

# JACOB & NOELLE: AN UPDATE

September 2010 // CAMBODIA



And Jesus said  
“Let the little  
children come  
to me, and do  
not hinder  
them, for the  
kingdom of  
God belongs to  
such as these.”  
Luke 18:16

## Do You Know Our Favorites?



- \*Our fav Cambodian meal is a-muk.  
It's curry and cha-nine! (Delicious...)
- \*Our fav free-time activity is exploring  
the city on our moto.
- \*Our fav time of day is 5:30am - cool,  
quiet and fresh.
- \*Our fav parts of Cambodia are IHSI's  
staff, our Saang church family, the  
Foundation Center, Sak Saum & the  
Cambodian people. We LOVE it  
here!

The other night I was sitting at our table responding to emails and I could hear a little girl in the street playing a game. Shrieks of laughter came through our screen door and I had this momentary flashback to childhood. I remember eating dinner as a family and then walking with my mom, dad and brother down the street to a little playground nearby. I loved the swings. I would watch my feet go higher, then higher and then maybe that last little push to touch the clouds hovering above. The rhythmic move of the swing provided tempo for the dreams and ideas in my heart.

Cambodian life often creates little space for such memories. Children grow up quickly, carrying adult responsibilities and often jobs at an early age. Playgrounds are virtually non-existent and it is not uncommon to see a child chase a ball into a busy road. This is not to say that Cambodian children don't have fun...they do. It's more that they don't have a safe place to have fun with other children...a place that gives their parents, often aged beyond their years by the struggle to survive, an excuse to play a bit too. We believe that these acts of play can open the door for dreams, healing and growth in the hearts of young and old alike.

In 2004, IHSI built a playground at the Foundation Center ([www.ihsionline.org/foundation](http://www.ihsionline.org/foundation)) in the Saang district -- the first (and only) this community had ever had. It is a wonderful gift to moms, dads and kids of all ages. Hundreds of children make their way through there each week as they wait for their Saturday program, youth service or weekly English class. We love seeing parents bring their children at dusk for a little pre-dinner playtime.

After several intense rainy seasons followed by Cambodia's extreme heat, the equipment is showing some serious wear-and-tear. With the addition of the Father's House (the safehouse project), the thriving of IHSI's church plant and the Foundation Center's multiple English classes and children's programs, IHSI leadership decided it's time for a new, more durable playground. In addition to our newsletter this month, we are attaching a brief about IHSI's new project. We hope you will take a look at it, pray about it and consider giving.



# 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.** If you are interested in giving toward the Saang Playground Project, we are going to match your gift out of our personal support up to a total gift of \$500. This is an incredible way to help young children thrive!

You can add an extra amount to your regular monthly giving or make an additional contribution at [www.ihsonline.org/partner](http://www.ihsonline.org/partner). Either way, please notify us at [jacobg@ihsonline.org](mailto:jacobg@ihsonline.org) so we can keep track. Don't forget that any donations made to New Life Church or IHSI are tax-deductible.

**Serve.** Do you have a gently used laptop computer that you'd like to upgrade? If so, you could be a part of helping Cambodians develop computer skills for their future.

IHSI is looking for donated computers in order to equip the local staff, as well as establish a computer room at the Foundation Center ([www.ihsonline.org/foundation](http://www.ihsonline.org/foundation)). Anyone who gives will receive a tax-deductible receipt for their donation.

**Pray.** Here are a few specific requests. Thanks for lifting us up in prayer!

**God at Work:** We see God working salvation and freedom everywhere here. Pray that this will happen more and more among the Cambodian people!

**Wisdom in Planning our Family:** That we will have God's timing about when to try again with pregnancy, etc.

**Relationships:** As we build our community here, ask that He would continue bringing purposeful relationships our way.

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

## THE LATEST...

**IHSI Ministry Highlights:** There is so much happening that we cannot share it all! Please check out IHSI's blog at [www.ihsonline.org/blog](http://www.ihsonline.org/blog) for a regular update.

- Sak Saum (SS) is at its busiest time thus far and beginning to plan for a vocational training center in the Saang district (learn more at [www.ihsonline.org/partner](http://www.ihsonline.org/partner)).
- Gospel Community Church of Saang is our local church body here and many are coming to Christ as Cambodians love, pray and serve each other...praise God!
- The Father's House (previously known as the Saang Safehouse Project) is only a month from being finished and will provide safe refuge for children considered at high-risk of being trafficked.

**Health/Pregnancy:** We are sure that most of you have heard by now but, sadly, Noelle had a miscarriage a couple of months ago. We flew to Thailand for medical care and Noelle is recovering well. This has been incredibly difficult but we are moving through it one day at a time. We are grateful for all of you and for our community here in Phnom Penh.

### A Typical Week:

We are regularly asked, "What does a typical week look like for you?" or "What do you do over there exactly?" Great question! It may interest you to know that IHSI has office hours from 8am-5pm Monday - Friday. We also help with a health class in Saang every other Saturday and attend church there as well. Below are some more specifics about how we fit in IHSI's staff:

**Jacob:** Computer/Internet/website maintenance (making sure everyone's computers run smoothly and the internet functions), photography/graphic design, co-leading a discipleship class for the boys in IHSI's Loaves and Fish program with Sopheak, an IHSI staff member, participating in Eric's leadership class in Saang on Thursdays, working with Noelle on fundraising/video projects.

**Noelle:** Assisting Ginny with Sak Saum's logistics and helping coordinate product and systems for SS's growing number of events and advocates in the States, producing Sak Saum's weekly blog, helping lead SS devotionals during the week, teaching English/equipping one of the SS girls, working with Jacob on writing/fundraising for various projects.

We are busy but LOVE being a part of a team that is empowering Cambodians to reach their own for Christ. We are so thankful to be members of IHSI's staff.

## HOW TO GIVE

**GIVE** Online: [goodlinONLINE/Partner](http://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

[JacobG@ihsiONLINE.org](mailto:JacobG@ihsiONLINE.org)

[NoelleG@ihsiONLINE.org](mailto:NoelleG@ihsiONLINE.org)

[twitter.com/jacobgoodlin](https://twitter.com/jacobgoodlin)

[twitter.com/noelle\\_g](https://twitter.com/noelle_g)