

Youth Camp in Preah Vihear, November 2024

Joel Stewart World Team Cambodía Field Preah Vihear, Cambodía November 2024 NEWS FROM PREAH VIHEAR

Update, Volume 25, No. 171, November 2024

THANKSGIVING!



Plas Prai graduate Serr

"Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted." — Isaiah 12:4

Thursday, November 28, 2024—The Secret Place, Preah Vihear, Cambodia Dear Praying Friends,

Happy Thanksgiving from The Secret Place,

As I look back on my journey in Cambodia, I have much to be thankful for. Almost 25 years ago our little team of 5 traveled 13 hours north from Phnom Penh on our first survey trip to the remote province of Preah Vihear. We had heard that the province had just been liberated from the communist Khmer Rouge regime just 2 years before. The land was still riddled with thousands of war-era mines and UXOs, and the road was treacherous. Upon arriving we found a small group of believers left behind by a YWAM missionary who had left for the next province.



Since that time our team established a small church (Community of Changed Hearts) and we have seen slow and steady growth. For many years the harvest was extremely lean, with not much multiplication. We continued to sow generously, disciple the believers and nurture the fledgling church. Around 7 years ago we took over a dorm called Plas Prai (Transformation Center), a ministry to high school girls started by an Australian Lutheran group, and in the subsequent years we have developed this ministry to include a boys dorm and upgraded the campus. Slowly but consistently we have witnessed students being transformed by living in community and seeing others living out the gospel. After training at the YWAM (Youth With a Mission) base in western Cambodia, these students have come back to work with us, now staffing the Plas Prai and other ministries such as the Church Planting (CP) team.

Youth Camp 2024 !!



Earlier this month we finished a 3 day youth camp which was put on by our Plas Prai staff and the CP team. The entire program was born out of their desire to encourage the youth across the province to know and experience God in a deeper way, and to commit to walking faithfully with Him and serving Christ. Our role now, as expat missionaries, is to empower the Cambodian believers. My only responsibility at the youth camp was offer to transport materials and students to the youth camp with my truck. And God showed up yet again in awesome ways. The entire program was pulled off without a hitch. Many young Christians from churches across the province (there are now almost 100 churches in PV) shared their talents of leading worship, serving, playing instruments, cooking, running the AV system, and so much more. Almost 100 young people were in attendance.

This youth camp was an amazing time of watching Cambodian youth who are passionate about their faith encouraging and exhorting others to walk faithfully with

Jesus. What we are finally seeing is a season of multiplying disciples. The 2 Timothy 2:2 principle, which can seem so elusive, means disciples who make disciple-making disciples. We are thankful to have a front row seat. Thank you to all who have partnered with us!

A fellow thankful Pilgrim,

Joel

NEW Address in Cambodia

Joel Stewart Preah Vihear City Post Office 088 980 7375 Preah Vihear Province Kingdom of Cambodia Mission Address for support

World Team 1431 Stuckert Rd Warrington, PA 18976 World Team

1-800-967-7109

website: https://www.worldteam.org

Our PV Website: https://worldteampreahvihearcambodia.org/

Ministry Update & Prayer Points, November, 2024

Plas Prai (Transformation) Center

- Our new students have arrived!! We recently received 13 new 10th graders from remote villages across the province. They are quickly adjusting to the lively community of the Plas Prai Transformation Center. Our 11th and 12th grade students have also returned and the new school year is in full swing.
- We praise God for the Youth Camp which was held a couple weeks ago. Pray that the experiences of this amazing time will continue to bear
 fruit in the churches throughout the province.
- Every Friday night the new 10th grade students study Firm Foundations and the 11th & 12th grade students learn about biblical values during Discipleship Meetings. Please pray for the gospel to penetrate and transform each of their lives. Each Saturday evening the students at the Plas Prai the students invite their friends and people in the community attend Family Night for an evening of games, worship and a message. Pray for them to impact their friends and community.
- Every Sunday morning the students travel in carts, by truck, by bicycle or by motorbikes to 7 different villages for **children's ministry**. One of the villages, *Choam Srae*, is 1 hour 40 minutes away by moto. One of these now has a church for new believers, and another has a small group of new believers meeting. These are all home villages of our students who have become believers. *Pray* for safety while traveling.
- The **Church Planting Team** is gearing up for another season of outreach to outlying church plants and New Believers discipleship meetings at the Ministry Learning Center. The churches in **Phnor village** in Kulen district and in **Chey Sen district** continue to grow. Pray for *Christmas Programs* at 3 outlying small churches.
- **Pray** for *Soksan*, a brand new believer who has been transformed and delivered from addiction to alcohol. He gave an amazing testimony at Family Night last week. Pray he will continue to grow and trust in Christ.

NEW MINISTRY CENTER

It's a long story, but what I like to call "Divine Synergy" has been working for a few years, bringing about an amazing new opportunity. Around 3 years ago we prayed for the land in back of my house with a vision that we could create a ministry center for the province. Right now many of our ministry activities take place at the Ministry Learning Center (MLC) which is on the property of the Plas Prai. We envision having a dedicated cen-

ter where we can hold our PVSAM Bible School, create a Youth Development Center, Discipleship Training School, Vocational Training and have camps, retreats, workshops and staff housing. A few months ago we received an anonymous gift to purchase the 2 acre plot of land which we had anointed and prayed for years ago. In addition, one of our projects' supporting churches approached us and offered to give us the exact amount of our projected need for developing the land. We see God's mysterious "divine synergy" working through different people and circumstances over years to bring about His plan. We are still in amazement at His working. We hope to begin the registration and land preparation in the new year. * During a recent visit by some YWAM missionaries we prayed once again asking God to lead us and dedicate the land to His use, and I looked down and noticed a single stalk of ripened rice. This is strange as I don't think there has been rice planted in that field since I can remember. He has some plans, and we are thankful to be along for the ride!











Anointing the New Ministry Center site Thavik (gr 10) & new SS book

Friday Night Worship and Bible Study

Joy in Community

On this day of remembering God's blessings, I am thankful for the privilege to serve in these harvest fields, and especially grateful to all of you who pray for the Living Fields and stand with us as partners. May He bless your Thanksgiving holiday with His presence, peace and provision. On behalf of our team and the Cambodian believers here, THANK YOU!! *Joel*

