



Missionaries to Cambodia

Jason & Leigha Carpenter



Dear Praying Friends,

March 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant impacts all over the world, and Cambodia is no different. In the Lord’s timing, we were in the U.S. when COVID-19 started spreading, and at this point, we are not able to return to Cambodia even if we wanted to, since the Cambodian government is temporarily refusing entry for foreigners from five countries, including the United States, in an effort to control the spread of the disease. It is likely that the ban will continue until the pandemic has run its course.

It has also drastically affected the way that the Cambodian people interact with missionaries. Typically, they are very friendly and curious, but now they are avoiding all contact with white people out of fear. The government has also shut down all schools and all religious gatherings of any kind – Buddhist, Muslim, and Christian – country wide. The result is that many missionaries have gone to online services and have been forced to restrict, or entirely stop, evangelism in the community because people are too afraid to talk to white people. The positive side of this is that far more preaching videos and devotionals are being posted online, with the potential for many more people to be exposed to the Gospel, who would never have had that opportunity through traditional methods of ministry.

Sometimes, we as missionaries have goals of developing material, but are so busy in the ministry that we never sit down to write. This is a great opportunity when traditional ministry is very limited to take the time to prepare for the future by developing needed resources in the Khmer language. I have started a writing project that I have been putting off for months and hopefully will be able to make significant progress on it before life goes back to the normal level of busyness.

Thank you so much for your prayers! May God bless you with a deep rest and confidence in Him in these days of uncertainty.

In Christ,
Jason & Leigha Carpenter

Praises

- We are thanking the Lord that the Internet is available country-wide in Cambodia, so many are able to be exposed to the Gospel through online preaching.
- Time to focus on writing projects for the ministry.

Prayer Requests

- Pray that God would use this time of uncertainty and fear to draw them to salvation.
- Please pray for continued witnessing opportunities as we keep in contact with folks from our village and the surrounding area.
- Pray for wisdom as I work on this writing project.

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