



Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. Acts 8:4

Inviting Them into Community

by Kali Long, Greece

When you work in the shadows of the red lights, victory might be wishful thinking. Witnessing women who are in such desperation and distress can take a toll on any soul. The desperation I witness leaves me thinking *what could I ever do to help restore these souls that have been repeatedly abused, neglected and forgotten by society?*

Soon I discovered one thing these women lack is community. They are exiles of society, unable to establish community among themselves. They don't learn each other's names or life stories. They just compete with one another in order to survive.

When you work in the red light district you never know when someone near you will go missing, overdose or escape. You learn not to connect because it hurts too much when your loved ones just disappear one day without notice.

So imagine how radical our team was to move into this beat down neighborhood and invite women into community with one another. We began asking their names, where they were born. We even started making some crafts together so they could keep a little gift they had made. We began building a community, sharing our lives together, building moments we hope will last.

I am blessed to see God work in these women's lives. I am blessed the Free Methodist Church has sent me to do this work. I am blessed God speaks to many other workers and calls them to engage. I am blessed because the Set Free Movement cares about women like these.

Never stop praying for the "widow and the orphan," for someone somewhere might be preying on them.



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