

The Beacon

The official newsletter of
The Lighthouse: A Biblical
Life Recovery Center

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Issue #6

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DONATE NOW

If you would like to help The Lighthouse shine Christ's love into the darkness of addiction, please consider sending us a love gift. You can send a check to the address on the back or donate through our website: www.BiblicalLifeRecoveryCenter.com Thank you for your generous support!

Prayer Points:

- ◆ We need to raise \$500,000 during our capital campaign. This will allow us to begin the residential part of our program.
- ◆ We need to locate a suitable building for our residential center.
- ◆ Pray for wisdom for the Advisory Board members.
- ◆ Pray for open doors and direction.
- ◆ Pray for volunteers to step forward to help.

A Labor of Love



One year and six months after feeling God's calling, The Lighthouse is making an impact in our community for Christ! I am grateful for the opportunities we have been given, watching as our ministry changes lives, and continuing the labor of love.

There have been many days when I have wondered if I am crazy to start a non-profit... is this really what God wants for my life? Then there are days when I stand in awe of His provision and guidance. It truly is love, a love for God, and a love for hurting people. I am reminded of God's love for me in Romans 5:8, "But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Or John 3:16, or 1 John 4:10, or 2 Peter 3:9... you get the point. God loved us so much that He sent His one and only Son to be a living sacrifice for us... to restore us. That is truly a labor of love!

I am so thankful that God took the time and energy to save a wandering sinner like me. I deserved Hell, and He gave me life! Thank You, Jesus, for Your gift of life! The Lighthouse is a labor of love, shining God's redemptive plan into the lives of hurting people. Will you join us? Will you help us shine the light of Christ into the dark world of addiction? I am glad someone did this for me!

Only Through His Power,

Brandon Bower, IMA, LCAC, CADAC II
Founder and Co-Laborer

Meet Our Board

Master Sargent Darin Hubble serves as the Public Affairs Superintendent of the 122nd Fighter Wing. In addition he is the co-director of Safe Families, a non-profit organization serving children in Northeast Indiana. He is excited about working with The Lighthouse and bringing the Gospel to those struggling with the bondage of addiction.



Dirty Love - By Paul Morales

Pornography is a unique kind of addictive fight. Let me be clear that when I say this, I don't in any way mean to imply that the battle against addiction to pornography is somehow worse or harder than other battles – simply that it's different. The primary difference between pornography and other drugs of choice is that **pornography has woven itself seamlessly into our culture in such a way that it is presented to us aggressively, and without our seeking it.** Many if not most drugs or substances must actively be sought out in order to be engaged with – not so with pornography. Consider, by way of example, a recent article published by the Huffington Post regarding the Supreme Court's refusal to hear a case regarding the 2nd Amendment. At the end of that article are suggestions of other articles the reader may enjoy, most of which have absolutely no relationship to the article on the 2nd Amendment. One of the articles was titled... *-Continued on Page 2*



SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE WITH THOSE IN NEED

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The start of our Life Recovery Groups

January 2016 marked the beginning of The Lighthouse programming! We are excited to announce that we are currently providing biblically-based "Life Recovery Groups" in our community. We have already had great results and have seen over 116 unique individuals since we have started. Please continue to pray for those we are serving.

Grace Bible Church VBS

The kids at Grace Bible Church in Berwyn, IL, decided to make The Lighthouse the recipient of their 2015 Vacation Bible School penny drive. Boys versus girls to see who could bring in the most pennies... and the boys' team won! Actually, they all won as their gift of \$176.68 was given to The Lighthouse to reach the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We want to give the kids at Grace Bible Church a HUGE thank you for your generosity, and we look forward to next year! Maybe the girls will make a comeback...

Dirty Love - Part 2

"22 Amazing Superfoods to Eat This Summer," and the accompanying photograph is a young woman holding a bowl of fruit. It appears innocent enough, but a closer look reveals a number of disturbing elements. The picture is taken from a top-down perspective, and the young woman is looking up at the reader. This gives the reader a understanding that they are in a position of power. She is smiling, which indicates that she enjoys being in a vulnerable position. The photo is also cropped in such a way so that her smile is intact, but the rest of her face is cut off, making it easy to focus on other parts of her body. Finally, she is dressed in a very revealing bikini, leaving little to the imagination. Photos like this are everywhere. Our lack of sensitivity to their efforts to arouse us leads us to ever more explicit content. Clicking on that photo takes you to a website full of diet and healthy recipe articles. However, this new link doesn't even wait till the end to offer additional suggestions. Articles like, "Women Obsess Over Normal Guys Who Do This," featuring a woman in lingerie, or "Rich Adult Stars," featuring a pornographic actress pictured in a bedroom. A simple curiosity about what kinds of foods I should be eating has led me to view explicitly sexually content in a single click – and the desire to engage with hardcore pornography is just a step away. This reveals the danger of our lack of sensitivity to the pornographic culture we're all currently living in. Pastor Baucham said it this way, "Let's say that there is a pornography scale of one to ten and ten is the worst examples of pornography. Culturally we probably live every day around a three or four, just in commercials. So if I am living at a three or four, and a five or a six really doesn't bother me anymore... I am setting myself up so that the leap from that five to a nine is a very short leap." **It is crucial that we begin to pray that the grace of God will increase our sensitivity to the culture that we live in. We must bring the fight to the front of our minds at all times.** The world around us is not a safe place. If we are ever to have victory, there can be no measure that is too extreme. The world is our enemy, and we must be sensitive to its subtle and secret tactics.

The Lighthouse exists to serve men who struggle with a life-altering addiction (any addiction). By showing the love and compassion of Christ, we strive to minister to all within our reach with the transforming message of the Gospel.