

# THE RED CORD

ISAIAH 61:1

October 2022

Monthly Newsletter of the Red Cord



## WHO IS HIDING IN THE DARK WORLD?

**“PUT ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD, SO THAT YOU CAN TAKE YOUR STAND AGAINST THE DEVIL’S SCHEMES. FOR OUR STRUGGLE IS NOT AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD, BUT AGAINST THE RULERS, AGAINST THE AUTHORITIES, AGAINST THE POWERS OF THIS DARK WORLD AND AGAINST THE SPIRITUAL FORCES OF EVIL IN THE HEAVENLY REALMS.” EPH. 11-12 NIV**

**EVIL THRIVES IN THE DARKNESS. IT IS THERE WHERE THE VULNERABLE LOSE THEIR WAY AND SINK INTO DARKNESS. THIS IS WHERE THE SPIRITUAL BATTLE OF BUYING AND SELLING HUMANS IS FOUGHT. BUT TO KNOW HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE BATTLE, WE FIRST NEED TO KNOW WHO IS IN IT. (CONT.)**



**"LIGHT YOUR CANDLE. FINISH  
THE WORK YOU'VE STARTED.  
BE A CHANGE AGENT FOR GOOD.  
MAKE IT PERSONAL. START IN  
YOUR HOME."  
JOKO BOOYNES**



We think first, of course, of the **victims** themselves. Those who were looking for love and then seemingly found it in the attention given by a stranger met online, or by a trusted friend of the family, or even a family member. One action led to another until the victim is trapped in a darkness they cannot escape.

But this darkness also affects **family members**. When families first learn that their child is a victim of trafficking, they may experience denial and confusion. Although there is no "typical" victim, they might still question how this could happen to their child. The entire family may have feelings of anger, sadness, guilt, shame, fear and even a sense of loss. The darkness engulfs the entire family. It may lead to questioning parenting abilities and self-blame or blaming spouses, or other family members for the circumstances.

<https://covenanthousetoronto.ca/traffick-stop/how-sex-trafficking-impacts-families/>

The darkness and the spiritual battle don't stop there. It moves on to enshroud the **community** including churches, schools and law enforcement. Who is to blame? Who didn't see the warning signs? Which youth pastor, teacher or police officer should have taken the time to listen, see and intervene?

The answer is hard to see in the dark. It's hard to know how to fight an evil as dark as human trafficking. The challenge is to start sharing the light of Christ, one person, school and church at a time. Starting in your own home. Maybe even starting with yourself to seek help and realizing you aren't in this battle alone.

Joco Booynes, featured speaker at the recent Red Cord gala said, *"Light your candle. Finish the work you've started. Be a change agent for good. Make it personal. Start in your home."*

**For more ways to be involved in the dark spiritual battle with The Red Cord, read the blog for specific ways to pray and partner.**

Ahsha Morin, President, The Red Cord

October Blog

## Prepare for the Battle: People, Partnership and Prayer People



Ahsha Morin

There are some people we can spotlight that are shining their light brightly to combat human trafficking that can help us prepare for the spiritual battle of human trafficking:

- Jaco Booyens <https://jacobooyensministries.org/> This ministry is about restoring lives and transforming culture to the character of God through exposing evil, protecting the innocence of children, rebuilding families, and combating sex trafficking. “We believe we were created to expose darkness and impact culture by serving the least, the vulnerable, and the broken.”

- Rebecca Bender is a survivor that has a program for other survivors to go through online and in person. This ministry has a location in Dallas. <https://www.rebeccabender.org/> “I educate leaders and organizations about human trafficking so they can protect their communities and change the culture.”

## Partnership

To effectively shine bright in a dark world, we can't do it alone. The Red Cord partners with organizations to join forces and be stronger in the dark battle. Please visit their websites and learn more about how our partners are involved in helping people at the point of their need. Some organizations specifically work with human trafficking victims and others help vulnerable people with specific needs so they will not be targeted by human traffickers.

In Oklahoma we partner with:

- Dragonfly House, Oklahoma City  
<https://www.thedragonflyhome.org/services/human-trafficking-shelter/>
- Demand Project, Tulsa  
<https://www.thedemandproject.org/>
- Rise Shelter, <https://www.riseshelter.org/> (CONT.)

Locally we partner with:

- Lovesick Ministries (homeless outreach/ church)  
<https://www.lovesickministries.com/>
- M28 (homeless outreach/church)  
<https://m28ministries.org/>
- Hungry Hearts (homeless feeding outreach, community garden, cooking classes) <https://hungryheartslawton.com/>
- All about Understanding (youth development)  
<https://www.allaboutunderstanding.org/>

## Prayer

Prayer is our most strategic spiritual weapon in the dark fight. Use these tools to help you pray specifically.

- Monthly Prayer calendar <https://theredcord.org/prayer/>
- “Text to pray.” You will receive requests via text message from The Red Cord leadership when targeted prayer is needed for specific situations. More prayer warriors are needed to join this specific way to pray. Register here: <https://verified-broadcast-9201-5jcrmm.twil.io/subscribe.html>



## Night of Worship

Saturday, October 22

6:00 – 10:00 pm

1107 SW Summit Ave, Lawton



## OCTOBER EVENTS

Youth Group -Common Ground, Sunday, October 2, 5:00 – 7:00 pm Buffalo Grove Coffee Company LLC, Lawton.

Country Lace Boutique

Tuesday, October 4, 6:30 – 7:30 pm, 101 SW B Ave, Lawton

Marie Detty Domestic Violence Walk

Tuesday, October 11, 4:30 – 7:30 pm, Elmer Thomas Park, Lawton

Monthly Community Training, Wednesday, October 12, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, Fort Sill Federal Credit Union, 1614 NW 67th St, Lawton

Crime Stopper Moonlight Walk, Friday, October 14, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Elmer Thomas Park  
501 NW Ferris Ave, Lawton

Community Baby Shower, Saturday, October 15, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm  
Central Plaza, 200 SW C Ave, Lawton

Lawton-Comanche County Foster Support Group, Thursday, October 20, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

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