

Cambodia Outreach Mission

Grace Life Church

Phum Antithsok, Siem Reap, Cambodia September - October 2020 Newsletter

Last week, Cambodia was hit by typhoon Noul, while heavy rain and storms are forecast to continue. The impact of the typhoon Noul for the past few weeks caused devastating flooding across certain part of Cambodia. It destroy properties and life. At least 11 people were killed, including 8 by lightning and 3 by flash flood. Due to typhoon and heavy rain, the road to our mission centre were washed away resulted in



many potholes which make driving very treacherous and dangerous. My co worker, Miss. Esther Phanny and myself have to use motorbike to the village during this raining season which takes its toll on us and the motorbike. It's a hard ride and takes such a long time. On arrival, we were drained but God is good that we get our strength from Him. We are very thankful for His protection and guidance throughout the treacherous journey.

Believer Challenges.

Life as a missionary is very challenging and rewarding for myself. Though occasionally, we do face difficulties and spiritual battle as we serve God, I am very grateful to be serving Him. The prayer and support given from fellow Christian, make it easier in the field. Prayer helps in our daily work for Him and our walk with Him.

Though my week is usually full and I usually feeling very tired at the end of the day, yet seeing the spiritual growth of believers makes me so alive inside. Giving pastoral care to these new Christian, is a reward that drive me forward. Changing life, inspire us to do better and share the gospel to the community. Grace Life Centre have been established since 2012 in Antithsok Village in Siem Reap. Due to the grace of God, we are accepted and respected by the community due to our community engagement and services that we render to them.



Sometimes in June, I did mention to you that we visited Plee and her family, which is an hour motorbike ride from Grace Life Centre. During that visit, our team shared the gospel to her and her family. Plee was very open and receptive towards the gospel. Since then, our team had been praying for her all this while. At the moment Plee is staying at Antithsok village after giving birth to a healthy baby girl, which bring great joy to the family. These two Sunday, she had been attending our church services at Grace Life Centre. After the last Sunday fellowship, Plee told us that these few weeks that she

attending our church services, she felt at peace and having a good night sleep as well. Though her husband didn't come to church, he did allow her to join us. However, one of her sisters, Ply is a committed Buddhist. She is trying hard to discourage and stop Plee from coming for fellowship with us. Support us in prayer for this family that God will bless them and Plee can become a beacon of light to the family and her community. God has answered our prayer to open Plee's heart and I do believe there is nothing impossible to God. Your prayer and intercession on her behalf will break the hold of paganism in their family and community.

Planting season had passed. People are feeling the impact of the Covid-19, which has resulted in unemployment for most of the villagers. Sometimes, it's quite pitiful and stressful looking at the



community feeling hopeless as they do not have any job. Quite a numbers of our elder church members are scattered around Cambodia in search for job, leaving only their children to tend for themselves alone at home. I received news from Yen Yean (our church member) recently that they are looking around for churches to have fellowship in the places they are working. This is a

very encouraging news for me, particularly as a missionary, that they are very faithful and committed in their new found faith. They are not going back to their olds ways and belief. Pray that they will able to find one sooner and God blessing will be with them, and they will be a witness of God Grace to those who work with them too.

Thirst for Education.



Since the establishment of Grace Life Centre, we have been providing tuition classes for the children in the surrounding community. Grace Life Centre have been a catalyst of change to the community we served. We encourage the children to excel in their education, we talk to their parents to allow their children to go to school, we provide free tuition and care from them too. Since then, Grace Life Centre have been actively engaged the youth in

various activities ranging from educational, recreational and religious. Now, Grace Life Centre have become their preferred place for them meet and study. We are looking and working to upgrade Grace Life Centre facilities and library to make it more conducive for them to spend their time there.

I guess, the children are really missing of not coming to Grace Life Centre for the past few months. Grace Life Centre was closed due to the Covid-19 outbreak, as advised by the government. Last week, I requested the attendance of our volunteer teachers to come for their lesson briefing, instead of just them coming, most of other students came over too. This show they are very eager to learn and miss their classes. Since the school in our areas are not open yet, we advise them not to come back until further notice. However, once the government gives us the green light to open and operate, we need to sanitize our centre. Therefore, Grace Life Centre appreciate your financial contribution for that purposes, as we did not allocate any budget and contingency fund for that. It was unexpected.

Last Sunday we have 45 church members attending our services, mostly children as their parents left the village looking for job in the city. Only few adults. Continue to pray for these children as they are more receptive and open to the gospel. These youth will be the change agent to their community and country. God work miracles through these youth, reaching out to their families and community. They are very active in our church activities too.

The older generation have some reservation and restriction on changing their belief and religion. As you all know, in Cambodia about 96% of the population are Buddhist. The monks, the temple, play a central role in their life. The monk words are like gospel to them. The monk have a strong hold on their life. Parent encourage us to share with their children. Due to their entrenched belief in Buddhism, they do not want to be converted. Pray for these parents, that they will come to know the Lord.

Praise and Prayer Item

 Thanking God for restoring my health back. (Thank to you for uplifting me in your prayer during my sickness).

- Thanking God for His sustaining grace and enabling with the daily challenges I face in my missionary life.
- Thanking you for your continuous supports and prayers.
- Praising God for moving in the life of people here.

Prayer Items:-

- Pray for the families who have lost their love one during this flood.
- Pray for Christian converts' who endure persecution from their families.
- Ask the Lord to meet people in their desperate situation and draw them to Himself.
- Pray for people's heart to be receptive and open for God's words.
- Pray for church leaders and church planters to have wisdom on how to reach the Cambodian people.

Thanking you for your prayers and supports. May you be blessed in a special way today as you see God's grace and love in your life, in His recreation and in each other.

God B L E S S

Together In His Service

Dorris Balang

Email: dorisbalang0115@gmail.com

Mobile: +855 9969 2097

Facebook: Dorris S Balang (pictorial on ministry are found here)