

An Update from Jacob & Noelle

June/July 2009



Needing Cambodia...

When it comes to missions, phrases slip easily into our minds and from our tongues about advancing the kingdom, reaching the unreached, and being light to a dark world. True and good. Whether we are heading halfway around the world or across the street to the neighbor's house, these are commands given to us through Scripture and worth our energy and attention.

As for us, we find it somewhat easy and comfortable to think about what we might offer to Cambodia. After all, there is security in our own contributions, gifts and efforts. Lately, though, God is shifting our perspective. There is a growing sense in both of us that, as much as we might think Cambodians needs us, we need

them even more. Being a part of Christ's body is a process of giving **and** receiving. We rely on one another to fill in the gaps of what we ourselves lack. We look to someone else for encouragement, a new perspective and another glimpse of God's image.

And that humbling place of reliance on each other calls to mind Elijah's encounter with the widow. Perhaps you remember it -- after his water source in the desert dries up, Elijah follows God's leading and finds himself staying with a widow and her son. Though they are poor, God miraculously provides bread for all three of them and uses Elijah to raise the widow's son from the dead. God is glorified and revealed in the ordinary ways of flour and the extraordinary ways

of new life. But what struck a chord is the realization that both Elijah and the widow needed something from the other. The woman had a need for God; Elijah, a need for water. This mutual giving and receiving forms a beautiful picture of God's work in community to draw people to Himself.

So we wait with baited breath to share our lives with Cambodians. Already we carry a few in our hearts -- Sarith, Solomon, Pheaktra, Theavy, Moses, Sarai, Vouen, Aaron, Srey Poah, Ratha, and Sopheak. Their kindness, acceptance, struggles and dreams encourage us. We hope our lives will do the same.

Thanks for sharing this journey with us.



Interesting Fact

Did you know that motorcycles are the common method of transportation in Cambodia? Yep. They are called motos and are quite fun!



Updates...

We have much to tell you! Please enjoy...

In His Steps Safe House: Recently we had the opportunity to Skype (an amazing tool that allows you to video chat with people halfway around the world) with Eric and Ginny Hanson, the founders of our partner organization, [In His Steps](#).

They shared that a growing number of children are coming to IHSI needing care and protection. In response to that need, they are hoping to build and staff a safe house, providing safety, love, education and basic needs to these children. The cost for this project is \$30,000. If you are interested in giving to the safe house, you may do so at www.in-his-steps.org.

Sent by New Life Church: We are excited that we will be sent as missionaries from New Life! It is a privilege and honor to be connected to an amazing church body. This addition does require us to move our departure date to the end of February so that we have time to receive additional training and build key relationships with the Global missions department. Both of us plan to spend a significant amount of time in their office before we leave for Cambodia.

Budget Changes: As we said last time, budgets often go through several drafts. We talked to some good friends and trusted advisors and were able to trim our budget to \$3,000 per month. Yea! That amount includes the basics like housing, car/motorcycle, food, gas, health insurance. It also includes trips home, a retirement fund and a stipend to sow into In His Steps International (www.in-his-steps.org).

We continue to work on our start-up expenses and want to move to Cambodia with an emergency fund and six months living expenses

already in the bank (about \$15,000). Thanks to many of you, we are about halfway to that goal!

If you would like to see a detailed budget, please email Jacob at jacobgoodlin@me.com. We would be happy to share the details with you.

Commitment Form: Enclosed with our newsletter, you will find a commitment form. The form gives several options for support -- a one-time gift now, a one-time gift later, and monthly support with a one year starting commitment.

The form allows us to gain a better idea of our support base as we continue to prepare. However, if you would prefer, you can skip the form and give online at www.newlifechurch.org by clicking the "Giving" button and following these steps.

1. Sign in if you already have an account or create one.
2. Enter your **donation amount** and choose the **type of gift** (one-time/recurring).
3. Choose **Adult Missions** under **Fund** and then select **AM-Goodlin, Jacob and Noelle** under **Sub-Fund**.

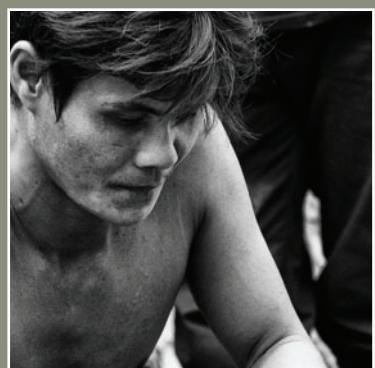
We hope you will pray and consider joining with us in this way!

Finally, we hope you will remember us in your prayers. We want to have humble hearts open to God's direction and wisdom to navigate the choices before us. As Proverbs 4:11 says, "I will guide you in the way of wisdom and lead you along straight paths." Stay tuned for another update in August!

With joy,

Jacob & Noelle

Portraits



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