

## THE FILES FAMILY MISSIONARIES TO THAILAND

January-February 2024

Dear friends, family, and supporting churches,

Thank you so much for your continued prayer and support. We hope that you have had a wonderful start to the new year. The hottest time of the year, here in Thailand, is approaching and every day it seems to get a little bit hotter than the day before. There is a lot of problems with pollution and smog. It seems the last couple months have been extremely bad. There has just been a haze over the city. It has caused Lisa and I both to have many sinus and respiratory issues. Please pray for us in that regard.

We are continuing to study language and trying to improve every day. I have preached the last three months in Thai. Basically I am writing out the entire sermon and reading it. Everyone in the church is so kind and tells me how good I did trying to encourage me. I know there are a lot of mistakes, but it is encouraging to see improvement. My Thai teacher will translate the sermon for me and we will spend several hours going over it to make sure she understands what I am trying to say. There are so many words and idioms that we use that do not translate well.

She then records it for me and I listen and try to repeat what she says. After hours of her correcting my tones and pronunciations, I spend many hours going over and over it trying to get it right. All of this just to preach one sermon. Some days it seems impossible and that I am never going to be able to preach freely in Thai, but I know that if we keep working hard, that it will happen. Please keep praying that we will be diligent in our study and keep improving. Being able to speak Thai opens up many doors to talk to people and begin relationships. I think they know that their language is difficult, and when a foreigner starts speaking it they are very impressed. They ask questions and we can tell them why we would leave our home and our family and come here, and why we would spend so much time trying to learn their language. These conversations open up opportunities to share the gospel with people that otherwise we may never have the opportunity.

The Cone family just returned from furlough. It is a blessing to have them back. We plan on helping them start a new church in the area that we live called Bang Phli. There are hundreds of thousands of people in this area and there is no church to attend. We will be starting a Bible study soon. Pray that God will open up doors for a place for us to meet. We are currently searching for a building to rent. Pray that God will begin preparing hearts for the gospel, and that we will see souls saved and a church planted in this area in the near future.

We had some special guest come to visit us. My parents were able to come and spend a few weeks with us this past month. Also, our oldest daughter, Katie, was engaged this past month and the wedding will be this July! Pray for us as we try to plan a short trip to attend the wedding.

In Christ,
The Daniel Files family

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