

DREBES CAMBODIA NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2009



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When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen... stop doing wrong, learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.

Isaiah 1:15-17

To partner with us to reach the Cambodian people with the gospel and care for them as Jesus did, financial gifts may be sent **in our name** payable to World Team, 1431 Stuckert Road, Warrington, PA 18976. Thank you to those who are co-laboring with us. World Team donor services
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THE POOR WIDOWS

Our hearts are drawn to the widows... we are still trying to understand our role in helping others especially the widows with children. In the Bible, the church took care of their widows, but most churches here are poor and cannot afford to take care of them. All the ladies above are a part of our home groups. God has provided through many of you for them (including the bike you see!) A few weeks ago we prayed for the woman on the left who could not pay her rent. We told her that sometimes someone sends something to World Team and we prayed that God would hear and answer. Sure enough the very night we left this place, someone had sent \$35 which, along with some other help, she paid her \$50 rent. (Pictured is her tiny 2-room house—I am sitting on both the kitchen table (no chairs) and when covered with a straw mat becomes a bed.) God loves the poor and we continually see him answer prayer after prayer like this. We are learning along with them how to lean on God even for small things. Praying with them and watching the Lord answer has increased our own faith. The woman on the far right sent her daughter to us for medicine for a toothache. We sent word to her that if she needed to see a dentist, we would take her. She came a few minutes later in extreme pain and tears. She told

us, "I did not want to ask God to help me again because He just helped me get a new door on my house. I tried to endure the toothache." These are the stories that make us cry sometimes...and yet rejoice when we see God supply their needs. **Please pray for us as we continue to seek God's wisdom in how to provide for the poor here.**



THE ANGELS IN HEAVEN REJOICE OVER ONE SINNER WHO REPENTS (LUKE 15:10)

Meet Srey Lung (on the left in the first picture). She came to us crying because her family's little business wasn't making enough to feed her 8 brothers and sisters. We told her to pray to the God in heaven who is Jesus and showed her Matthew 6 to help her understand that she needs to put God first in her life and He will always take care of her. Although her sister (from our last newsletter) has believed in Jesus, Srey Lung, has never showed any interest or come to our Bible studies before this time. We told her that Jesus loves the poor and would help her the next day to feed her family if only she would trust Him. She did pray for help that night and also prayed to know Him better. She came back the next day with a huge smile on her face, much different than the night before. She said she couldn't believe that even though there was a great storm that day, they had sold out everything! She has begun to attend our new teen Bible study although she is a little older than the others (23). But, the young lady, Khema, you see leading Srey Lung in prayer for salvation is the exact same age and is teaching our teens. They went to church together this past week. Srey Lung told me that her neighbors asked her why she looks so happy and when she told them about her new faith, she was reprimanded by

them... but she's not ashamed. She told us that she told them that Jesus is good and there's no reason why she shouldn't believe in Him! **Please pray for her to grow in the Lord.**



WEDDING BELLS

Our daughter, Jackie, is getting married June 5th to Chase Carmeans. They met at William Tennent High School just like her parents. Jackie is a junior high school teacher and Chase is employed in the marketing field. Jackie has a Spring break the first week in April and we are very excited to be coming home in late March to help with some wedding plans. This will be our first home assignment. By then we will have been on the field for 3 ¼ years already! We hope to see many of you during our time home. **Please pray for Jackie and Chase, especially that they will follow God with all of their heart and soul and mind and strength.**

SIGHTS, SOUNDS AND SMELLS



ASLEEP ON MY SHOE ON THE PORCH

Still no rats... many of you wrote and voted to keep the cat amidst the inconveniences.. we're sorry to report, one of those inconveniences came this past month when she birthed 3 kittens, one on each doorstep a bit too early in the pregnancy... Greg warmed up a little more to her after that.



COUNT THEM.. 1,2,3,4,5... TYPICAL BACK TO SCHOOL DAY-- MOM AND 4 KIDS ON A MOTO

They always look so comfortable! We still see some room on the mother's lap for a new addition.. we've seen it often enough before!

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power... (Eph. 6:10)