



the VRUGGINKS

TRAINING LEADERS IN ASIA

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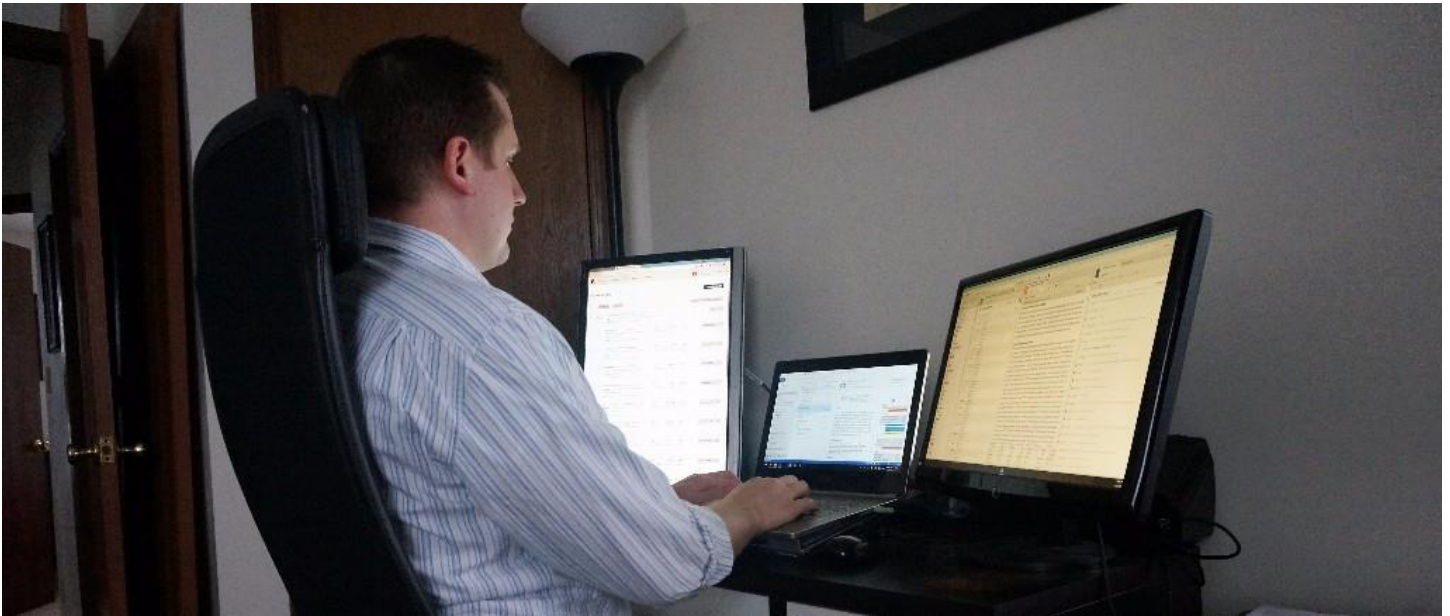
We're Changing Our Destination!



This month we had a major change of plans! Once we're fully supported, we'll be moving to Chiang Mai instead of Bangkok! Last year enrollment for ABTS increased dramatically creating a need for more personnel at the main ABTS office in Chiang Mai, so ABTS has asked us to be located at the main ABTS office in Chiang Mai rather than in Bangkok. This is definitely a big, unexpected change, but we've confirmed with ABTS and we'll be moving to Chiang Mai once our support level reaches 100%! This means a slightly different role for Greg. He'll still be teaching Old Testament classes as planned, but instead of being the site administrator in Bangkok he'll be assisting the dean, Jim Blumenstock, with a number of administrative responsibilities. We are really excited about the ministry opportunities in Chiang Mai!

What Are We Doing Now?

We're frequently asked, "What are you doing now? What are your days like right now as pre-field missionaries?" As we wait for our big move, we're involved in a variety of different roles.



