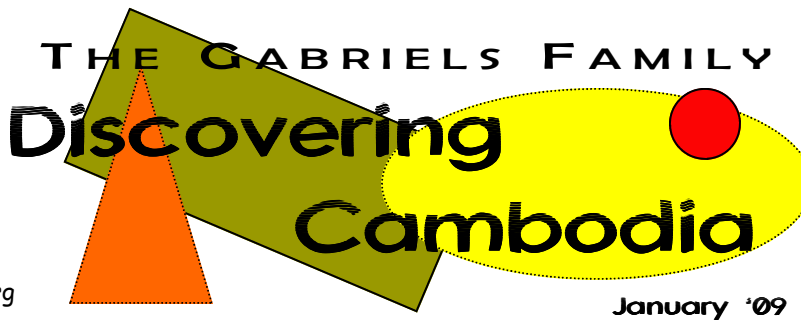


Mailing Address:

The Gabriels
c/o World Team
PO Box 2450
Phnom Penh 3
CAMBODIA



Home Office:
1431 Stuckert Rd.
Warrington, PA 18976
1-800-967-7109
www.worldteam.org
donorservices.org

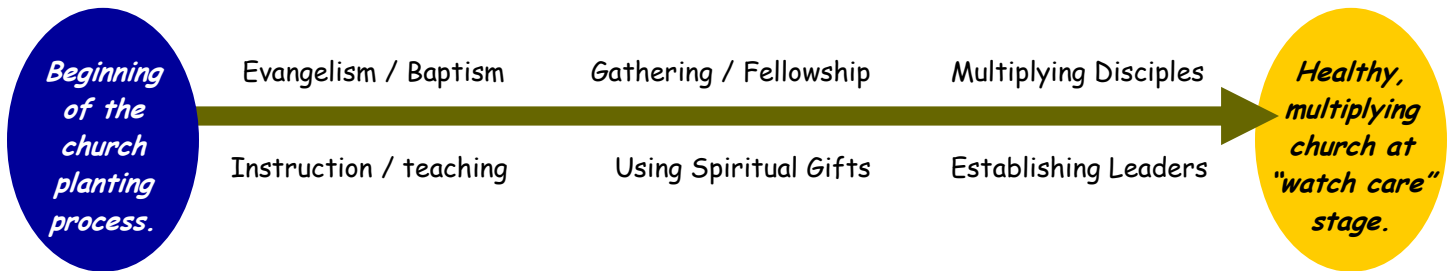
Email us at:
jim.gabriels@worldteam.org

THE MINISTRY OF THE GABRIELS' FAMILY AND THE DAVISVILLE TEAM IS AN OUTGROWTH OF DAVISVILLE CHURCH. DAVISVILLE'S MISSION PROGRAM AND OUR PERSONAL WEB PAGE CAN BE VIEWED AT <http://www.davisville.org>

A New Year ... A New Plan ...

January '09 has been a target date for our PV missionary team. We were challenged in October to develop a 2 year plan for our ministry here. This plan is to help us stay focused on the task of helping our fellowship, the CCH (Community of Changed Hearts) move from intense missionary involvement to minimal missionary involvement—a stage in church planting called 'watch care'. Check out the simplified chart below. January '09 is when we were to produce this 'tactical plan'. Jim has been tasked to bring this "State of the Church" paper before the team to better evaluate where the church is now and how we can help it move forward. This will be reviewed at the end of January with comments added from the full team. Finalization is anticipated by mid to late February.

In accordance with the scripture in the page footer below, we can ready our horses (or strategies) for the battle of winning Preah Vihear for Christ, but only the Lord can give the victory and bring to pass the work he has for us. Would you join us in praying to that end?



Cambodian Customs There are many unusual customs of the Khmer people which cause us to marvel, and some of which we have come to enjoy. And, as they taught us in missionary boot camp, many 'strange' customs aren't necessarily **wrong**, they're **just different!**

Srey Own, a woman with whom we have been studying the Bible, just gave birth to her firstborn — on New Year's Eve to be exact. Since having her baby, Srey Own has taken up residence below her house in a ragtag shelter of tarps and sheets. Within this shelter (I use that term loosely as I remember it fluttering in the chilly morning wind), Srey Own resides day and night (except for bathing and bathroom stops) in order to rest and heal, for up to 3 months. The primary reason for this relocation is to live in a makeshift sauna, kept warm with hot coals placed below her bed by her husband, Lote. As I, Jim stared at this situation in disbelief, the husband informed me that westerners use medicine to heal, but Cambodians do this! The ski cap worn by Srey Own (regardless of the temperature outside) completes the picture. The funny thing is that even in the "hot" season, which can hit highs of 100+ degrees, hot coals are still put under the new mother's bed—but not for quite so long!



Proud parents and Grandma in the makeshift shelter

"The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but victory rests with the Lord." Proverbs 21:31

The Cool Season in Cambodia! Although this is now our 3rd ‘cool season’ here in Cambodia, this is the first time we’ve been outside the city and outside of a cement home when the temperatures chill. PV sees much cooler temperatures than the city. We had been looking forward to this change and have been wondering why temps in the 50s at night were not more enjoyable than they are. Now we’ve come to realize that the brisk Fall we loved in America was accompanied by entering a cozy house where a warm comforter was enough for a deep, comfortable sleep. Then, one can don a sweatshirt the next morning and enjoy the fresh air again! In our breezy wooden house, the 50s enter freely and even piling 2, 3, or 4 light blankets on ourselves doesn’t always cut the chill. Makes the “sauna bed” featured on the front page sound wonderful! And so, some of these very chilly nights in Cambodia have not brought the joy to our hearts that we anticipated. Who would have thought?!



Praises !!!

- **Our team meetings in 2008** have culminated in forward movement toward a specific plan for 2009.
- **CCH leaders** have been meeting weekly. This is an important step in strengthening the church.
- **Kids are healthy and happy!** Home education is going well, too, although there is always room for improvement!

Please Pray ...

- **I Peter 4 tells us that the enemy** is on the move and ready to eat-up God’s work and his people. We are called to be alert to his schemes and wary of his lies. Would you pray that we will do just that?
- Please pray for Jim as he puts together a **“State of the Church”** paper with proposed plans for the future of the CCH. Our team will review it and make changes later this month.
- **Marriage and Family**—we are more aware than ever that we need to be investing in our marriage and our 1st disciples (our kids!). Please pray that we will intentionally bolster these areas in the coming year.
- **That our teacher** would be prepared and fully supported as soon as possible. Sarah’s email is slbreiden@aol.com.
- **Please pray for our Khmer brothers and sisters** here to grow strong individually, and as body of believers. We will focus on helping them learn how to disciple each other, lead biblically, and reach the remote areas of PV for Christ.

Getting News from the Gabriels ...

- To view our website, please follow this link: <http://www.davisville.org>
- If you would like to be removed from our postal mailing list and only receive e-mailings from us, drop us an email telling us and we will make sure that is done for you.
- If you would like to hear from us more often, about every 3—4 weeks, please write us and ask to be on our “More Frequent Email” list.