



REPRESENTING JESUS IN THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT

QUOTES FROM TWO IGO INTERNS SERVING IN PATTAYA, THAILAND

One of my friends that comes to the English class, waved at us tonight as she sat at a bar. It just really hurts when you start to care for them as a person, and you get to know them up in a more personal way. Keep praying for us. We see so many disgusting sights everyday, and its not unusual at all to hear girls or “lady boys” calling out to the men. I think people on

our street are getting used to us, yet we still get stared at a lot.

The lady boys are so different from the women, in that they are much more bold and aggressive. They are usually not nearly as friendly or receptive as the women, and therefore they are harder to reach. I have had to think so much about how to refer to them ... is it a he, or a she? I know they were created to be men, but because of how they are living, they are “women”, and many have gone through very painful surgery that changed them. They look very much like beautiful women, but when they talk, their

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



MELANIE AND SHARILEE WITH SOME LADIES AT THE TAMAR CENTER IN PATTAYA, THAILAND

WHAT'S INSIDE?

- Representing Jesus in the Red Light District
- IGo Update
- Ransom for Red Light Workers
- Financial Needs

voices are never as high or as feminine. They think of themselves as women. My highlight last week was an evening where we were able to go into the bars and “pay” for girls to come back with us to a banquet at a ritzy hotel organized by the Tamar staff. It was an incredible experience to see all these broken, hurting women come for an evening of refreshment, singing, prizes, and testimonies by the Tamar staff. God was at work as girls listened carefully to stories of how they had been saved from prostitution. Hands went up all over the place when they were asked if they wanted prayer personally. I was incredibly blessed to be able to pray with two different women that were sitting close to me ... we cried together about their pain and all they have suffered because of many years of working in the bars. Last night seemed especially dark and raw out on the streets for “bar” outreach. One foreigner looked at us and said, “Go home! People look at us and just instinctively know that we are NOT the type of people that belong in wicked places like this. It’s exciting to show them the desire that Christ has to reach all people in all places, no matter how dark. Sai told some of her story ... both of her parents have died, her husband has left her, and she recently got pregnant and miscarried. This has all happened within the past year. She is struggling and has reached the end of her rope. Pray for Sai that she will take to heart what was shared with her. I feel so low tonight. A guy called out to us, “come in beautiful ladies” in a demeaning sort of way. Then the guy that told us to “Go home!” last night, made faces at us again this morning as we sat in a coffee shop. I was having a good conversation with some really interested girls today as we were handing out tracts and invitations to the English classes, when another man came up and just started talking to me. He asked questions, yet didn’t seem too interested to hear my response, as he went on about how he is here to help the women and on and on. I



TALKING WITH GIRLS IN PATTAYA, THAILAND

think I made him feel guilty without even doing any thing, because he seemed to feel the need to explain to me why he was here and how he has been helping them. When I told him what we were doing, he told me exactly what we were doing wrong. It felt like another attack from the enemy and a distraction to the reason why I was there. Tonight one of the older women at the bar I went to was crying on my shoulder, and it just broke my heart, to see and feel her pain. It’s just so incredibly dark and evil and sometimes it just really hits me hard again! There is nothing like going and spending some quality time with God especially after these times. He is the ONLY answer to all of this pain.

~Quotes from Melanie and Sharilee

If you would like to receive quarterly updates on the work of Ransom Ministries please email us at ransomministries@gmail.com. We would appreciate your interest and prayers in the work He has called us to.

If you would like to give financially to Ransom Ministries please send it to the IGo office earmarked for Ransom Ministries.

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THESE WOMEN DESPERATELY NEED HELP. THEY NEED AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE RADICAL LIFE TRANSFORMING LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST WHO DIED AND ROSE AGAIN TO SAVE US ALL FROM OURSELVES AND THE ADULTERIES OF OUR HEARTS.



THE PRAYER OF MY HEART EACH NIGHT AFTER I SPEND TIME WITH MY FRIENDS AT THE BARS IS THAT ONE DAY, WE WILL BE ABLE TO WORSHIP OUR FATHER TOGETHER. NAOMI SWAREY

FINANCIAL NEEDS OF IGO

We are so grateful to God for the many ways he has blessed the Institute for Global Opportunities. He has always been faithful to supply the staff and finances that have been needed to carry out the great work to which He has called us. Sometimes we have not been sure where the funds are coming from to cover the expenses for the month, but God has always been faithful to provide! Many of you have been part of His provision and answer to our prayers, and we thank you for that.

We have completed another successful year of ministry. God has moved in the hearts of the students in some very powerful ways. As we approach the end of 2010, we are again facing a time of financial need. Our tuition income does not cover the full cost of the IGo program. We will not receive tuition income again until March of 2011. We are dependent on financial support from God's people to carry on the program. Currently, we are facing a financial need and do not have the funds in our account to carry us through the Winter months.

We need your prayer consideration of a financial gift to the Institute for Global Opportunities in the next few months. We are praying that God will supply the funds that are needed to carry the ministry through the Winter. We ask you to pray with us and consider making a contribution to God's work in Asia through the Institute for Global Opportunities.

Merle Burkholder, IGo Board chairman

RANSOM FOR RED LIGHT WORKERS

"With Your blood You ransomed men and women for God from every tribe, and language, and nation, and tongue..." We believe it's the heart of God to reach every person, and we are asking God to help us feel His heart for the women He has called us to reach here in Chiang Mai.

Ransom Ministries is still in its beginning stages and prayer is our main ministry right now. Wednesday evenings are when the four of us ladies on Ransom staff pray on the nearby street, while Deaniel prays for us back at the house. We pray as we walk the street and try to find opportunities to talk to the women. Sometimes this means going into a bar and ordering some food or pop. There are some women whose faces light up when they see us, and they wave at us across the street. Other times, we feel the walls of fear and

mistrust. We usually spend an hour or two out on the street, and then return to the house for a time of prayer and worship which helps to lift the heaviness we felt from being on that street.

Because of the language barrier we cannot yet share the Gospel with these women, but we know that we can lay the foundation now by offering our friendship. We are praying for Thai staff to help bridge the gap in language and culture.

We are focusing a lot on language study right now, which will be the key to reaching these women. We also help out at Sunshine House, a local Thai center for women, and enjoy learning from them. This includes occasional English classes and one of us joining their bar outreach each week.



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RANSOM FOR RED LIGHT WORKERS CONT.

God is also opening up doors for Ransom Ministries to have young ladies' classes on Godly Femininity in nearby countries alongside of some of the MTM conferences. This is a much needed subject in so many areas where women are not seen as people of value and worth.

In the future, we are hoping to offer a variety of classes to the women in our area. Our long-range goal to open a center where these women can come to learn and work and most of all find hope in Jesus Christ. Please pray for the ministry and the people of Thailand.

-Rosa King and Heidi Gingerich



ROSA KING WORKING AT THE SUNSHINE HOUSE

IGO UPDATE

Our enrollment, as IGo closes out the year, has included twenty-two students in the first-year program. Four second-year students are just completing their internships focusing on mission exposure. Delmar Penner and Brian Shenk interned in Israel working with the Muslim population of the West Bank. Yvonne Mishler (assisted by Kimberly Sensenig) focused on the needy peoples of Myanmar, and Melanie Beachy (assisted by Sharilee Yoder) reached out to the prostitute population of Pattaya, Thailand. As we see these harvest fields with so few workers, we look forward with anticipation to the applications of those who will join in the 2011 student body.



IGO SECOND SEMESTER 2010 STUDENT BODY

"Jesus reached out to the morally-corrupt of his day. How can you reach them with forgiveness, purity, hope, and love?"