



the VRUGGINKS

TRAINING LEADERS IN ASIA

vrugginks.com

Teaching Counselors

This month Greg led worship and preached on Ecclesiastes during a two day conference for around 35 Christian counselors in Chiang Mai. Greg shared how the book of Ecclesiastes gives wisdom for living in a broken world which is especially meaningful to counselors who see so much brokenness and pain each day. Greg was able to have some great follow-up conversations and they were greatly encouraged as they begin a new year of ministry! Praise God for this special opportunity to bless the hearts of these men and women who are counseling many people throughout Asia!



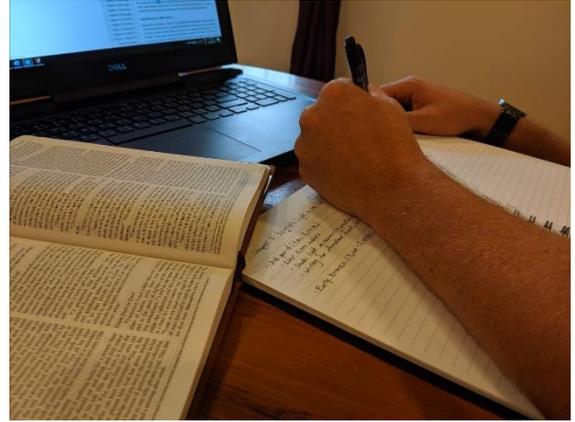
Baby Hannah



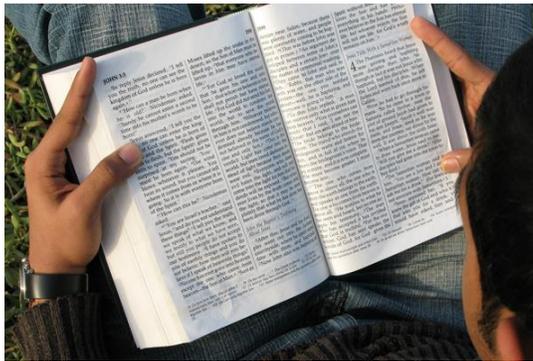
This month we had a very special two-week-old visitor! Our former house helper brought her new baby girl, Hannah (ฮันนาห์), to come visit us. You can guess who she named her after? It was a very special moment for our family.

PhD Program

This month Greg began his PhD studies! Greg hopes to complete the program in 4 years and graduate in the spring of 2023. We're thankful that over the summer we received funding for the first 2 years of Greg's PhD education, so that's a huge answer to prayer! Working full time at Asia Biblical Theological Seminary, having 4 young children, leading an international youth group, and now taking on PhD classes is a huge amount of work. Most evenings after the kids (and Rachel) are in bed, Greg's still working hard on his studies into the night. Please pray for Greg to have endurance as he works hard to finish his studies over the next 4 years.



Teaching in the Philippines



October 5-19 Greg will be teaching Old Testament Biblical Theology in the Philippines! The travelling involved in getting to the teaching site is complicated involving multiple flights and overnight layovers, so please pray for Greg's flights to go smoothly and for him to be safe during his travels. Please pray for the students to fall in love with the Old Testament and have a renewed appreciation for God's work since the beginning of time. Also, please pray for Rachel and the kids as they do life on their own without Greg for two weeks.

International Youth Group



We've been enjoying kicking off a new year of youth group! We had a fun pizza and game night at our home last Friday with around 25 teenagers (pictures above). Greg's began a new Sunday morning teaching series on the purpose and mission of the church.

Thank you for praying with us that God will call another couple to serve alongside us in ministering to the youth. We are excited to announce that a sweet, young couple has felt led to teach the middle school students (6th-8th grades) so that we can focus on the high school students (9th-12th grades)! It's been a huge blessing to be able to teach at a higher level and have awesome small group discussions this past month. We're excited to see God continue working through this ministry to international teens!

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 has been able to begin his PhD studies and that his first 2 of 4 years of classes are funded! Please pray for Greg to be able to do well at school while balancing his full-time ministry and family responsibilities.
- 2) Praise God October 5-19 Greg will be teaching Old Testament in the Philippines! Please pray for Greg's safety while traveling, effective teaching time, and for Rachel and the kids to do well while Greg is away.
- 3) Praise God for providing our church's international youth group with middle school leaders! Please pray for their ministry to the middle school students and our ministry to the high students to produce good fruit in the lives of these sweet teenagers.

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

Greg + Rachel

