

Bird Seed June 2010

Proverbs: 25:13 A messenger you can trust is just as refreshing as a cool drink of water in the summer. Proverbs: 30 A friendly smile makes you happy, and good news makes you feel strong.

In April, I shared a story with you about Be-ah (male) and Gloop-ay (female) who had asked me questions about spirits and listened intently as I explained about the Christian aspect of spirits. As our relationships continue to grow, so does their curiosity about Christianity, each Thursday evening one of the two has another question to ask during our class. Last week we had conversations about different kinds of foods from different countries, using vocabulary words such as sour, bitter, rich, etc. At the end of class, Be-ah and Gloop-ay told me they knew of a very good Italian restaurant and wanted to know if I would go to dinner with them on Sunday evening. So, our plans were made. They came to pick me up at 5:30 on Sunday evening and off we went to a restaurant named Pinocchio's. It was buffet style and after we had gotten our food, I stopped talking, said excuse me and bowed my head to pray. (I didn't ask them to join me, because our relationship is new and I wanted to see if they would ask me about my prayer) When I finished and looked up, they were both staring at me. I smiled and said; "OK, this all looks delicious, let's eat!" They began regular conversation and we laughed while enjoying our food. When Be-ah went back for seconds, Gloop-ay asked, "Is it OK to ask what you said before we eat?" I smiled and said, "Of course it is OK, you can ask me anything." So, I shared my prayer with her. Be-ah had come back as I was sharing with her. She was surprised at the things I prayed for and how I said my prayer like I was talking to someone. So, I explained that I was talking to Someone. She asked, "Your God still live?" So, I explained about our living God who gives us eternal life in Heaven. After I finished, they both smiled and Gloop-ay thanked me for telling them about my prayer. Be-ah then asked me if I had to go to church every Sunday. I told him that I didn't "have" to go to church, no one "has" to go to church, but that we "want" to go to church; we want to give that time to God; that we want that special time to be with Him and to pray and give thanks to our God who gives us everything that is good. Gloop-ay wanted to know what we do in church, so I explained our service and what we do. I told them about our English Bible study and invited them to come sometime to listen. I pray

(please pray with me) that they will decide to come and that they will continue to ask more and more questions.



Bee-ah Teacher Robin Gloop-ay

Kate is one of Ar's students who is coming to church every Sunday now. We are so thankful for her continuing growth in our Lord. One evening before class, I asked Kate if she knew anything about God before she came to our CGM (Concordia Gospel Ministry) teaching center. She told me that when she was young, a missionary came to her village. She said, "I not understand why strangers come help my family and other people, but I remember they say they Christian. Then I come to CGM and the people here like the people that come to my village. They very kind and want to help other people, so I want to learn more and I can understand why Christian persons help other people. Then I learn about they love Jesus and want to show Jesus love to other people. So, I stay at CGM so I can learn more about God's love too. I feel good with people at CGM and church and I want to be like them and know what they know and learn how to love and help other people too." (Beautifully said, dear Kate!!) Please pray for Kate as she continues to grow in our Lord.



Jarm (female) was one of my one-on-one students in the afternoon for a term. She was preparing to go to Australia where she will study and work for a year. Her one-on-one

classes with me were so she could have more confidence in her speaking and listening. Our classes were a lot of fun. We had a few shared moments of Christianity during our times together. During our last class, I could tell she was feeling some nervousness and a lack of self confidence. So we talked about that before she left. At the end of class, I asked her if she would like for me to pray for her. She smiled and said, "You pray for me, oh yes, I would like that." So, I prayed for her, her travels and her life in Australia. When the prayer was finished, she had tears in her eyes and told me that no one had ever prayed for her before. She thanked me, hugged me and said she would email and facebook so we can talk to each other. I told her I would keep her in my prayers. She asked, "You will pray for me even when I not here with you?" Again she was surprised. I look forward to hearing from her and also to her coming home so we can share her experiences and share more about prayers and God's Love .

It looks like a root canal is in my very near future. This will be easier than my first root canal here, because now I know what to expect and I know a little more Thai. Student Pae walked to the dental office with me to check on the prices and procedure. When I went in to see the doctor (female nicknamed Dr. B), she began to tell me the procedure. As she was using her broken English, she kept using the word "preeshush". I kept listening to hear another word that would help me to understand the word she kept saying. Finally she used the word "meetal"....ahhhh, she was trying to say "precious metal". So, being a teacher, I helped her to know the pronunciations. She smiled and thanked me, as a group of young women behind me began to giggle and laugh. Since there was a foreigner in the seat, they were watching and listening. I didn't know they were there, since I was lying in the chair and couldn't see behind me. So, in Thai, I told them I was an English teacher and told them I would love for them to come and study with me. Experiences here, like this one, are very "preeshush" to me!!! (Not necessarily the root canal experience of course, though). Pae and I decided to check another dentist office today. I'm so glad we did because the price was so much better and it is so much closer to our center. I have my first of 4 appointments set up beginning on Sunday, June 6 at 5:30pm. That will give me all day Monday (we have Sunday and Monday off) to recoup from the dental procedure.

I won't put much into my newsletter about the political situation out of respect for the country and its people; also because I am a guest in their country and I want to be careful about what I say. I will say though that there is a "calm" now and it is a joy to see the smiles come back into the "Land of Smiles!" I also will say that I am thankful that I was here

during that time and was allowed to stay in country, so that my students could talk with me and find some comfort, in a situation that was extremely difficult for them. I'm thankful that they felt they could talk to me about their hearts, in person, by phone and via email/face book. I give praise to our Lord that even out of the bad things of this sinful world, He is ever with us, ever faithful; bringing good from the bad, bringing glory to His name. Even in a world filled with golden idols. Please continue to pray for peace in Thailand.

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God bless

Humbly in His Love and service,

Robin (Birdie)

