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## A Terrifying Day

September 2 was a really scary day for our family. Our kids went on a jungle hike with friends as they often do. At the end of the trail Abbie and some of her teenage girlfriends jumped into a river that they've played in before, but they didn't realize that due to rainy season the river had become dangerous. The girls quickly realized they were in trouble as they began to be pulled down the rushing river. They were swept under the water and pummeled by the rapids into rocks, but eventually they were able to grab hold of some rocks and pull themselves to shore. The Thai forest rangers were called to help one of Abbie's best friends cross the river with ropes back to the correct side so they could descend the mountain safely. Meanwhile Greg was in a minor fender bender with a truck.



The flooded Ob Khan River where Abbie nearly drowned.

Looking back we have so much to praise God for amidst this awful day: 1) Abbie and her friends made it out of the river alive, 2) Isaac and Hannah didn't jump into the river too because their little

bodies probably would not have been able to successfully fight against the river, 3) Greg and the truck driver weren't injured, and 4) some friends found a car for us to borrow while our car was in the shop for three weeks.

This month as a family we read through Zechariah and were struck by chapter 10 as it seemed so applicable to our lives: *“Ask rain from the Lord in the season of the spring rain from the Lord who makes the storm clouds, and he will give them showers of rain...‘Though I scattered them among the nations, yet in far countries they shall remember me, and with their children they shall live and return...I will make them strong in the Lord, and they shall walk in His name,’ declares the Lord.”* (Zechariah 10:1, 9, 12)

Our TCKs (Third Culture Kids) live scattered among a different nation, far from their home country. We live in a place with a season of extreme rain, but just like God promised to make His people strong in the Lord, so we trust He will do the same for our kids and they too will walk in His name.

We've seen God doing some amazing things in Chiang Mai! This month we had 65 teens in youth group each time, and we've had 7 different Bible studies take place in our home. We're seeing teens desire to get baptized and turning their lives toward Jesus. It's a really special time of ministry, but we know the enemy doesn't like this so we ask you to join with us in praising God for his protection of our family and asking him to continue to care for us, so that we will be able to live in this foreign land and help others be strong in the Lord so they can walk in His name!

## Home Bible Studies



Over the past month we have hosted 7 Bible studies in our home. Two were for adults: Rachel taught on Psalm 13 and Greg taught on Psalm 121 as we lead our adult small group in studying the Psalms. Four of the Bible studies were led by teens as a small group of teens is meeting in our home on Friday nights to study the book of Philipians. Christian led one of the nights on Philipians 1:1-11. And

the final one was last night as we hosted separate high school guys' and girls' overnights, and Greg was able to share with the teen guys about Gideon and finding our identity in what God says about us. It's such a joy to be able to use our home to study God's Word with adults and teens!



## ABTS in India



Praise the Lord - after three years of not being able to meet due to Covid restrictions, our Asia Biblical Theological Seminary (ABTS) Indian students were able to have in-person classes again with a wonderful New Testament course! While much of the world has been "back to normal" for a long time, in Asia masks are still worn by most people when out (and required in many places) and the fear of Covid is still huge. Having a class be able to meet in-person again is so exciting for us!

Deborah, one of the students attending the in-person class, shared, "It was great getting back to in-person classes after the pandemic. The in-person class facilitates greater interaction

between the students and the professor. Prof. Marshfield helped us make excellent use of our time in class with discussions, debates, and other learning activities."

Jason, who was attending his second in-person class in three years, shared, "It was great to be back in a proper classroom setting. As good as it was to have courses continue online during the pandemic, it doesn't get better than physically gathering together in one room. Prof. Marshfield did a great job in taking us through New Testament Biblical Theology. He created a great learning environment where we could really think and challenge ourselves and each other, collaborate with one another, and enjoy a time of fellowship. Loved the experience and look forward to many more ABTS courses like this."



## PhD Rough Draft Complete



This month Greg was able to finish the rough draft of his PhD dissertation! It represents countless hours of Greg's time, effort, sweat, and tears. There will still be lots of work to do it on it as he receives revisions over the next three months, but we're joyfully praising God for the blessing that the rough draft has been completed and Greg's on his way to graduating in April 2023 with his doctorate in Old Testament Bible Studies which is required for him to continue teaching at Asia Biblical Theological Seminary.

# Homeschool Co-op ministry

Rachel has been in full swing this past month coordinating 40 parents and 100 kids at the Chiang Mai Homeschool Co-op! It takes a lot of her time each week, but the joy of seeing all these kids together hammering and sawing in construction class, acting out Shakespeare with their British drama teacher, learning basketball and soccer skills, preparing snacks in cooking class, enjoying doing crafts, and so much more makes it truly worth it! We have many families who are part of the co-op who are not believers so please pray specifically that the Christian families at the co-op will shine brightly!



## Upcoming Youth Retreat

This October 13 -15 we'll be leading a Middle School Youth Retreat for the 6th - 8th grade international students in our city. We have 50 youth signed up and are so excited to take them through the psalms to help them "taste and see" some wonderful character attributes of our great God. Please be praying for us to have wisdom as we oversee the youth and chaperones, and for the youth to be deeply challenged in their walks with God.



# 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 his protection of our family despite Abbie's near drowning incident and Greg's minor car accident! Please pray for God to continue to care for us, so that we will be able to live in this foreign land and help others be strong in the Lord so they can walk in His name!
- 2) Praise the Lord we've been able to host 7 adult and teen Bible studies in our home this past month! Please pray for us as we have 5 Bible studies planned for October.
- 3) Praise the Lord Greg was able to complete the rough draft of his PhD dissertation! Please pray for him over the next 3 months as he makes necessary revisions.
- 4) Praise the Lord the Chiang Mai Homeschool Co-op is going well! Please pray for Rachel to have wisdom as she coordinates 100 children and 40 parents each week, and for the parents who are not believers to come to know Jesus as their Savior.
- 5) Praise the Lord we have 50 youth signed up for the Middle School Youth Retreat! Please be praying for us to have wisdom as we oversee the youth and chaperones, and for the youth to be deeply challenged in their walks with God.

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

*Greg + Rachel*

