



December 16, 2008

Dear Friends:

Have you ever seen a teenager's life change in an instant? Last month I was in Belize having dinner with four boys in our sponsorship program, and that is exactly what happened. Joining us for dinner was a dear friend of mine, Pastor Carol Houston. Carol leads a church in Los Angeles and she has a lot of experience working with youth.

Over dinner, Carol asked these boys some very tough questions. The questions were about their attitude toward learning, their understanding of Christ, their future roles as men in their community, and their relationship with their parents. The questions were deep, probing, thoughtful and specific.

One by one the boys were transformed by the questions, or by their own answers, or even by what their friends said about them. For instance, one boy said about his friend next to him, "His body goes to chapel, but his mind isn't there." Carol leveraged that statement into a wonderful conversation about worship, prayer and commitment. And it was a conversation, not a lecture – as we all know, lectures do not work well with teenage boys!

One by one I saw those boys change. You could sense the Spirit working. You could sense the love of Christ emanating from Carol. And you could sense Truth was present in the transparency of the boy's answers. After dinner, one boy was so stunned by Carol's insights that he didn't leave the dinner table!

God was using Carol as the catalyst that brought about this change. But Carol would agree that the hearts of these boys were prepared by the work being done through the PathLight programs. Each of these boys has been attending our after-school programs, serving in their communities, and attending a Christian high school. Most importantly, PathLight staff has prayed for each of them regularly. That kind of preparation is what leads to those special moments when a person like Carol arrives and begins to ask the tough questions.

This Christmas, we are asking you to help us further the work that PathLight is doing. We need sponsors who will pledge \$50 a month to support the discipleship, mentoring and tutoring work with the students. A portion of the pledge also goes toward helping unsponsored students stay in school. The results can be transformational for a student, their family, and their community. Just ask Carol, because she has seen it happen in person!

Can you join us with a \$50 per month pledge? Your support is vital to the success of this program. It's a small amount to change a life.

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Roy Goble
Founder – President
rgoble@pathlight.org