

# DeVine

MINISTRIES

"Taking the gospel where it has never gone before"



July 2017 [www.jdevineministries.com](http://www.jdevineministries.com) P.O. Box 7138 Rainbow City, AL 35906-7138

We're almost a month away from the move of our lives. As we near the date, September 6<sup>th</sup>, Ariya and I feel both excitement and sadness because we know we're not only taking a huge step toward our future, but we'll also be saying goodbye to our family and our home as well.

Ariya and I moved to Thailand eight years ago when we were ten years old. We basically grew up here, but being a full-time missionary here means far more to us than being a foreign missionary to the Thai people. Because we're half Thai, we're not foreigners. These are our people, and *millions* of them are lost. I can easily say that I'll return and spend the rest of my life here. God's calling for me is to help the Thai people.

Can you imagine living in a society where people still bow to statues, where people are taught that they are caught in a doomed cycle of trying to atone for their sins never knowing if their atonement was enough, and where some have never heard the name **Jesus** before?



I am blessed enough to have experienced God's grace, and I realize how precious a gift I've been given. God has put in my heart to tell the Thai people of *this very thing*. Jesus is the answer to breaking that cycle. I have this urge to tell them that the aching void in their heart that they feel, and the *desire* to pursue *something* but not knowing what that is, it is Jesus calling out to them; it's Jesus and His companionship that's missing from their lives.



Thailand is where I'm called, but I'm *very* passionate about health and physical therapy as well. And though I may be away from Thailand for ten years, I know there are things I need to do first before I move back and spend the rest of my life reaching Thailand. We realize that God's calling is not on hold, nor is it *only* living in Thailand as a missionary, but that it is living my life *everyday* for God no matter where I am, whether that is going to college in America or living in Thailand. I walk day by day in God's plan for me, and being here has taught me many things. One of which is you don't have to move to a foreign country to serve God. God gives us the desires of our heart, and whatever His call is for each of us, it will be something we **love**.

Jesus is not an easy fix to all our problems. We still go through tough circumstances and there are still bumps in the road. But with Jesus I have a **joy** that cannot be taken away and I have that joy always wherever I am. So I want to thank you, friends and partners, who have known us for years, and who have listened to our stories and experiences. Thank you to those who have supported Ariya and I since our first newsletter, and thank you to those who have helped give toward our college fund.



I have so much to share with the American believers, and I look forward to those opportunities, not because I want to tell them what to do, or to lay out a formula that must be followed because **there's not one**, God has a specific plan for each believer. But because I want to give, I want to serve, and I want to share God's goodness and what I've learned by living here for eight years.

We will continue our monthly newsletters even after moving to Alabama, and many of you we hope to see in person. Thank you for your replies and support. And thank you to those who have shared our newsletter with friends and on social media.

May God bless you all,

*Arisa and Ariya DeVine*

**P.S. Between September 8<sup>th</sup> and November 6<sup>th</sup>, if you would like us to share in your church, bible study, or weekly meetings, please get in contact with us so that we may put you in our itinerary.**

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