JACOB & NOELLE: AN UPDATE

April 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?



*FYI: In case you were wondering, we do not live in the jungle. We live in the middle of <u>Phnom Penh</u>, capital of Cambodia.

*Language Lesson: Aht-bon-eeha means "no problem." Try it with a nasal accent. It's fun!

NOW WHAT

Just over six weeks ago, we made the leap to living out what God has been etching on our hearts for the last several years - working with the Cambodian people through In His Steps International. Here we are. We made it! I (Jacob) still look back to that moment when I embraced the calling - it's surreal sitting here typing this newsletter. When we arrived, we were overwhelmed with getting settled in which has left us VERY thankful for Eric & Ginny Hanson (In His Steps' directors). They have made our transition wonderful and have been such a big help in navigating what it takes to adjust.

One way I know we are in the right place is the way our hearts are becoming more sensitive to the needs of others. We have plenty to adjust to and the transition is not always easy, but I know there are kids out in the Saang District (a rural area where In His Steps does a lot of their ministry) who have no place to lay their head at night, little food for dinner and face abuse/neglect on a daily basis. Wow, I suddenly feel as though we have it easy. We have a roof, safety from abuse, food on our plates and love from many.

IHSI offers hope, dignity and purpose to those taken advantage of and forgotten. No one qualifies more than a child at risk for human trafficking. Until now, IHSI placed these children in Cambodian foster families. However, there are now more children than families to care for them. And so one of IHSI's current projects is raising funds for the Saang Safehouse near IHSI's Foundation Center.

Why do we share this with you? For two reasons. When we put our budget together, we wanted to re-invest into IHSI. This is the beginning of that -- we are grateful for your generosity which allows us to give in return. Second, we are so honored to be part of this life-changing project and wanted to invite you to participate as God leads. So check out a few details below.

Highlights:

Specifics: Fully staffed by Cambodians, fully cares for 12 children - education, meals, medical care, job skill training/higher education, social development and spiritual discipleship.

Cost: \$45,000 to build and \$28,000/year to operate (includes education fees, staff salaries, food, clothing, etc.).

Want to give? Visit In His Steps' new website insiONLINE.org/Partner to learn more and to make a donation.

Thanks so much for sharing this incredible journey with us. We love and miss you!



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. We can imagine doing nothing else with our lives and recognize that you are a part of that. God has met us through your partnership in such wonderful ways -- thanks for your generosity.

As far as monthly support, we are at about 75% of our goal. We hope you will consider partnering with us in this way.

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 financially. Also, keep in mind that any gifts made to New Life Church are taxdeductible. THANK YOU!

Serve. We want to connect you with practical ways you can come alongside what we are doing with In His Steps International. This month we highlighted the Saang Safehouse project as a way to serve. You can also serve vulnerable and exploited women by hosting a home party for Sak Saum. Visit ihsiONLINE.org/ ssblog for more info.

Pray. Living in a 96% Buddhist nation certainly has a way of jump-starting your prayer life. Cambodians need the work of the Holy Spirit in their hearts and intercession is a huge part of God moving. 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...

Getting Settled: It's hard to believe that we have been here six weeks already! We wish we could put you on the back of a moto and take you around town. The first few weeks were spent buying dishes, learning our way around the local market, careening through Phnom Penh with our favorite tuk-tuk driver, Samen, and (most importantly) getting to know IHSI's staff and our new home with them.

Language Tutor: We spent the first month here doing a bit of research about the options available for learning language. I think we were also a bit curious how much we could pick up just living here. We have now decided to hire a tutor. =) We are eager to move beyond the basics!

What are we doing on a daily basis? Jacob has been working on IHSI's new website (which just launched). Check it out at www.ihsiONLINE.org. He also loves the work in Saang and has had the opportunity to go at least once a week for the leadership development class that Eric teaches. Noelle's has been writing grants and website text and helping with the Sak Saum (SS) ministry. The highlight of her week is SS's morning devos. We absolutely love IHSI's staff and feel grateful to serve with Cambodians who love God and each other with such commitment and heartfelt passion.

Contact Info: 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! We have LOVED hearing from family and friends so please don't be shy. The best way to reach us is via email. Noelle - noelleg@ihsionline.org and Jacob - jacobg@ihsionline.org.

Specific Prayer Requests:

<u>Smooth Transition</u>: The transition is still happening! May God give us grace, humility, and a sense of dependency on Him as we adapt to a new culture, roles and staff.

<u>Broken Hearts</u>: We live in a place where people regularly offer sacrifices to Buddha, where sin is so blatant and need and despair so prevalent. It would be hard to not have a heart broken for the lost. But we are hungry to know God's heart more. Pray that our hearts would be broken like His.

We LOVE living here and are so glad to call Cambodia our home!

With great joy,

Jacob and Noelle

HOW TO GIVE

GIVE Online: goodlinONLINE/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

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