



the VRUGGINKS

TRAINING LEADERS IN ASIA

vrugginks.com

Greg's Cancer Checkup



Today Greg had his 3-month post-operation cancer scan and praise the Lord he's still cancer free! His next scan will be on January 5, 2021. Thank you for rejoicing with us and continuing to pray that Greg's body will remain cancer free.

Visa Renewal

This month it's time for us to reapply for our one-year visas. It's a little more stressful this year because in Thailand it's not possible for United States citizens with our type of visas to currently enter the country. We should be allowed to renew our visas because we have never left Thailand since the Covid outbreak, but the process is more complex than previous years. Greg will have an interview on October 15 and we should know shortly after if our family has been approved to remain in Thailand. Please pray that our entire family will receive our one-year visas that will enable us to continue to live and serve in Asia.



ABTS Ministry



While ABTS residential classes have been canceled till the end of 2020 due to the pandemic, we are thankful that many of our students have been able to continue learning through online courses. As Greg teaches the Old Testament it's encouraging to hear students share with us how they're understanding the OT in a way they never have before. Below are the testimonies of four students sharing a few words about the impact ABTS has had on their life and ministry.

"I have grown to appreciate the Old Testament and see how God's plan unfolds throughout history through the lives of the Patriarchs and faithful servants of God whom He had chosen to fulfill His purpose. The course has definitely changed my understanding of the Bible and I have started loving the Old Testament and really want to spend more time to discern God's will and plan. It has made me revere God and be in awe of Him as I come to realize how much He has put up with mankind and still faithfully he keeps on bringing them back to himself."

– Prashant George Kuttickal

Through this course I have been able to appreciate the unifying biblical storyline. The historical background and context of each book has really helped me to understand the message of each book more clearly. So far I have been reluctant to teach/preach from the OT because there were so many themes (laws/sacrifices/rituals) which I didn't understand very well, but after completing this course, I feel much more confident to handle these topics.

– Swapnil Dethe

"I am involved in both an evangelism ministry and a student ministry. By God's grace, my personal life has not been affected much by COVID-19. But, in regards to ministry, everything has gone virtual. Unable to meet people face-to-face as easily as before, I use my free time to learn about the Old Testament online, so that I can eventually teach others."

– Lovaraju Kulapakula, Tentmaker

"I have been serving for 12 years in Thailand with my wife and teenage son. Besides affecting our finances, the pandemic has also been a time of loss. My dad passed away back home after prolonged health problems. The online lessons have been an encouragement to me. My professor is very pragmatic. As a family man with ministry experience, he understands my situation. Yet, he encourages me to press on. I am very grateful to our Lord and ABTS. Neither pandemic nor calamity hinders us to pursue His Word."

– Eisen Nungchim Moyon

Disability Ministry

God has opened up some doors this month for us to work with those affected by disabilities in Thailand. Saturday, October 24 we'll be taking our high school teens to throw a harvest party at a Christian foster home for children with severe mental and physical disabilities. Please pray we will be an encouragement to the children and staff.



Also, later this month we have both been asked to speak at a Joni & Friends

Disability Conference in Thailand for families with disabled children. Greg will be the opening speaker and will share from Ecclesiastes about having hope in our broken world. Rachel will be sharing her testimony and how God can use disabilities to shine for His glory. The [video link](#) explains the need for the retreat we'll be speaking at as three mothers share their testimonies regarding what the conference will mean for them. Please pray we will be a blessing to these families affected by disability.

Teen Ministry



This month Greg began his youth group teaching series on the Gospel. This year we'll be exploring the major components of the gospel such as grace, sin, redemption, and faith with the purpose of digging deep theologically and also learning how to share the gospel with others. The goal is for the high schoolers to grow not only in their knowledge of the Gospel but also gain confidence that they can share the good news with others. We were also able to connect with some of our teens through a pizza and game night we held at our home. Please pray for the teens to grow in their knowledge of love of God this year, and for us to be able to form deep relationships with them so we can impact their lives.

Additionally, this month we have a High School Youth Retreat on October 12-14. Rachel's been busy with all the details gathering the registrations and payments, planning the schedule, and assigning youth houses and small groups for the 50 people attending. Greg will be coordinating the worship times. Please pray for the teens lives to be impacted by this fall retreat.

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 Greg's 3-month checkup showed he is still cancer free! Please continue to pray that Greg's cancer will not return.
- 2) Praise God that it appears our one-year visas will be able to be processed this month. Please pray that our entire family will receive our one-year visas that will enable us to continue to live and serve in Asia.
- 3) Praise God for the impact ABTS is having even amidst a global pandemic. Please pray for our ABTS students to continue to grow in faith and wisdom.
- 4) Praise God for the opportunities we have been given to serve those with disabilities this month. Please pray for us to be a blessing and encouragement.
- 5) Praise God for the blessing of working with the international teenagers in Thailand. Please pray for teens lives to be impacted this month through the fall retreat and Greg's teaching series on the Gospel.

Thank you so much for all of your love and support!

Greg + Rachel

