

Letters from the East



Winter 2012/2013

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SIL Mainland Southeast Asia



Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. (Philippians 2:12b-13 NLT)

Linguistics Department camping trip, graduation & Christmas party

This year I head the CSL (Community and Spiritual Life) Committee; putting on special events for the Payap Linguistics Department. The first one was a retreat in October. In November we hosted a graduation luncheon. Next week is our Christmas event with carol singing. It's been especially gratifying to see students develop their leadership skills and enrich supportive friendships.



Roman's Bible story inspires campers.

We linguistic ladies pose for a shot by the signpost 3/4 of the way up Mount Khuntan.

Transfer to The Seed Company

We are making final arrangements to transfer membership from SIL International to The Seed Company (TSC) in early 2013. This is not a change in our sending organization but only our field entity so this change will not affect where you send your contributions; we receive no salary but rely on your support. We plan to remain in Chiang Mai. Roman has negotiated with TSC so that we will continue to provide consultant help for Bible translation projects in MSEA that are funded by TSC. Roman's new position of Asia/Pacific Translation Consultant Manager will involve coordinating consultants and national translation consultant internships. I will learn what it is to be a TSC translation consultant. I am also interested in trying some VAST consulting for which we trained last June. VAST refers to a video assisted translation method.

This change from SIL to TSC (<http://www.theseedcompany.org/mission>) is something Roman and I have been exploring and praying about since May. We hope to meet whatever transitions and challenges that come with God's grace. We pray for this change to be an expression of the passage from Philippians 2, above; wanting to be even more productive in demonstrating our salvation and "obeying God with deep reverence and fear".

We are thankful to our director and supervisor who have been practical and understanding with us. We are grateful for the years of experience and many friends we have gained in SIL. So as we begin our roles with TSC we do so full of gratitude, and we expect to maintain good friendships and work relationships with SIL.

Thanksgiving & Prayer Requests

- ❖ Thank you for your partnership with us in Bible translation. We pray for you to have a merry and grace-filled Christmas and New Year. You are welcome to send us prayer requests.
- ❖ Eliza is doing well teaching high school physics and earth science in a Thai school while living with us for now. It's a blessing to have her near, especially for Christmas.
- ❖ Praise God for good translation students at Payap this year. I am teaching Seminar in Translation and Communication through February.
- ❖ Pray for Roman as he forges ahead on his dissertation proposal and is active in his role as Translation Coordinator.
- ❖ Arrangements for our assignment transfer to The Seed Company are progressing on schedule. Please pray for personnel in our organizations and for Mainland Southeast Asia Group. In particular, pray for MSEA translation consultants in training (CIT's) to earn consultant status. Yesterday I met with a CIT and team leader regarding plans and curriculum to train more mother tongue translators (MTT's).
- ❖ Pray for well-trained, productive translators in Southeast Asia as there is still a big need.
- ❖ Safe travel in Thailand for Roman's next consultant trip. He leaves December 3rd to do an initial check for a new team. Our last checking trips were great.
- ❖ In keeping with this letter's Bible verse, pray for us as we desire to be good workers; consulting so the word of truth is translated accurately and understood.

Scripture checking update

In my last prayer letter we enlisted prayer for two consultant checking trips. Before the semester at Payap began I flew to a neighboring country for a week of checking. I mentored a CIT, guiding her in checking Titus, which went well. After I consultant checked Revelation and three epistles, it was time to return to Thailand and focus on the Linguistic Department. Roman flew to Cambodia the week after the Payap retreat. That consultant checking also went well. Roman's photos of Phnom Penh show people's resourcefulness in making whole shops that can be carted around on motor scooters, chaotic traffic, and that locals bring their motorcycles indoors as a security precaution. We both stayed in guest houses in the middle of large cities and enjoyed visiting friends we don't often see.



Street view of the homey guest house where I stayed in October.

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