



The Khmer Chronicle

The Cambodian Ministry Newsletter
of George and Shary Frahm
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“So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God and God abides in him.” 1 John 4:16

We are home just a year now from our last deployment from our home away from home...our very much loved second home for sure. It is always interesting that when we are here, we miss being there, that being Cambodia, and then when we are there, the feelings are just as strong in the reverse points, missing our passport home. (not the cold though anymore). Give us tropical warmth any day!

This was the year (2020) of some mighty important events on the horizon and would have necessitated some creative juggling of sorts to make appearances at times that were so important to us. We had planned on taking an extra trip across the pond as our two eldest granddaughters would have their confirmations. We had discussed wiggling a period of time both before and after Christmas and those confirmations to be in Cambodia. So much for that idea. It was not meant.

As a beginning, 2019 was our Christmas year home with our stateside family. Our son traveled up from Nashville and camped out at our house with his girls (minus the fur babies). We took in Medieval Times in grand style, complements of a generous add on of a limousine that carried us (15) to the evening of knighting with the likes of those dudes on the horses. (maybe there were lasses on them too, who knows under all the metal who is really riding...we have a granddaughter

who almost lives on a horse some days). Yes, I wondered if there were ‘girls’ on those horses.

Then everyone got crammed into our tiny less than 1,000 foot abode for Christmas family time. It was such a special time, that unfortunately will not ever come often enough due to logistics. And yet the obvious love that permeates from each family to the others is just that. I am humbled that the older cousins have so lovingly and willingly embraced the two younger girls the moment they are in the same space. Skin to skin is what I would call it. I can almost imagine which little ends up with which older girl/girls. The two boys just hang on to one another cause they are outnumbered! They just want to be boys.

Then we headed to the theatre just after Christmas to see the new ‘Phantom of the Opera’ downtown with the oldest 5 grands! It was the best! It was thereafter we were to head out. (sad face).

In spite of our being overseas and in and out of their growing years, with everyone making sacrifices along the way, I firmly believe that God has richly blessed us as a unit and molded us just the way He wants. It has not been easy by any means. In some moments my humanness cannot imagine how much has evolved around each one in all of this and yet each family has become a strong unit in itself showering the love of our Father forward into the community as they go about their days. I know we couldn’t have asked for more, and this newsletter is a tribute to each of them who has walked this journey with us all these years. God has assuredly been protecting each of us. It’s not often that the parents leave

home when the kids are out of the nest in this way. Even we had our moments of huh??? Really God? Yet we know that we are privileged to have been chosen for the position we have been in and have come to love and embrace and learn from. Now we are beginning to realize the fruits of all those miles on the road and in an airplane. God is good. To Him we give all the glory in all of this. It is not about us....

And an update on our Siem Reap family and friends....

From what we have gathered in from a variety of sources over the last couple of months, it is really quiet in the normal touristy bustling Siem Reap area as people usually come from all over the world to see Angkor Wat. Gratefully even though the area has been sparse with visitors, the general local population appears to have been able to go about their daily routine while doing the international distancing standard that is used in so many countries including Cambodia. The country remains closed to individuals of five countries as this is being written, one of them being the US. That means that we are here for the time being, however long that is decided by the powers that be.

Apparently they have been able to sidestep a lot of the virus issues that have occurred around the world, with only 122 reported cases as of the end of April as we have seen. Understandably, the country, while small, is very open and airy for the most part, it is dry and fairly warm year around making it a great tropical climate, and appears to have escaped the community transmission factor that is prevalent elsewhere.

Khmer New Year was a couple of weeks ago. Pastor Samuel and his family traveled to Sisaphone to see Sophana's family for the annual event. It was during that time that our Obed (their oldest son) took ill and has been under medical care for dengue fever. It has been a really tough road for the family during this time and they are grateful for all of the prayers lifted up on their

behalf. Thank you. As of today, we now know that Obed is up and about and back to his usual life. Praise God.

Dengue fever is a tough tropical disease to deal with. I've always felt it was a curse to the children of so many tropical nations. Just after the Pol Pot era, a very kind physician, Beat Richter, went to Cambodia and was so moved by the impact the disease had on the local children that he not only raised money to build a hospital in Siem Reap to freely care for these children, but he also continued to live in country until his untimely death in 2018, and manage the goings on in that area. He was a cellist and would offer up solo concerts in a mini theatre setting on the hospital grounds and invite visitors to come and he would play music for their pleasure and give a wonderful presentation about the efforts by the hospital to care for these unfortunate children who were victims of the disease.



The hospital is not far from the guest house where we stay and near the new ticket booths for Angkor Wat. There is never a shortage of folks waiting on the lawn nor the vendors who are cooking local fare to feed those sitting waiting. The hospital is vital to the local community where health care is limited. Folks travel from great distances with their children for care.

And ministry continues...

Earlier in April Pastor Samuel sent us some more photos of his usual goings on in his life of late. Gratefully ministry moves forward in spite of the world swirling around any of us and changes that come with it. God is always constant in each of

our lives, He never changes. Amen! We need that anchor in each of our lives more than ever these days.

As we all can imagine, oft times a single picture can express something more clearly, vividly, or succinctly than a large amount of words can. Images can tell its story all on its own. Pictures convey information more efficiently, especially if you aren't in the area when it was taken. For us, it is a draw factor of love as we know the people and the places and it draws us into the realm one more time. We miss them so much. Yet just now we get to share them forward to you as well.



Knee Thoughts

1- You fill in the blank here as you pray. Each one of us has the single opportunity to take our requests to our Father in all needs. There are so

many and as His family of sons and daughters we have the greatest opportunity to pray without ceasing.

2- Our time here to be fruitful in the midst of unexpected challenges involving us and yet it still be a time to share Jesus here as well.

3. Praise for the ability to connect electronically when we can't be there in person, wherever that place would normally be for a time together.

4. Prayers for Obed and our family in Cambodia during this time of separation to continue to shine for Him as they all do so well.

5. Praise for continued healing and recovery for our Obed.

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