

May 2016

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Please pray:

- That those who are hearing the story of Christ would have the simple faith and humility of a child to accept Him gladly.
- For English students who are in our home often to have courage to come to church services.
- That God's Holy Spirit would make hearts that were hard soft and willing to see and know their Creator and Redeemer.

Dear Friends,

Writing this letter, the first rain in months is falling, marking the end of some very hot and smoky days. As we near a year of being here in Lamphun, we're full of gratitude that God's walked us through the challenge of transition with a lot of grace.

The change from being dedicated to language school as our first priority to diving into our actual ministry has been a big one. God's been faithful and so good! We purposefully moved to a place in Lamphun that would allow for us to be around Thai people a lot of the time, to keep ourselves out of the foreigner bubble that forms so easily. It has been the beginning of a road of learning our limits and setting up healthy schedules, all the while seeing God move our hearts to realize there are times when we had simply set our standards too low. He enables us to do more than we think, enlarging our hearts and changing us so we're more easily used.

Thank you for your prayers during this season! The work of planting the church so far has been a journey



of one answered prayer after another. Prayer warriors, thank you for interceding for our family and for the people we are crossing paths and ministering with. As we watch God work His miracles in hearts, one day at a time, we think of you with so much gratitude.



There are a couple of exciting things we'd like to share: Last month we worked with several other missionaries here and ran an English camp for teenagers and several parents. Although we have a lot of people coming in and out the doors of our house / ministry center, staying at a camp with around 70 Thai teenagers is always eye opening, and gives us an intensive week of learning about the people we've come to share Christ with. Also, for the campers, they are able to have a week of hearing the story of Christ every day, develop relationships with Christians, and it is an incredible week of meaningful seed planting. There were several kids who decided to accept Christ that week as well, and we got to have a part in personally showing them the way. It was an incredible honor and reminded us of how much we desire to see this generation of young people become established in the faith.



God has been blessing the church plant with several visitors coming in and out, and it's fantastic watching brand new Christians with a hunger for growing in their faith. There is a lot of work to be done and we're grateful to get to labor alongside you for the gospel here in Thailand!

Grateful,
The Ballous



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