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TRAINING LEADERS IN ASIA

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## Ministry Amidst Coronavirus



This month has been a unique month of ministry amidst the coronavirus! At this point our city is on lock down so schools and all non-essential businesses are closed (basically only supermarkets, hospitals, pharmacies, and banks are open) and everyone is encouraged to stay home through at least the end of April.

In the earlier part of March we met with several missionary families from China who are here because they've been forced to evacuate. We had dinners and answered many questions about Chiang Mai to help the evacuated parents and children adjust to their temporary home in Thailand. It was a

blessing to get to know these wonderful families.

We also had the opportunity to host house church in our home when the government had banned groups of 50 or more from gathering, but we were allowed to gather in small groups. (Picture Above)

As of now we've had to discontinue meeting for house church as even this is not allowed, but we're still "meeting" with our youth group teens and small group once a week via Zoom to update each other on our weeks, discuss the online sermon, and pray together. (Picture right)



We've been doing our best to calm anxious hearts during this hard time. This month Rachel received two anxious calls from two different missionary ladies asking if we're evacuating once the U.S. Department of State issued a level 4 advisory for those overseas. This time is stressful for everyone, but it's especially hard when living overseas and wrestling with questions of "Do we stay in Thailand? or Do we return to our home country?" and "If we do stay in Thailand, when will be allowed to return 2-months, 6-months, a year?" At this point decisions have been made and Thailand's border is closed so we and many of our missionary friends will be here for the duration of the pandemic as there are basically no outgoing or incoming flights in Thailand. This month we've felt a lot like Aaron and Hur holding up the arms of Moses as we encourage other missionary families during this stressful time. Please pray for us to continue to have peaceful hearts ourselves, so we can pour into the families and teens around us.

## Greg and Isaac's Health



One week ago Greg was in the hospital due to a high fever (it spiked to 104 F) and severe dehydration. Thankfully they did a blood test and discovered he had a bacterial infection not a viral infection so he didn't have to get the COVID-19 test, but he did need to stay at the hospital for 48-hours to get IV fluids and to monitor his temperature. We're grateful he's home and doing well now!

Also, this month Isaac was able to stop wearing the splint for his broken arm as it completely healed, and he's back to his normal active self! We had a pirate party to celebrate him turning 7 years old this month just before everything locked down so that was a huge joy amidst the craziness.

We're grateful for the blessing of good medical care in Thailand!

## Easter Countdown Activities (while quarantined)

Rachel put together a list of two weeks of quarantine-friendly activities your family can do to build anticipation for Easter! The week before Easter you'll walk your family through each day as Jesus experienced it and build some fun memories along the way! There's lots of FREE downloads and craft ideas too. Just click the picture to the right to view all the fun activities.



## Old Testament Classes Online



Due to the coronavirus, all ABTS classes for April and May have been canceled. To make up for these classes ABTS is offering several online courses, and Greg is teaching one of them! In order to minimize technical glitches, Greg will be recording his class lectures in advance, so he has about 40 lectures to record and put online this month, as well as transferring other course content online so class will be ready to go in May. Click the video link to the left to watch a 6-minute video introduction to his Old Testament Biblical

Theology class.

Greg's online PhD classes are continuing as well and are basically unchanged as they were already online. Praise the Lord Greg passed his Hebrew IV course, so he's on to French, which he'll finish at the end of May. Greg's also in the midst of completing his Principles of Teaching, Learning, and Course Design PhD course. Please continue to pray for good time management as Greg balances his ABTS responsibilities, PhD program, church ministries, and family time.

## 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 allowing us to be a blessing to other missionary families and for the blessing of technology that allows us to meet with our church small group and youth group teens! Please pray for us to continue to be an encouragement to those around us during this stressful time.
- 2) Praise God we are all currently healthy and had the blessing of good medical care for Greg and Isaac this month! Please pray for us to remain healthy.
- 3) Praise God for the blessing of technology that has allowed ABTS classes to continue even amidst the coronavirus! Please pray for Greg as he records lectures for his online Old Testament Biblical Theology class and continues his PhD studies.

*Greg + Rachel*

