

JACOB & NOELLE: AN UPDATE

February 2010 // CAMBODIA



**Isaiah 61 says,
“The Spirit of the
Lord is on me...to
preach good news
to the poor...to
bind up the
brokenhearted,
proclaim freedom
for the captives
and release from
darkness for the
prisoners...”**

Did You Know?



*There are no Western chain restaurants in Cambodia! One of our favorite guys in the market makes a mean iced coffee though.

*The word for beautiful in Khmer is sa-at. Try it in a nasal tone!

THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES...

It wouldn't really be accurate to say that the adventure begins when we leave for Cambodia because walking with God is an incredible journey no matter where you live or what your circumstances look like. But with most rich adventures, this one will have its ups and downs, twists and turns, thrilling successes and unexpected disappointments. It reminds me of summer weekends as a child.

My family (Noelle) would load into our Jeep Cherokee and head for the Colorado unknown. Usually we'd end up on some high mountain road with tires grabbing the gap between dirt and air, windows open to the brilliant Colorado sky, incredible vistas stretching across the horizon. How did we arrive there? It most often began with the phrase, "I wonder where that road goes." Sometimes we were in search of an abandoned mine or ghost town. More often we were looking for a memory -- something to add to the rich foundation that comes when people live (not do) together. In those moments, this deep contentedness would undergird the thrill of the whole thing. With my dad at the helm, I knew we would be safe. That knowledge freed me to explore and drink in the great beauty around me, to savor the company of my mom and brother, to eagerly look ahead asking "What's next?" I think such an adventurous spirit probably exists to some extent in all of us as believers. No matter how dormant it may lie, deep down we sense we were created to participate in a story much greater than our own.

And so it is this picture which has come to mind for me as we pack our bags, say our good-byes and prepare to climb in our own Jeep of sorts. The invitation from our Heavenly Father? Let Him take His place in the driver's seat. It is so easy to shackle ourselves with unnecessary responsibilities and striving when God is really whispering: "I've got the navigating part covered. Come enjoy the ride. Walk with me through the valleys and heights. Be thrilled and contented by the evidence of my hand at work. Press eagerly ahead with the hope of heaven in your hearts." Is our move to Cambodia to tell people about the Gospel? Yes. Is it with the desire to advance God's Kingdom with love and truth? Yes. But it is chiefly about two people who love Jesus and hear an invitation to walk with Him wherever He leads in order to do whatever He asks. May God keep us all faithfully surrendered to Him.

Jacob and Noelle

PARTNER

Give, Serve, Pray...

There are a few ways you can actively partner with us as we reach Cambodians with the love and truth of the Gospel.

Give. This month was our first living on support. God has met us through your partnership in such wonderful ways -- we are pleased to announce that we met our launch fund goal! Thanks for your generosity. We can't wait to get on the ground and begin engaging in ministry and life.

As far as monthly support, we are at about 75% of our goal. We hope you will consider partnering with us in this way -- even \$10/month makes a difference.

If you are giving to us monthly but haven't notified us, please fill out and return the pledge card. This helps us monitor where we are at in our fundraising. Also, keep in mind that any gifts made to New Life Church are tax-deductible. THANK YOU!

Serve. We want to connect you with practical ways you can come alongside our ministry. Here's one (there will be more to come in the future): New Life Church is taking an all-women's trip to work with In His Steps this June. The trip will be led by Lidia Catarisano. For info, email Lidia at lcatarisano@newlifechurch.org.

Pray. Join our prayer team in asking God to reveal Himself in powerful, loving ways to the Cambodian people. More info at goodlinONLINE.com.

Thank you for your interest and support as we establish our lives in Cambodia!

THE LATEST...

Departure: Our plane leaves at 8am on March 3rd...just a few days away! We have managed to pack our clothing, toiletries, books, ministry supplies, technology, memories and pictures into seven bags.

Answered Prayer: Last month, we asked for your prayers about an apartment. Great news! We got it! Even better, the owner is using it as storage until we get there so we don't have to pay any extra money to hold it. We aren't sure what they are storing (yikes) but are grateful to have a place to settle into right away. Stay tuned for a video blog of our new place.

Email Updates Only: We want to make sure you stay updated on our work in Cambodia. For those of you who have been receiving paper newsletters, we will now be switching solely to email. If you want to make sure you receive our updates, please visit goodlinONLINE.com and sign up for e-news. We also regularly post information on our website so feel free to visit anytime.

Communication: After prayer and discussion with wise counsel, we have decided that during our first month on the ground we will be communicating with all of you through our blog and email, rather than Facebook and Twitter. Don't worry! We will be back on both of those regularly after our first month but we feel it's important that we make our move not just physically but mentally, emotionally and spiritually. This is one way for us to communicate to ourselves and God that we are totally invested in making Cambodia our home.

Contact Info: Given the decision noted above, we want to stay in touch with you to know what's going on in your lives and how we can be praying for you. Right now, the best way to reach us is via email. Noelle - noelleg@ihsonline.org and Jacob - jacobg@ihsonline.org.

Specific Prayer Requests:

Smooth Transition: The transition is only halfway over once we move. We are praying that details continue to fall into place and that God gives us grace and a sense of humor as we adapt to an entirely new culture and figure out how we fit in the In His Steps staff.

Wisdom/Direction: We know the need and opportunities to serve will be limitless. Pray that we will have God's direction on knowing where to strategically serve.

Vision for Cambodian Believers: Our desire is for Cambodian believers to increasingly capture God's heart and purpose for them and their nation. We want to come alongside IHSI in empowering Cambodians to reach their own for Christ. Pray for Cambodians to be freed from deception and open to hearing and receiving the truth and love of Christ.

HOW TO GIVE

GIVE Online: goodlinONLINE.com/Partner

GIVE via Mail: Make Checks Payable To:

New Life Church

C/O Jacob & Noelle Goodlin (Memo Line)

11025 Voyager Pkwy

Colorado Springs, CO 80921

CONTACT US

JacobG@ihsiONLINE.org

NoelleG@ihsiONLINE.org