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The VRUGGINKS
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Bronchitis & Break-In

September was been rough for our family. Four people in our family were bronchitis, fevers, and influenza in which have been spreading like wildfire in our city. We think our bodies got overwhelmed by the new course but we had to carry on because we are in the middle of our training. Jo-Ann Thomas joined us and she is entering left right on her ankle and swollen. Hannah had to be hospitalized for six days which was extremely hard on her. Hannah's fever got so high that it hurt her body. Not just that the Lord God was faithful in so through this difficult time and everyone has fully recovered.

Second, a few days ago our home was broken into in the middle of a rainy night. The intruder took down our security camera, cut open the window screen, and then was able to reach in the hand crank to unlock the window and open it. The intruder then climbed through the window and ran through our house and upstairs and stolen the intruder away. We're so thankful that no one was hurt and nothing was stolen. Second, let us pray our disciple Ka Kwan in Iran will everyone family safely started. Isaac and Hannah are sleeping with an all night. Our dentistry is recuperating an get video cameras installed to monitor our doors is that will happen soon. Please be praying for our family's health to be at peace after this scary incident.

ABTS Ministry

This month Asia Biblical Theological Seminary officially welcomed Nelson Estrada as our New Testament professor! Here's the Old and New Testament faculty! Please pray for Nelson, both as a professor and as a disciple of God. ABTS is grateful for providing the New Testament professor ABTS needed when our other New Testament professor retired from the ministry of ABTS this past spring.

We're blessed to be part of a wonderful team of professors who are working so hard to provide solid theological education to the ministry leaders of Southeast Asia!

Women's Rescue Center

This month Rachel shared here testimony with a small group of ladies at a women's vocational rescue center. All of these women are either escaping sex trafficking or abusive relationships. It was a joy for Rachel to share her testimony of God's faithfulness, and the ladies made cross wreaths to remember that even amidst the pain of the cross we see the beauty of redemption and even in our painful experiences we know God is working them to make us more like Jesus. Rachel commented to Rachel, "I was feeling like my problems were so huge, but after hearing your testimony I realized my problems aren't so bad and God will be faithful to me."

Hillsie Rachel was sharing her testimony with the women. Chay was coordinating our youth group twice a meeting English lessons for the women's little children and doing some grounds work for the rescue center. The teens worked really hard and were a blessing to this special ministry.

Israel Trip

In Jesh Ching has the wonderful opportunity to go with our ministry church to Israel! Ching was supposed to go to Israel while in the process of getting his Old Testament PhD, but Covid cancelled the trip. This trip will give Ching so much insight as he teaches his Old Testament students. The cost of the trip is still getting paid off, but it will be between $1,400 - $1,500. If you're able to help contribute towards the cost of the trip just click the button below to give a special one time gift and please note in the "Additional Process Information" that the gift is to go to "Account #0791081-013 for continuing education." Also, send us an email so we can thank you and make sure the gift went into the correct account (occasionally special gifts get put into our general fund instead of the continuing education fund so we want to double check it went to the correct place). We're excited to see the insights Ching will gain through this trip!

Give to Ching's Israel Trip

Youth Group

We averaged 85-95 youth in youth group this month! With the high schoolers we're doing a series this school year on "Hard Questions." This month Ching talked about purity, dating, and sex and there was definitely a little push back from some as it's not normal in our culture to share that sex is only to happen in the covenant of marriage.

In October Rachel will be teaching about discernment in areas the entertainment, media, and alcohol, and Ching will be teaching on what God's Word teaches on homosexuality as were' sure to turn some heads when we're doing this what God's Word has to say about these issues. Please pray for God to work in the hearts of our teens!

Middle School Youth Retreat

This month we're coordinating and leading our annual Middle School Youth Retreat for the international youth in Chiang Mai, Thailand! The retreat is already at maximum capacity with a waiting list! This program supports ministries of the youth attending are: USA, Myanmar, China, Sweden, Germany, Australia, and India. Please pray for the 6th-8th grade students to be encouraged and challenged to "live as" and allow God to use them in powerful ways!

Thai Lessons

This month our family resumed Thai lessons! We have a new Thai teacher who lives just a few houses down from us. She has an excellent reputation and we've been learning faster than ever before. Please pray for all of us as we begin our new Thai teacher. Thai homework, and that we'll grow greatly in our Thai language learning this year!

Family Visiting

We're so thrilled that our 10-year-old nephew Ethiel, and 14-year-old niece, Carissa, are visiting us for the month of October! They're experiencing our life in Thailand and volunteering at a variety of ministry locations in Chiang Mai to get the flavor of the different ministry opportunities in Thailand. Please pray for Ethiel and Carissa to be encouraged and challenged by their month in Thailand.

Praises & 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 the Lord our family has fully recovered from being so sick and that no one was hurt when our home had an intruder! Please pray for us to remain healthy and safe in the coming months.

2) Praise the Lord for providing ABTS with a New Testament professor! Please continue to pray that ABTS will be blessing in the lives of our students throughout Southeast Asia.

3) Praise the Lord Rachel was able to share her testimony with the ladies at a rescue center and that Ching was able to lead the youth in teaching English sessions for children and doing grounds work at the rescue center. Please pray for these women and children to come to understand God's deep love for them and for them to place their faith in Him.

4) Praise the Lord our youth group has grown to 85-95 teens on a regular basis! Please pray for us as we talk about "Hard Questions" this school year, including discernment and LGBTQ+ issues in October.

5) Praise the Lord we're able to have our annual Middle School Youth Retreat! Please pray for the middle school students' hearts to be responsive to the challenges from God's Word.

6) Praise the Lord we have a new Thai teacher who has a reputation for being excellent and strict! Please pray for us to grow greatly in our Thai language ability.

7) Praise the Lord for bringing our nephew and niece safely to Thailand! Please pray for their month to be a challenge and encouragement to them.

Thank you so much for your love and prayers for our family!

Love, Rachel

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