

Sending Church

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Serving With



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To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Acts 26:18

Prayer Requests

- Learn the Thai language
- Special unspoken request
- Souls to be saved and spiritual growth for believers in Cha-Am
- Laborers for God's Harvest

March/April 2025

Dear Pastors and Praying Friends,

Recently, I have begun a refreshment course on fundamental, basic Bible doctrines. Throughout this experience, and early into it, I was reminded of how vital it is for every Christian to know what they believe and why they believe it. Having a sound, Biblical understanding of these truths gives us a deeper knowledge of Who God is, while also causing potential prevention of drifting into false teaching. Another benefit of knowing Bible doctrine is having the ability to "be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (1 Peter 3:15). These different aspects of studying Bible doctrine has been a helpful review for myself; a new aspect of knowing why I believe what I believe has, however, been made evident to me in this study. That aspect is being able to clearly articulate and teach what we as Biblical, Baptist Christians believe to a people (a country even) who has no "church culture." Katrina and I have, in these last few months, had our eyes opened to this challenge in major ways. As many of you know and have been praying for us in this regard, we have in the last year made our highest priority that of language learning. We thank the Lord for the progress He has allowed us to make in this endeavor, but we are not mistaken to think we are near completion. With an entirely different alphabet than English, including the many tonal challenges, Thai is a language we are told take a few years for one to begin speaking clearly and effectively. Along with the basic Thai language, we must also be learning what is termed "royal" Thai, or the "King's Thai." **This** quality of the Thai language is not words which are spoken in every-day Thai life, but they are what can be found in abundance within the Thai Bible. For us to clearly articulate Who God is and what the Bible teaches, we must have a firm grasp on both the basic and "royal" Thai language; but once we have learned these two ways of communication with the Thai people, there is still the difficulty of explaining the things of God and the Bible to a polytheist, unchurched people. Katrina, in a desire to see a Thai lady attend church, was asked by this woman, "What is a church?". We could give this lady a Biblical definition of what a church is, but we must seek to be simple and clear in our explanation. Our daughter, Autumn, is two years old. She does not understand much yet about the things of God, but she knows what her Bible is; she has begun singing little Bible songs and saying short Scripture verses. Sadly, she knows more about God than most Thai people of all ages do. I realize we are not the only ones in this sort of work, but will you please pray for us? Of course, continue to pray for us in our language learning efforts, including the "royal" language; but also, please pray "that utterance may be given" to us so that we might "make known the mystery of the gospel."

We want to purposely thank each of you for your prayers regarding the special requests made in our last prayer letter. My back has healed well, and I have had no issues with it since mid-March. We also had asked prayer for a need on our following visa. We thank the Lord for answering our concerns in that way. We believe, after speaking with a Thai lawyer, that we will be able to continue onto a second year of education visa. In order to do this, we will still be required to leave the country for a few days while we await approval on this new visa. Lord willing, we will only be visiting a neighboring country for a short time with a quick return the same week. We do have one unspoken request which we ask you to please join us in praying for God's will and way. I hope to share more with you on this matter in a future letter, but at this time I am unable to do so. We greatly appreciate all of you who pray for us, support us, and encourage us with messages and phone calls. We pray for many of you to be a spiritual lighthouse in your community for the gospel's sake.

In Christ,

The Nickell Family - Jordan, Katrina, Champion, Emmitt, & Autumn