

Cambodian Action

A Beck Family Publication

September 2008

Laboring Together in the Harvest



The summer of 2008 found BJ and I reunited with Nathan once again. What a blessing to share the ministry with two brothers who are like minded and united in the cause of the Gospel. In the picture you see the majestic pinnacles of Angkor Wat temple in the background. These massive structures are representative of a massive complex that was built over the course of 600 years (6th-12th centuries). It really is an amazing testimony of the Khmer empire that once ruled most of what is now South East Asia. While Angkor Wat demonstrates the great genius of a past civilization it also captures the depth of depravity that still holds most Cambodians hostage. Like the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11) this sprawling, manmade structure was not made for the glory of the

together in the Lord's harvest field here in Cambodia it is our desire to point people to Christ, His glory and the hope that comes only through the Gospel. This ministry is one based on the timeless truths of Scripture that point to God as the one true creator, His providential rule over mankind, man's sinful rebellion and the provision made through the Cross. As we approach our sixth year of ministry here it is abundantly clear that Cambodians are in dire need of the Truth! Political stability, and economic growth are a blessing for sure but the stark reality is that apart from new life in Christ there is no lasting hope in this world.

As we labor I would ask that you pray with us that we would first KNOW Christ in our own lives (Eph 1:21-25). That is to say we would grow in our knowledge and love for

One True Creator but as a twisted celebration of man's elevated view himself. Even today many Cambodians hope that Khmer culture can one day attain the fabled glory of centuries past.

As we labor

our amazing Savior by yielding ourselves daily to the unyielding Truth found in the Word of God. Secondly, we would LIVE out that true knowledge of Christ before every person we come into contact with here in Cambodia. Pray that our lives would be a fragrant aroma to each person in our sphere of influence (2 Cor 2:12-15). Finally, pray that we would boldly proclaim the Knowledge of the Truth to all people (1 Cor 1:20-31). The temptation is to rely on methodology but the grave reminder of Scripture is that it is God who works in the hearts of people for salvation through the proclaimed Word (2 Cor 4:1-6).

The West is quickly approaching a day when the precious Truths of Scripture are deemed non essentials for today's Church. I affirm to you that all of Scripture states otherwise and to rely on anything less than God's Word is folly. Pray with us that the foundation of the Cambodian Church will be one that will last because it is built on a biblical world view that is not just about arbitrary religious ideas but instead on a (true) knowledge that leads to the truth about Christ (1 John 5:20), about God (1 John 2:13-14), His character (1 John 3:16), redemption (1 John 3:5) and our own sinful nature (1 John 2:16-17).

In His Bonds, Daren
Col 1:28-29

Kids Chaos . . . Corner by Jodi



"I'm sure you can relate to the following if you spend any time around children. I thought you might enjoy a sample of our family's conversation around the dinner table last week.

Daren: "CJ, what was your favorite part of school today?"

CJ: "It was so cool because we had to close our eyes and put our hands in something and it was toothpaste! It was so cool! And then we got to lick our fingers!"

Mikaela: "You guys get to do fun things in class. We have to figure out things like what times what equals the thingy. I mean the answer to whatever we have to figure out."

Kamryn: "I love cursive and can write my name in cursive now. My shoes are broken, when can we take them to the market to get them glued back together? I wonder what Sydney is doing right now."

Jodi: "She is probably getting ready to wake up and get ready for school. We will see if we can get them fixed tomorrow. In the meantime, just wear your dressier flip flops.

Daren: "Well, maybe you should just wear boots!"

Drew: "I don't like boots, I won't wear boots, I need my pocket pants."

Jodi: "Not you, Drew, Kamryn. What did you like about school today, Drewby?"

Drew: "I played in the dirt and sang a song. Miss Saphoan is my friend. Oh, my teacher is calling me yesterday for the

yesternight tomorrow.

Mikaela: "Is there any chili salt for the mangoes?"

Kamryn: "Mommy, do you still sin?"

Jodi: "Yes, unfortunately I sin all the time. We all struggle with doing the right thing."

CJ: "Yeah, I never know when it is OK to whistle in class or not. I know how to whistle now, you know." (He begins to whistle but this is after Kamryn has begun to sing. After this, the conversation has changed to electric energy as everyone is beginning to rinse off their dishes and head to the showers!)



Yes, we are back in Cambodia and our lives have become "normal" once again. We had a wonderful summer spending it with my parents in Minnesota making special memories. The kids learned to climb trees and chase wild rabbits on the farm. We attended parades, fairs, family reunions, and demolition derbies! We also had the opportunity to spend a little time with Daren's mom as well as Chris, Danielle, and their boys. One highlight was to

attend Nathan and Christiana's wedding. We were also able to reconnect with friends and worship at our home church. The kids did great and adjusted to life in the States very well. What's not to like? However, upon landing at Phnom Penh International Airport Kamryn cried, "Oh home sweet palm trees!"

Thank you for your prayers for us during the summer. We are now over jetlag and ready to start this next term refreshed!

Much love to you all,
Jodi



Join our Cambodian Action Team!

Would you prayerfully consider joining our team by committing to faithfully pray and/or support the work here in Cambodia? For more information visit our web site at www.actioncambodia.org or contact one of our offices at:

ACTION USA • PO Box 398, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398 • Tel. 425-775-4800 • info@actionusa.org
ACTION Canada • 3015A 21 Street NE, Calgary, Alberta T2E 7T1 • Tel. 403-204-1421 • info@actioncanada.net
ACTION New Zealand • PO Box 8928, Riccarton, Christchurch • Tel. 011-643-341-0933 • rob@irn.org.nz
ACTION United Kingdom • PO Box 144, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 5WE • Tel. 011-151-630-2451 • actionuk@btinternet.com
Registered Charity 1058661 • ACTION Web site: www.actionintl.org