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THE GABRIELS FAMILY
**Discovering
Cambodia**
February '10



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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>

In answer to the prayers of many ...

Mong walked out of the hospital 2 weeks ago yesterday. That may not sound very unusual or miraculous, but just weeks before he was fighting for his life after a major head trauma, the result of a moto accident. God has spared his life! Many of you have prayed for this and have asked about him, for which we are thankful.

As he boarded the taxi to rejoin his wife and family (and meet his newborn daughter) in Preah Vihear, Mong re-entered a life that is much harder than he knew before, at least in the short term. He cannot resume his position as a school principal at this time. He must regain much ground in both motor skills and cognitive ability to function as before. Since returning to PV, he has been aggressive, angry and at times, violent. Please continue to pray for him and his family during his rehabilitation, and the CCH as they reach out with the love of Christ.



Mong and his fiancée pledge their love at their engagement ceremony last January.

The other side of the story...

Our experience with Mong, while endearing us to him and his family, has not led to an appreciation of the Cambodian medical system. Sadly, it has had the opposite effect. We have discovered a system where patients and family often feel powerless and ill-informed, bribes grease the wheels to better care, and negligence is often the norm rather than the exception. Corruption and poor training are rampant. The system is more broken than it is antiquated, and with all its problems, is still not available to many Cambodians. It is disheartening to have to watch poor families struggling not only with a medical crisis, but with a medical system that so often does not serve them.

An alternative of hope ...

Eventually we were able to transfer Mong to the Mercy Medical Clinic (MMC), where he received a thorough evaluation and a rehabilitation plan prior to being released. This was the facility where we brought another young man, also the victim of a moto incident, who had suffered a badly broken leg. Our family has developed a fondness for this clinic, where Western and Cambodian doctors work side by side, sharing their life healing skills in the spirit and with the words of Jesus. We especially like their emphasis on training the Cambodian nationals to do the medical work themselves.

We are anticipating using their services in the future, and we're excited to hear that they plan on expanding from their 'humble' rented facilities to a larger, more modern operation. They are well underway in funding and planning, and hope to break ground soon. We don't often recommend 'projects' in our newsletters, but we would really commend the MMC's clear mission and benefit to the Cambodian people. Check out the specifics and new facility plans at:

www.mercymedcambodia.org



Mercy Medical Clinic staff performing surgery and the temporary facility

Praises !!!

- **We had a safe return trip** from the States in early December. We're enjoying the warmer weather!!
- **The CCH put on a Christmas program** for the community and had over 200 people attend. The gospel presentation was one of best and clearest heard in PV, according to one of our CCH leaders. Praise God with us!
- **We have a good temporary residence** while we stay in Phnom Penh and prepare to return to PV.
- **Mong was able to return to PV** with a rehabilitation plan in place. Thank God for a healthy birth of his daughter, Malynette, while he was in Phnom Penh.
- **Our PV team has been having excellent times of 'team-building'** since we are all back in the country.
- **The CCH is going strong** and adding more to it's number.

Please Pray ...

- **That we will know the grace of God**— As we four PV team members took turns each sharing our individual vision for the future for the body of Christ in PV, one point we agreed on was to pray daily that God would clearly reveal both their need for God's grace in their broken lives, and begin to see that grace more fully and clearly. A clear vision of God's grace and mercy will draw a believer to worship as nothing else. We as a team need this vision of grace stronger in our own lives as well. Please pray for this for all of us.
- **Family**—Please pray that we will continue to prioritize the work that is needed to keep our family strong, as the immediate needs of the Khmer people can crowd out time for our own spiritual growth.
- **We will remain in Phnom Penh** for a while longer as we continue to prepare for ministry in PV province. We will make monthly trips up to PV in the meantime. We have quite a bit of work we will be doing for our team while we are here (such as ... training in TEE, preparing for a marriage and family study, and researching various network options for the CCH). Please pray for us to contribute well to the team even from Phnom Penh, and for Joel and Susan to be supported well while we are apart.
- **Team Planning**— Our team has met for significant times of team building. We are also working through issues such as ...
 1. moving the CCH forward to the next stage of growth,
 2. considering capacity building and how to help the believers in our poor province sustain themselves,
 3. leadership training plans and discipleship in our cultural context.

Please pray that all our plans would be God-dependent.
- **Mong and Family**—Please pray that Mong will make progress in regaining his cognitive skills. Memory of recent events (1-2 years) is slow coming. He has also been quite aggressive, angry and sometimes violent since coming back to Preah Vihear. This is a huge challenge for the family. Also pray that he and family members will find hope in God's faithfulness during this time.

Getting News from the Gabriels ...

- To view our website, please go to this address: <http://www.davisville.org>. Once there, look under "**ministries**" drop down menu and choose "**global outreach**". Click on "**Cambodia Team**" and then choose "**the Gabriels Family**" at the top. There are two pages for us; be sure to click on the camera to get to the second page. Check out our updated photos on the web!
- 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.