

Fall 2010



Broken Hearts Ministry

Reaching out to the streets of Los Angeles

Dear friends and supporters,

Though you wouldn't know from the deceptively warm California weather, we've said 'good-bye' to summer and transitioned into the fall. Broken Hearts Ministry is no different, as we have also entered into a new season in the life of our organization ...

Through the end of 2010, our executive director and Friday night ministry leader will be continuing well-earned sabbaticals.

We believe that regular Sabbaths for each person on our team are essential – to take time away to pray, pursue God in light of this ministry, and simply rest and recharge.

Antquan and Nick, who carry a great amount of responsibility in their roles, have each been taking a significant amount of time away to do all of these things.

While the new set of responsibilities and duties for our team increases and can cause some nervousness, it is also a great opportunity and privilege. We know that this ministry is not ours, but God's. And if He wants it to succeed, it will. Regardless of who's "in charge". He will put the right people in place, bring the volunteers, and gift us all with his Holy Spirit to make Him known on the streets of Hollywood.

It also gives all of us a chance to look at this season with new eyes, examine what we're

doing and where God seems to be moving, and how we can better align ourselves with His plans.

Please join us in praying for this Fall/Winter season, as we all pursue God and seek wisdom, vision, and direction. Pray for rest for our leaders; for guidance and wisdom for those who will be filling in as leaders for the next few months; and for volunteers to find new ways to serve and grow. And that ultimately God's will be done as we make ourselves available to Him each and every week.

Thank you all for your continued support as we see lives being changed in the midst of the darkness of the city. We couldn't do it without you!

Under His Mercy,
The Broken Hearts Team

Through the remainder of 2010 you may contact Holly (holly@brokenheartsmintistry.org) with any questions about Broken Hearts Ministry.



Stories from Santa Monica Blvd...

By Christy Crothers



Over the past several months I've had the privilege of interning with Broken Hearts Ministry. My name is Christy, and I'm a student at Pepperdine University, getting my Masters degree in Public Policy.

During my time with Broken Hearts, I've learned experientially about how non-profits work, and how to build partnerships within the community. I've been involved in various activities around the city – from homeless counts to council meetings, church gatherings to meetings with city officials, and nights on the street with the Broken Hearts team. I've enjoyed seeing the way that people in Hollywood are working to improve their city and love Hollywood in creative ways!

More importantly, I've had the privilege of being immersed in an organization full of men and women who are being the hands and feet of Jesus in practical ways throughout the city.

One of the specific ways that I have seen this has been through Broken Heart's newest ministry: **White as Snow**. White as Snow is a laundry ministry - a creative and practical way of connecting with people who may need some financial assistance. Volunteers help wash, dry and fold clothing for everyone who comes in to the Laundromat.

Tim and Jodi Tucker own the Laundromat, outside of

which Broken Hearts has been holding "The Refuge" service every Thursday at midnight for about six years.

The team had been praying for relationships with local businesses – including this Laundromat – that would open up some space in which Broken Hearts could meet and minister.

A chance meeting with some people from a local church - and now a partner of White as Snow - led Broken Hearts to a relationship with the Tuckers who had just bought the Laundromat and hoped to use it for ministry.

They graciously open their business to us 'after-hours' once a month to serve our friends and neighbors. They also provide laundry detergent for the guests that we are serving, while churches and local partnerships provide the quarters for laundry. Churches and volunteers also donate clothing to guests who may need them.

While people are doing their laundry, volunteers assist in any way possible, whether assisting guests with their laundry or by providing a listening ear to someone who just needs to talk.

Mother Theresa once said, "Small things done with love can really change the world". That is what I see when I'm around the volunteers and staff from Broken Hearts Ministry.

Changed By the Streets: A Volunteer Story

I first met “Rod” on my second night at Broken Hearts. He was only *slightly* drunk, but searching for more booze to remedy that. My first impression was that he was dirty, crazy, and difficult to understand.

Understand, I’m a white, Orange County suburbanite who was homeschooled and grew up in the church. I have almost nothing in common with this guy. It was hard not to think “hopeless” when thinking about him. It just didn’t seem like conversation would get through to him.

Telling him the gospel didn’t connect – partially because he was already familiar with it, but his brain just seemed scrambled. The conversation would be going one way, and then all of a sudden it was like someone changed the channel on the radio.

“It really doesn’t matter how different you are from someone, if you can show them God’s love, you can be friends”



I remember leaving that night feeling frustrated and hopeless for Rod.

Over the course of the next few months, I saw Rod many more times.

It didn’t take long for him to actually recognize me (through the drunken haze), and our interactions became a friendship.

He enjoys painting and reading, and has his own apartment. He shared that he had an abusive father, which led him to a homosexual lifestyle. He also served in the armed forces and was honorably discharged.

At some point in his life he experimented with drugs and also came under demonic oppression. We’re not sure what actually caused his confusion- the drugs or the demons - but it’s clear that demonic oppression is still holding him in bondage. He drinks as a way of escaping tremendous fear.

I saw Rod a few nights ago and he gave me a hug and was grateful to know there are people supporting and praying for him. He acknowledged he needed to quit drinking, but maybe tomorrow...

I no longer think “hopeless” when I see Rod. I came to realize that, although our lives to date have looked very different in circumstance, at my core I have the exact same needs as Rod.

It really doesn’t matter how different you are from someone, if you can show them God’s love, you can be friends.

The differences between my life and Rod’s are rendered completely insignificant in comparison to the miracle of God’s justification of us - the unrighteous - into the righteousness we gain from Christ!

It’s a process. It’s a relationship. It’s not easy. And it’s certainly not hopeless.

- by Nate Labate



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Prayer Requests

- For rest, spiritual growth, wisdom and time with family and friends for our ministry leaders during their sabbaticals.
- For more volunteers for all teams (Thursday and Friday night, and our prayer team).
- For spiritual, physical, and emotional healing for each individual that we encounter.
- For insight in the area of fundraising as we begin to work towards hiring full-time staff.

Upcoming Events

Thanksgiving Dinner: November 25th 3:00pm – 6:00pm

Every year, Broken Hearts hosts a Thanksgiving meal for our friends who might not have any place to go. This year we will once again partner with Hope Again to host dinner at the Hope Again Lighthouse at 3pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact holly@brokenheartsmintistry.org.



About Broken Hearts Ministry

Who We Are: Broken Hearts is a mission-based organization that serves in Los Angeles, focusing on relational evangelism to share Christ with the broken-hearted. We seek to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the people to whom we minister while communicating the gospel through our words, work and worship.

Mission Statement: Our mission is to impact the broken-hearted who live on the streets of our cities by building relationships, providing resources, demonstrating the love of Jesus, and giving them hope.

If you'd like to financially support Broken Hearts, please send donations to:

Broken Hearts Inc, PO Box 93592, Los Angeles CA 90093 or visit our website at www.brokenheartsmintistry.org to donate via PayPal. Donations are tax deductible.

To join us in praying for Hollywood:

visit www.brokenheartsmintistry.org for our weekly prayer blog updates, or contact prayer@brokenheartsmintistry.org for more information.