

## THE FILES FAMILY MISSIONARIES TO THAILAND

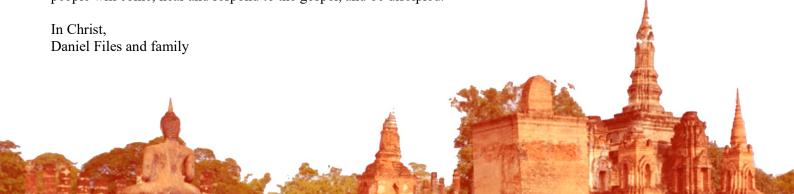
Dear friends, family, and supporting churches,

March-April 2024

Greetings from the "Land of Smiles". Recently, I think "The Land of Sweat" would be a more suitable nickname. The weather has been unbearably hot here lately. It is always hot here, but this year it seems to be hotter than usual. Even the Thai people are complaining about it. This past month, Thailand celebrated Songkran. It is Thailand's new year celebration. During this time, many people are off work and go back to their homes in other provinces. People will line the streets with barrels of water, buckets, and water guns. They basically have a three day water war. I was not prepared when walking out of a 7-11 store, and a couple of kids unloaded their water guns on me. It was so hot, I didn't mind one bit.

We just attended our BIMI field conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand. It was a blessing to fellowship with other missionaries that are serving in South East Asia. We had sessions every morning and preaching at night. We don't get to hear preaching in English here very often so it was good to be in a service where we sang and praised the Lord in English as well as being challenged from the Scriptures. We were able to here reports from every one on what God is doing in their ministries. Many of them have been where we are at this stage of our ministry and experienced the same struggles that we are with language and cultural issues. It was good to just be encouraged by them to keep on keeping on.

In our last letter, we shared that our plan is to help the Cone family as they try to plant a church in Bang Phli, a suburb of Bangkok. They started hosting a Bible study and English class in their home on Sunday evenings. Most people here have no idea what a Bible is or even a church is, so they have no interest in coming, but they do have a desire to learn English. We use that as a tool to get them in the door. They can learn English for free, but they have to listen to a Bible lesson as well. It has been very challenging to get people to come. We have had 10 people come so far. This past Sunday, a lady that cuts my hair came. Her name is Jenny. We taught her an English lesson and a Bible lesson. She seemed very curious as Brother Cone taught the lesson. Afterwards, I shared a little of my testimony to her and she asked if she wanted to become a Christian, what would she need to do. We tried to explain the best we could to her. Thais are so stooped in Buddhism and making merit, that it is hard for them to understand Salvation is by grace alone. Pray for Jenny to keep coming and that the Holy Spirit will work on her and she will be saved. Continue to pray that God will give us the right building to rent. It has been difficult to find a suitable building in this area for our budget. We are passing out bags with gospel tracts, John and Romans, and invitations to come study English and the Bible. Pray that people will come, hear and respond to the gospel, and be discipled.



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