have some pain points.
- **Continue praying for this club owner we hold so dear.** We are now praying that the Lord would bring a few Godly men into this man's life who can demonstrate to him what Godly masculinity really looks like—and it's far different from what he's always known.
- **Pray for strategic focus.** Our location has MUCH to accomplish this year. Pray that we can remain laser-focused on the priorities we feel God has placed on our

hearts this year, and that we can execute on them well.

- Pray for our hiring. **Pray that the Lord would bring the right people into the right positions at the right time.** Pray for Mindy as she makes those hiring decisions. Pray that these future staffers will be able to fundraise quickly and that the Lord would be preparing their hearts and their families for the work He's called them to do.

### Thank You

In the words of Paul (Phil 1:3-5): "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel..." Thank you.