



Why We Do What We Do

Michelle and recently received a letter from K.K. Deveraj, who directs the Teen Challenge ministry in Bombay, India, where we provided our first jewelry training in 2003 and again in 2008.

Dear Friends,

I am grieved to share this news with you. One of our girls, Nimmi Tamang (25 years old), has gone to be with the Lord. We had the privilege of having her with us at Ashagram for the last 4 years. She was one of our bright girls and graduated from our TC program in 2008. She also received an award from us for 'Best Girl in Campus Life'. She then continued to study God's Word and was walking closely with the Lord. She was loved by everybody and has truly been a role model and a blessing to all of us.

The heartrending part of her life story was that she became a victim of human trafficking at the tender age of 13; she was brought from Nepal and sold in Mumbai's red light district. By the time we found her and rescued her she was already HIV+. However she fought a good fight for the last 3 years but during the last several months Nimmi was in and out of hospital. Recently her health suddenly deteriorated and her body stopped responding to medications. Sadly, she breathed her last yesterday.



There are many more Nimmis out there in cages (red light areas) and if we do not move with a sense of urgency, by the time we find them, it will be too late for some of them.

Today we conducted a proper funeral for Nimmi. Her friends and BTC staff were present and we had a Spirit-filled service with a message of eternal hope.

We will never know how many more girls have died in the red light district and were discarded even without a proper burial. Tonight, as I am writing this to you, not far from my house, the dreams of a little girl like Nimmi are being shattered. This very night, not far from my house, the innocence of a little girl is being violated again and again. This very night, not far from my house, a girl has stopped hoping and believing that anyone will ever come to rescue her. She has hoped for too long and no one has come and now it hurts to hope any more. She has accepted the fact that no one cares. Is she right? If we do care, then why have we allowed the

wheels of human trafficking and sex slavery to keep turning and turning so smoothly? The traffickers bring the girls in and we fight to get them out and the traffickers continue to bring them in. I will continue to fight to get them out as long as there are innocent lives being taken. But we have to break this vicious cycle.

We must stop sex slavery and must stop it now. There is only one word for this - STOP! Let us free our children to be children. Let them run and laugh and dream and grow. Let us free them from the chains of sex slavery.

I write this with a very heavy heart. Dear friends, please keep us in your prayers. Thank you for all that you have done for Nimmi for the last 4 years and also for the other girls. Your prayers and support has helped us to move on.

We thank God for Nimmi's life and her commitment. We believe that we will surely see her one day.



In Christ's love,

Devaraj and the
Bombay Teen
Challenge family

Nimmi (on far right) with girls from BTC and our daughter, Rachel, in 2008.

Blessings,

Tim and Michelle Zello
Jewels 4 God International

"Providing Vocational Training World Wide to Women Rescued from Human Trafficking & Drug Addiction"

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