



the
VRUGGINKS
TRAINING LEADERS IN ASIA

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Provision of a Home and Car



Sa wa dee ka ("Hello" in Thai)! We've been settling into our home and new routines this month! We've been in our home three weeks now and you can see a 3 minute tour by clicking the video to the left. We've been busy this month furnishing it, figuring out how to pay bills, and purchasing all the items we need from school supplies to kitchen items. It's a little more challenging here because there's not a "one stop" store (like Target or Meijer) so we have to go to multiple stores.

Our house helper, Nang Nut, is sweet and the children love her already. She speaks no English and we speak no Thai yet, but we're figuring each other out. She helps with cleaning and taking care of the little two Tuesday-Saturday mornings. We are so blessed to have her!



Praise God we were also able to purchase a car early this month! Minivans don't exist here so it can be challenging to get a car to fit a family of 6 (an extremely large family here), but thankfully Greg found an SUV type car that works for us. The money finally transferred for it - hooray! Greg's already acclimated to driving on the left side of the road. It's been so nice for our family to have the ability to go where we need to go with the children buckled into seats properly instead of in an Uber on our laps.

Now we're trying to get the proper hand controls shipped over so Rachel can drive too. The US vendor is shipping us the hand controls (which cost \$1,000), so please pray that they make it safely from America to ABTS and that Greg will be able to install them without complications.



Greg's Trip to Cambodia

At the end of this month Greg and Jim Blumenstock (the dean of ABTS) took a trip to Cambodia to see about the possibility of opening up new teaching sites there. ABTS has had a small number of Cambodian graduates because they must travel to other sites (such as Bangkok or Singapore) to take their classes. The purpose of this trip was to determine whether or not there are enough Cambodians interested in ABTS to open classes there and investigate possible partnerships with existing schools or churches to use their facilities for classes. The short three-day trip was filled with many meetings and lots of traveling (one possible partnership is with a school in one of the rural Cambodian provinces), but seemed to be a success! There is a lot of interest in multiple places, and hopefully we will be able to open ABTS classes in Cambodia very soon!



Learning Thai



Our Thai lessons have been going well! Our teacher, Kru Rang, comes to our home every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning for 2 hours. She teaches Greg and Rachel for 45 minutes, Christian and Abbie for 45 minutes, and then Isaac and Hannah for 30 minutes. We are learning the alphabet (44 consonant letters, 28 vowels, and 4 tones), so we definitely feel like kindergartners again but it's nice to see progress being made and we're beginning to be able to sound out words. Please continue to pray for us to progress in our understanding of Thai so we can form relationships with our neighbors.

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 the provision of a house and car!
- 2) Praise God for a fruitful trip to Cambodia and please pray for the process of possibly opening up new teaching sites there!
- 3) Please pray for us as we learn Thai! We're at the beginning of a long process - pray for clear minds and perseverance as we progress over the next few months!

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

Dreg + Rachel

