

DeVine MINISTRIES

"Taking the gospel where it has never gone before"



September 2015 www.jdevineministries.com

P.O. Box 7138 Rainbow City, AL 35906-7138



Living on the mission field here in Thailand is very different than living in the States. Being here has put a lot of things into perspective for me that I never realized while growing up in America. I have found that I didn't acknowledge how privileged and blessed I was until I saw the lives of the Thai people. A majority of westerners in general have heard about Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, and many more. They have the freedom to choose, whereas the majority of Thais don't have that. 25% of Thai people have never even heard the name Jesus. They live their lives with basically no purpose or hope of a future because all they know is to follow the traditions that they have always seen. Typical Thai tradition is to go to the temple occasionally, observe the Buddhist holidays, and try to do 'good'. But if you

ask most Buddhists, "Where do you think people go after they die?", they'd answer, "Naroke," which is the Thai word for hell. They say, "One should try to do as much good in this lifetime as possible so that your punishment in hell won't have to be so bad." Thai people believe that hell has different levels of punishment and suffering, depending on how bad you have been. Thai people believe everyone will go to hell because Buddhism teaches that the only way to have salvation is to be perfect.

The Thai people are in need of a savior as is everyone else. The concept that God came down to earth to die for everyone's sins so that we wouldn't have to go to hell, is almost too good to be true. **Thank Jesus it is true!**



We came to Thailand at the very end of August in 2009. It's been 6 years and **God has done amazing things through us here**. So many people have been touched by the Gospel; the Good News as we call it. People have been healed before our eyes and we rejoice even more for what He has done. All throughout these 6 years, we've been blessed abundantly by God in many ways, including through our partners who have helped us every step. When you give, you are helping us spread the Great News of Jesus. I remember when we were in need of a truck a few years ago as our small car was unable to drive out to many of the rural villages. Our faithful partners gave, and we were able to buy a truck, debt free. This enabled us to expand our boundaries and go to visit people we couldn't reach before. **This and much more we couldn't have done if it weren't for our partners. Thank you!**

While we've been here, God has also put on our heart to rescue abandoned and orphaned children. As you know, we now have 4 children in our home that have seen the power of God for themselves. There will be hundreds more like them who will hear about the love of Jesus and be able to have hope for a future. We welcome you to come and work with us and help us rescue more children and spread the Gospel if you feel that God has put it in your heart to come.



This month, we celebrated our Dad's birthday and had an amazing time.



We have had a lot of rain lately because it is the rainy season here. The rainy season makes it especially hard for us to travel anywhere as the eight of us have to try to pack into our truck when we go places together. Normally, a few of us can sit in the back of the truck unless it is raining, thus making the need for a van even greater. I want to thank our partners that are helping us save up for one.

Thank you all for supporting DeVine Ministries.

God bless you,
Arisa and Ariya

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