



Thailand / Cambodia

September 2011

God is amazing! The Lord continues to bless, work in and through our lives here at the homes! He has been so faithful to provide for all our needs, and to me that is just so God because I can see the world is in such a financial crisis. Also, we are extremely thankful for all the gracious brethren and sponsors who have so faithfully given during these times. Please know we are forever thankful and appreciative and pray the Lord's blessing on you as well!!



THAILAND

Wichai, the leader from the Chiangsaen home, recently took 3 teams of 3 kids each to a northern Thai Christian bible trivia and memorization competition in Chiangmai. With 500 contestants, or 180 teams, one of our teams came in 3rd and the other 2 teams came in 4th! They were so excited and had so much fun they can hardly wait till next year! Bless the Lord. It's great to see the home leaders be creative and outgoing in getting the children involved in all kind of things for the Lord!



A short update on Tawan, one of our CHH graduates in Thailand who was beaten by his employer and left for dead in Dec. 2009. His trial is still going on in the military bases, since the accused was a soldier. Tawan is here in Chiangrai in a safe place until the trial is finished. I see him often; he seems happy and still loves to play football and loves being with the other kids in our home. I see the Lord healing his heart!

School break:

In Thailand, mid-year school break is coming up for the whole month of October. Some kids will visit their relatives in the villages, some will go out on teams, and some older ones will go out to work for some pocket money. Of course we'll still have kids at home doing all kinds of stuff. Lord, please protect all these little ones of yours no matter where they are!

CAMBODIA

Here in Poipet it is raining a lot! The other day we moved MMF Preschool's desks out of the slum because it is expected to flood in the next few days. The roads are bad as usual in the raining season but the kids are happy, enjoying their new sports court during this school break. The Pchum Ben national holiday is coming up and we are planning to take the kids somewhere fun for a few days.

There have been a couple of recent changes in Poipet for which I ask you to join me in prayer. First, Patty Hedges, who has been the leader here the last few years, has transitioned into a full-time administrative role at the home. I have been sharing my time between Thailand and Cambodia and have resumed the role of leader here in Poipet. I have been totally enjoying working closely with the staff, getting to know them better, and sharing God's word. Yet I know I cannot do a spiritual work, only God can. Please join me in prayer as I trust the Lord to do a tremendous work in the staff here and to raise-up a future leader for the home in Poipet.

Poipet Home Story:

Here is a wonderful story how God loves the children that are vulnerable and in need. The local HIV/AIDS clinic contacted CHH Poipet requesting help. A woman had just died of TB and AIDS in the clinic and the woman's 6-year old daughter, (who we will call "M"), who had been her caregiver, was left there alone with the body. The clinic tried to contact other family members to come get M but was unable to find them. We agreed to take M temporarily while the clinic continued to try to locate her family. Because M had been in close contact with TB and had been splashed with blood from her mother's IV, we immediately took M to the children's hospital in Siem Reap for TB and AIDS testing. Praise God the results were negative. After a couple of days with us at CHH, M's grandmother arrived after she had visited the clinic and learned that her daughter had died. She told us that M had a younger brother, who we will call "T", and an older half-brother also, both of whom were living with her. We discussed the family's situation and whether she would be able to take care of the children. She said she needed some time to think about it, so we drove grandma and M to their home. M had become very quiet and withdrawn when her grandma arrived. After taking them home, as we started to drive away, M began running after the truck, crying and pleading with us to please take her with us and not leave her there. It was a heartbreaking scene, and we didn't know what the grandma would decide.

A few days later, the grandma visited us again and said she wanted both M and T to come live at CHH. None of her other children wanted to take M and T, and she was afraid for their safety, especially M. She explained that their father, who had abandoned the family, was wanted by the police for robbery. Further, the father had told the grandma that if his wife died he would want M to come live with him. He had AIDS also and said that if he got sick he would have M work as a prostitute to earn money to help care for him. The grandma was afraid the father would take M and she would not be able to protect the children. After hearing this story, it was an easy decision to bring the M and T to live at CHH. And by God's love and grace, they have been transformed from the somber, heavy-hearted children they were when they first arrived, into the thriving, smiling, joyful kids they are today.



Ah, yes my house is finished and absolutely beautiful!! My house opening was a warm family night with mostly kids, alumni and a few friends, altogether 200 people. It was a night filled with songs, fellowship and a good old BBQ. I love the view, the space, and all the night noises from the rice paddies and frogs! Here are few pictures!



*With a thankful heart and full of peace,
Rose*

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