

Chang Chronicles

~ October 2014 ~



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Widespread gospel sowing. What does that mean? We are reminded of the Parable of the Sower. Four different soils. But only one soil “hears the word and understands it” and “produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown” (Mt. 13:23). And so we do not always know what kind of soil we sow in, yet with the Holy Spirit’s guidance and with perseverance, our desire is to continue to sow to various people in various ways the one gospel message of Jesus Christ. Here are some examples.

Our Neighbors. There is a Thai saying that goes, “Pork goes; chicken comes.” It means that when a neighbor shares a dish of food, you don’t return the plate empty but share a dish for them to try as well. We are constantly doing this with our neighbors. For us, it is not only a sharing of food, but a sharing of our lives and ultimately a sharing of the gospel. We are thankful that several of our neighbors feel comfortable coming into our home. Pray for seeds to take root.

Our Community. There is always someone related to someone else. We have a church member named Uncle Jit who seems to have relatives everywhere, including our community. Dave tries to take him to go evangelize regularly. One particular day, they had an hour-long conversation sharing the gospel with a gentleman at a relative’s food stall. He asked questions from “How can we be born with sin already?” to “How can I tangibly experience Jesus’ help in my life?” Pray for seeds to take root.

English Club. We have now started 2 groups of English Club at our home. The Sunday group is with 5 female students from a nearby technical college. The Thursday group is for neighborhood kids, filled with English lessons, songs & games, and a bible story at the end. Sometimes we worry that the bible stories may be hard to understand (partly due to our language), yet the last time when we shared about Adam & Eve and the Fall of Mankind in Genesis, we felt there was a genuine sense of interest. Pray for seeds to take root.

Local Schools. Caleb & Caden attend a local Thai school for a few hours each day. Before the end of the term, Dave had a chance to chat with the principal and shared that there will be a short-term team coming next year. “Would the school be interested for the team to come share some songs, skits, and activities?” Dave asked. Knowing we are Christians, the principal immediately asked, “Will you be teaching Christianity?” A bit hesitant, Dave responded, “Well, we don’t have to.” Then, the principal said, “You are welcome to teach Christianity. Just make it fun for the kids.” What an open door from God! Pray for seeds to take root.

Church Members. We take the opportunity to visit our Thai brothers & sisters in Christ regularly. Many of them are still young in the Lord or new believers. We try to share our lives and pray for them regularly. Our desire is to see growth and discipleship take place. Pray for seeds to take root.

Gazing heavenward ~ Dave, Lila, Caleb, Caden, & Corban



Sunday English Club (with visiting OMF colleagues, who may be future coworkers & team members)

Praise & Prayer Requests:

1. Praise God for healing Corban from bronchitis. It was a bit draining with all the hospital trips, but he has since recovered.
2. Praise God for a successful OMF Homeschool Week (Oct. 7th-11th). Praise God that Lila has been able to hand over coordinating Homeschool Weeks in the future to 2 other moms.
3. Praise God for the Adventure Camp that our team/regional leader held in Krabi. There was a total of 7 Thai youths who attended. Praise God for safety, stretching their limits in various activities, and allowing them to hear the gospel through bible stories & studies together.
4. Pray for our annual ACTS (Associated Churches of Thailand - South) church camp, which will be held in Yala (Oct. 23rd-26th). Pray that there will not be any obstacles for our church members in attending. Pray also for safe travels (Yala is known for occasional bombings as political tensions continue between Muslims & Buddhists there).
5. Pray for our continued language & culture learning. Both of us will have language checks sometime in Nov., and Dave will preach Nov. 9th.
6. Pray for our partnership with the Pak Phanang church plant, and for them to catch the vision to evangelize and plant more churches in the surrounding area.

Upcoming Travels & Events:

- Oct 23rd-26th – Annual ACTS church conf. in Yala
- Nov 9th – Dave preaching at Pak Phanang Church
- Nov 11th-21st – Attending OMF’s PHAW (Pre-Home Assignment Workshop) in Bangkok
- Nov 22nd-Dec 5th – Time of rest at OMF guest house in Prajuab



Thursday English Club with neighborhood kids ~ Lila & Gep, our Filipino sister in Christ ~

Caleb, Caden & Corban's Corner

Recently, Caleb shared that he had a chat with one of his Thai school teachers, who teaches English, while waiting to be picked up. The teacher was curious about where we are from and what we are doing in Thailand, to which Caleb replied, "My parents are missionaries." The teacher asked, "What are missionaries?" Caleb responded, "They are Christians who go all over the world sharing about Jesus Christ." And then the teacher asked, "Who is Jesus Christ? I have never heard of him." Caleb tried to explain the best he could. Pray for seeds to take root.



Visiting Ms. Nit (a Christian for about 1 year) & her son Gan (who is autistic). We shared their story in our last prayer letter.



Corban with Mrs. Lye, our next door neighbor, and her granddaughter Pin



Celebrating Corban's 100th Day
Too bad he didn't get to taste the cake!



Corban with Mrs. Wasanaa, one of our neighbors who likes to visit



Caleb & Caden's food experiment:
strawberry jello in watermelon rind



Thank you Chinese Bible Church of Maryland (CBCM) small group for the wonderful care package!