



## Taal Volcano and Graduation



A few days before our January ABTS graduation in the Philippines, a dangerous volcano erupted just 37 miles (60 kilometers) south of Manila where the graduation was to be held. The Taal volcano spewed lava and ash up to 9 miles which caused millions of people to be displaced and many of our students were busy ministering to the victims of this natural disaster. As Greg prepared the programs for the graduation ceremony the Manila airport was closed due to the heavy ash in the air, meaning our ABTS representative professors wouldn't be able to fly in to attend the ceremony, but he printed them anyway as our kids drew pictures and hung them on our refrigerator to help us to remember to be in constant prayer for our students. Thankfully as the week progressed the ash cleared, the airport reopened, and our 12 ABTS students were able to have a wonderful graduation ceremony! We are thankful for the blessing of this special celebration even amidst a volcanic eruption!

## Greg's Technology Work for ABTS



This month Greg's been busy grading the assignment of his "Old Testament Theology" class from Cagayan de Oro. With classes currently going on in Chiang Mai, students are using the ABTS "Connected Classroom" which Greg helped to set up. The Connected Classroom allows students from anywhere in the world to attend Chiang Mai seminars in real time. Students join the class live via conference call, participate in all seminar activities and discussions, and then submit assignments along with the rest of class. This is a convenient option for students who are unable to travel or who need to take a particular course for

their degree program. Just this week the Connected Classroom was in use while Systematic Theology and Spiritual Formation classes were being taught.

Greg has also been working with others on launching ABTS's use of the learning management software called Moodle. In Moodle students are able to download class materials, upload assignments, track grades, and communicate with the professor and other students.

We praise God for using the gift of technological to be able to reach more students with strong theological teaching!

## International Youth Ministry

Our international youth ministry continues to go well with 50-60 teens coming regularly now! This month we had a pizza outreach and many of our teens invited friends, some of whom do not attend church regularly or aren't believers, so it was a fun time of connecting with teens in Chiang Mai. This month in addition to our normal youth group times, we have a movie night and bowling event planned in order to continue to build relationships with teens and look for opportunities to speak truth into their lives.



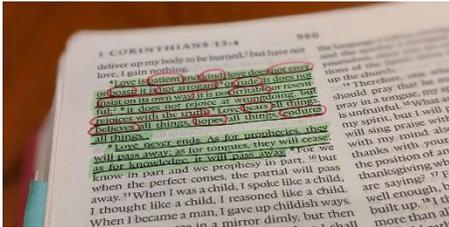
## Rachel's Co-Op Ministry



Rachel is becoming more involved in Chiang Mai's Home School Co-op. This semester she's teaching a Victorian Tea & History class to 5th-6th grade girls and they're loving it! She's leading elementary chapel and teaching the kids about true love as they discuss and memorize 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. She's leading a weekly moms' group Bible study and discussion times. And she's also planning all of the co-op's fun events

from rollerblading for children to mom's night outs for the home school mothers.

This month Rachel has been asked by the co-op's leadership to be 1 of the 3 main leaders at the co-op. She will still lead elementary chapel, the Bible study for moms, and plan the events, but instead of teaching a class she will take on a few more hospitality and event planning projects.



This is an exciting opportunity for her to have a huge role in pouring into the home school families in Chiang Mai, and event planning and teaching God's Word fit Rachel's giftings perfectly. Please pray for her and the other two ladies as they serve as the "principals" of the co-op in the days that lie ahead.

## 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 for our 12 ABTS graduates in the Philippines and that we were able to have a special celebration even amidst a volcanic eruption! Please pray for our students as they minister to victims of the Taal Volcano.
- 2) Praise God for the way that technology has helped ABTS to better serve our students! Please pray for Greg as he continues to grade his students' Old Testament Biblical Theology work.
- 3) Praise God the youth ministry at our international church is continuing to thrive! Please continue to pray for us to build strong relationships with the teens and have opportunities to help them grow in their walks with God.
- 4) Praise God for the ways He is allowing Rachel to be a blessing to co-op families in Chiang Mai! Please pray for us to have wisdom to know if Rachel should take on an official leadership position at the co-op.

*Greg + Rachel*

