

"Coats Cambodia Newsletter

August 22, 2018

Back in Cambodia

We returned to Cambodia a month ago. We immediately had visitor friends who came to see the work here. It was a very good visit. It is always good to know folks back home are interested in the work. We know not everyone can come visit, but we appreciate it when they can. They were encouraging and gave us some helpful suggestions.

I ask for your prayers in the children's work. This is now my main ministry. We have 350 kids in the ministry and the potential is huge. The kids are fairly open to the gospel. Many have made a commitment to the Lord and many others are showing interest. I now have many more Cambodian local teachers than I had in the past. The weak link is me. I need to train them and get them up to speed. One teacher is exceptional with the kids, a few others are pretty good, but several are new and I need to better equip them for the job. I often feel inadequate to do the job well, yet here is where I am and that is my job. Please pray the Lord will give me a generous portion of his Spirit to do it well. It is a season of great opportunity to influence future generations and we don't know how long it will last.

Jesse and dog

Some have asked about Jesse and his rabid dog bite. He is doing well and did not come down with rabies! He continues to work at YWAM as a volunteer staff. It is heart-warming and even a bit humbling to me to see how much the Lord is using Jesse. He has just departed with his second team of disciples to go on an out-reach. Most of the disciples are older than he is this time. Jesse loves to go to un-reached places to tell people about Jesus. It is truly an exciting adventure for him.

Local Story

A few days ago, I saw several of the pastors of the nearest local church. Debbie asked them why there were so many new folks in church from a certain village. They told us this story: A man from that village was very ill from spraying pesticides on his rice for many years. He went to the local clinic. They sent him to the district hospital. They said he was too sick and sent him to the provincial hospital. They said he was too sick and sent him to a big hospital in the city. That hospital said they could not do anything for him and sent him home. He then called these 3 pastors to come pray for him. A few folks have been healed when they pray for them. The pastors talked to the man awhile and led him to the Lord. Praise God. Then they prayed for him to be healed, and went home. The man died a few hours later! Word traveled fast through the village what happened when the Christians pray. One pastor said to the Lord, "What are you doing? Now no one will ask us to pray for them and no one in that village will believe you are God."

The next week a man from the same village showed up in church. The next week two more. Then the next week someone else. The next week after that two more. The Lord's ways are higher than our ways!

Please keep praying for us. We need it.

John"