December 2024

Hello friends!

After seven and a half months in the US this year, we have taken a bit longer than usual to reacclimate to our home in Cambodia. Although we were excited to return and join in all that God is doing here, we found we needed some extra time to adjust. By God's grace, ministry was quite slow when we arrived and we could take our time to acclimatize again to the weather, the culture, the language and the ministry. All the students at the Plas Prai were at home and exams were about finished (just a handful of seniors were left). Most of our Cambodia partners capitalized on the school break and took their own vacations and went to visit their families. It was quiet and slow – just what we needed!

Now we find ourselves in full-swing again and our energy, motivation and stamina have caught up, as well. We are thankful for the slower transition. So ... here are the big pieces of news that we want to share with you all and ask you to pray about:



Panha - new Plas Prai student needing sponsorship.

Panha – one more Plas Prai dorm student needs a sponsor! Panha is a really gentle giant of a 10th grader. He has been absorbing the Firm Foundations studies with the rest of his class and is keenly interested in learning more about God. From Genesis chapter 1, he learned where the world came from and was impressed that there is a God who created everything. No one had ever shared this story with him before (as was the case with almost everyone in the class). He told his mentor that he's noticed how unusual Plas Prai is – the love the leaders have for the students, and many of the students have for each other, is very unique. He

said: "Jesus helps people to love one another." This young man does not yet have a sponsor. If you'd like to help Panha continue to learn who our great God is and assist him in finishing high school, please do reach out to me as soon as possible. Thank you!



Phannat and his roommates making dinner.

Plas Prai funding needs. God has carried us through an expensive year! We renewed our MOU with the government, repaired a flooding issue in the front of the property and took 30 people on our senior retreat last year! We're thankful that our budget held fast. However, we would like to have additional financial margin going into the 2024-25 school year. In addition, our food budget has run on \$1 per student per day for seven years or more. We've determined it's time to increase the food budget this year. We've also increased the annual

sponsorships (for new sponsors only) and eventually this income increase will cover the food

budget. However, the next two years we will have a gap in the budget. As a result, we're asking folks to consider a one-time donation to meet this need. If you are led to participate, please send your donation to World Team and note that it is for Plas Prai general fund 044016. Here is the link to give and thank you for considering this!! https://us.worldteam.org/donate-to-missions/



Future Ministry Training Center Site!

Future vision – God seems to be pushing our team into HIS future plans. We've been growing and asking God what he wants to do about that! We certainly know that we can't figure it out on our own. He has been expanding our Cambodian volunteer force! We also continue to see people coming to faith in the dorm students' home villages. More new believers + more new workers =

more work and the need for space! God has also been working in the background and providing for these needs. An anonymous purchase land for ministry use that we had been eyeing and praying over. A wonderful church sent a check to cover the cost to build a training center. All of this without sharing the need in a newsletter at all! We are blown away and are taking this as significant affirmation that we should move ahead and get that training center built! In addition, our home church, Davisville, is hosting a group of a dozen or so people to meet regularly around the topic of "is God calling me to serve in Cambodia?" We are trusting that God gives us the people we need here to keep walking forward into HIS future ministry. Please join us in that prayer and rejoice with us for all he's done so far!



Jim shares briefly what Christmas in Cambodia is like for Cambodians at this link.

Christmas is coming! In the above picture from last year, we had the privilege of sharing about Christ's birth with this group of new believers for the first time. This year they want to share that story with their entire village! The church planting (CP) team has decided to support three groups of new believers who are forming up in new areas to host Christmas

events at their home fellowships. Christmas is something that is gaining popularity here in Cambodia and people are still very curious about what it is about. The CP team will capitalize on this opportunity to share the good news in this way. Please join them in prayer as the story of Christ's birth is heard for the first time for the vast majority of the people in these villages.



Former Plas Prai students Sokhen, Ven and Mony graduated from both Discipleship Training School and School of Ministry Development.

Other news! There is too much to share in a short email, like: seven former Plas Prai students are completing training for ministry this year, a PV youth camp (first one in PV hosted entirely by

Cambodians!), 100% of Plas Prai students passed their senior exams!, and we have a new season of ministry for seeking God together as a team. Join us in praising God for his provisions and please continue to pray that God will help us stay connected to the Vine and call us back when we falter or forget who we are in Him.

Thank you for caring and standing with us in prayer. We appreciate each of you and pray that this holiday season you are finding great HOPE, PEACE, JOY AND LOVE in the ONE who holds all of that and MORE in His hands.

Jim and Carolyn Gabriels

World Team Cambodia carolyn.gabriels@worldteam.org (country code +855) 97-686-0001 Mailing address in Cambodia: P.O. Box 2903 Phnom Penh Cambodia