

# Cambodian Action

A Beck Family Publication

March 2009

*"And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.'"* Mark 2:17



One thing is for sure, when a person knows they are sick it is good to have a competent doctor that can be trusted! It would be unthinkable for a person to be diagnosed by a trained physician only to ignore everything they were told, acting as if they knew better. Yet, that's how many people responded to Jesus during His earthly ministry and tragically people still respond that way today to the gospel. Jesus message was simple, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15) But to those who didn't recognize their sinfulness it was an offense. In fact many of those who were most receptive to Christ were the poor and the sick. This group of folks clearly understood their needs....both physically and spiritually. In Cambodia there is no shortage of people who are poor and/or sick! We find tremendous opportunity in responding to the physical needs of people out of compassion and are grateful for the door of ministry that God sometimes opens with them as well. There are a hand full of missionary doctors who care for the poor in a local clinic near our home. They target people who are

marginalized and have no access to health care because of their socioeconomic condition. The director of the clinic asked me a while back if I had anyone who could help follow up with patients spiritually. I told him I'd pray about it and felt that I might have just the right guy in mind!

Meet Srey Kosal. Our team has known him for several years and we were able to support him through Bible school as a young believer. We have watched him persevere in a pioneering church plant through Shalom Church and I knew at the time that he was at a place of considering what God would have for him in the future. I've been meeting with him every week for the past year helping him grow in ministry and sharpening his ministry skills. When I presented him with this opportunity it felt like God had prepared him for it because he immediately jumped at the chance. He's been plugging away for six months now and he excitedly reported last week that they had seen 21 first time decisions for Christ last month! He's also had the opportunity to visit these folks in their home villages, many of whom live a long ways from Phnom Penh. As the patients share how foreign doctors treated them with loving care and concern in their physical condition, they can also give testimony of coming to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior.



There is one other thing that is especially encouraging to me about this story. Kosal went to Bible college but soon discovered that he did NOT believe he was called to be a pastor. He was frank with the leadership of our church about what he felt in his heart and simply shared he did not believe his gifting or calling was to pastor a local church. At first this caused great consternation on the part of some within

the church because they felt strongly that the only reason to attend bible college was to be a pastor or church planter! I encouraged the church to give Kosal opportunities in ministry that would help him find his place as a leader within the KINGDOM at large and not try and force him to become something that he is not. I'm thrilled to see him using his gifts and living out his calling right where he is today. He continues to serve as an active member of our Shalom fellowship and my prayer is that we can continue to equip and empower leaders like Kosal to build the



Kingdom of Christ here in Cambodia.

Thank you for allowing us to serve here in Cambodia with the unique gifts that God has given us. There is no other place we would rather be and feel privileged to partner

with you in serving the Khmer church in the name of Christ. I pray that you are using your gifts to see Christ's church built in the Kingdom! Please keep praying with us.

In His Bonds,

Daren  
Col 1:28-29

## Kids Corner by Jodi



The HOT season is upon us and I am constantly amazed at how well our children adjust to it. I feel like I will melt if I am not in front of a fan at all times! It is quite hot during the day and if we are fortunate, it cools in the evening but not often during this time of year! Believe it or not, every one of the kids sleeps with a blanket. They say it's not too warm and they love the softness of the blankets. They sometimes get chilly at night! God is so good to help them adjust to such a hot and humid climate and I am ever so thankful! The highlight of our month has been the visit of my mom, Jackie. Thank you for your prayers on her behalf. As of December, there was no sign of cancer in her body and she was able to make the trip here. She has been such an encouragement and joy to our family. The heat has not even affected her yet. Those of you who know her

know how much joyful energy she has! She has been a huge encouragement! During this time of year it is a struggle to remain content and joyful during the heat. I consider it a trial! I am truly encouraged to view trials as joy as I watch my mother live in the heat (she is from Minnesota!) after battling cancer and surgery with an "attitude of gratitude"! "... but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that



tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope..." Romans 5:3-4. Hmmm, what is my attitude? Please continue to pray for her and her health and that the children will have special times with her and memories that will live in their hearts for years to come! And please continue to pray that Daren and I would persevere in all things so that our example will be a living testimony and example to our children!

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](http://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](mailto:info@actionusa.org)  
**ACTION Canada** • 3015A 21 Street NE, Calgary, Alberta T2E 7T1 • Tel. 403-204-1421 • [info@actioncanada.net](mailto:info@actioncanada.net)  
**ACTION New Zealand** • PO Box 8928, Riccarton, Christchurch • Tel. 011-643-341-0933 • [rob@irn.org.nz](mailto:rob@irn.org.nz)  
**ACTION United Kingdom** • PO Box 144, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 5WE • Tel. 011-151-630-2451 • [actionuk@btinternet.com](mailto:actionuk@btinternet.com)  
Registered Charity 1058661 • ACTION Web site: [www.actionintl.org](http://www.actionintl.org)