Greg's days are primarily filled with contacting and following up with churches and individuals as we continue fundraising to get to the field. In addition, he's administering a few distance classes for ABTS, which involves communication with students and grading their assignments. He's also working on getting online classes up and running for ABTS. Since this is the beginning of the ABTS online process, it means a lot foundational planning is being done as the classes are being implemented.



Rachel's days involve homeschooling our kids and teaching a high school girls' Bible study on contentment at our church on Sunday mornings (girls pictured above). We are also both adult leaders in our church youth group, and reaching out to our neighbors. This month we had the opportunity to share the gospel with two different neighbors - one who lives next door and one who was actually a former neighbor in New York.

We know God has a plan for every day we are in America, and we want to be faithful to serve and share the Gospel where He has placed us as we prepare to serve on the mission field.

Isaac's Kidney Test Results



We have great news to share! Isaac's kidney test last month went very smoothly (much better than tests in the past), and we discovered that Isaac's small right kidney is functioning at 50% which is wonderful – much better than we thought based on how it looks! The doctor also does not feel Isaac needs surgery as the primary purpose would be to prevent urinary tract infections and as of now Isaac has never had one. So we still have to monitor Isaac with regular ultrasounds and occasional kidney tests, but as of now things look really good. Our doctor also gave us his personal email address, so that he can keep up with Isaac even when we're overseas – what a blessing!

We did receive news last week that Isaac's iron levels are low, so he has to take an iron supplement for a month to boost his numbers and then we'll redo his blood work in four weeks. This is a minor issue though in the grand scheme of his health.

Thank you for praying for us and rejoicing with us that Isaac's right kidney is doing better than expected and surgery isn't necessary as of now!

Financial Update

We currently have 73% of our needed monthly funds!

Only 27% to go!

We have one more required training seminar to attend before leaving for the field, and we must be at 85% of our needed monthly support by April 10.

This means that we need to raise \$1,115 more per month before April 10 to qualify for Field Prep seminar. You can help!

MONTHLY PARTNERS WE NEED TO MAKE 85%

7 partners at \$10/month	👤👤👤👤👤
7 partners at \$25/month	👤👤👤👤👤👤
5 partners at \$50/month	👤👤👤👤
4 partners at \$100/month	👤👤👤👤
2 partners at \$200/month	👤👤

As of 2/1/17

Praise the Lord for 7 new individual partners and 1 new church partner this month! **This is one of the highest numbers of new partners we've received in a single month, so we've felt extremely grateful and in awe of God's provision this past month.** We are currently at 73% of our needed monthly support! Our next major goal is to reach 85% of our needed monthly support by April 10 in order to qualify for our final required training seminar. Would you consider partnering with us on an ongoing monthly basis?

[Click Here to Partner with Us Financially](#)

Praise the Lord that this month many gave to our Outfit and Passage Fund! We received a total of \$4,300 toward our O & P in January! This puts us at 37% of our needed one-time funds to move to Thailand. Thank you so much for your generosity!



Praises and Prayer Requests

Thank you so much for praising God with us and praying for our needs. Please email us with any prayer requests you have so that we can be praying for you as well!

- 1) Praise God we have 73% of our committed monthly support and huge boost to our O & P account last month! Please pray for God to continue to work in the hearts of churches and individuals to partner with our ministry in prayer and financially, so we can meet our financial goal of reaching 85% of our needed monthly support by April 10, 2017. This will put us on track to have a likely leave date for Thailand in the summer of 2017!
- 2) Please pray for our current ministry opportunities in reaching out to neighbors and friends, volunteering at our church, Rachel home schooling the children, and Greg's current ABTS work.
- 3) Praise God that Isaac's kidney tests went incredibly well and we received great news! Please pray for Isaac's iron numbers to increase and become stable, and that his kidney condition will remain stable. Thank you so much for praising God with us and praying for our needs. Please email us with any prayer requests you have so that we can be praying for you as well!

Greg + Rachel

