

April Update Letter 2015

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## Moving Ahead

While praying about our next step, God has opened some really great doors for us! We have found a building in an incredible location which is right in the middle of the city of Lamphun where we can both live and minister. Two weeks ago, we signed the lease on the building and now we are able to begin making renovations. Our family is going to move into the upstairs apartment, while the storefront downstairs will provide the perfect environment for starting Bible studies. We're excited to see what God will do with us in this needy city!

- Please pray with us for responses to tract distribution and evangelism in these early phases.
- We are asking God to open specific opportunities to develop relationships in a broad way. Lamphun is much more unaccustomed to foreigners, and we're praying that God breaks down cultural barriers and allows people to know the story we tell is not a foreigner's religion, but the truth for *this world* that is just for them.

During this time of transition from language studies to the beginnings of a church plant, we've been able to learn from and assist veteran church planter Srithone Kongkaw. We've learned a great deal from hearing excellent Thai preaching, and now as he spends a few months in the states to visit supporters, he has given me the opportunity to preach weekly and teach Bible courses. Language studies have

transitioned from a classroom setting at school to working together with two great young men in the church to prepare messages and lessons in the church office, which has been a huge boost in learning Thai.

- Please pray for fruit in current ministry responsibilities: Saturday youth group, Sunday preaching and music teaching, and one on one training with young men, as well as Alisa's ministry to the young women in prison.

We got to be a part of an English camp recently where around 50 teens from local high schools gathered for a week where they daily heard the gospel. For 95% of them, it was their first exposure to Christianity. Several hearts were opened to Christ and made decisions to accept His truth!

- We're praying that seeds planted will flourish and that those who opened their hearts to Christ will have the courage to follow Him!

Thank you for your prayers for our family! Every day we live with a sense of how much God has blessed us in our life here. Justin is 4, and starting to make real progress in Thai with a great Christian tutor. Brody is pure joy for us at two years old, and Alisa's pregnancy is going perfectly, with a due date around the end of June. We are so encouraged by the many individual emails we get that tell us of the way you are partnering with us in prayer.

We know more than ever that this work could never possibly succeed because of our abilities or efforts, but through prayer, the Holy Spirit alone will change hearts and lives. We look forward to sharing all He does!



Youth Bible Study on Saturday night.



New friends at the English camp.





Game Time!



English camp group photo

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