



# The Khmer Chronicle

Siem Reap / SR Province, Cambodia

Siem Reap

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Good morning from Siem Reap....

It is now day 11 since I arrived and I promised that I would write so everyone would know how things went/are going.

Photos will be at the end.

My flights went really well. In San Francisco the host came to check my bag tickets to be sure all were on board when we left the tarmac. (7) The flights were turbulent at times but overall went well. I had to snuggle under quilts as the cabin air was so cold, but that brought good slumber.

I was detained at the airport here and questioned by four immigration officers, who wondered why I was traveling alone (at 75), had so many year visas, and had three suitcases of glasses. I didn't have to buy them coffee or lunch to get out of this situation. Slightly intimidating.

I changed my living arrangements to a one room apartment that is over 50% less than the one I had last tenure. It means I will have to pay for water and electricity and clean my own area, but that is ok too.

The weather here was rainy. It is in the 90's midday. So nice. Lots of water yet, clean landscape, happy cows and rice fields.

God has been so good to me. His richest

blessings surround me every day as I see why now He sent me back. The locals are now thinking and asking freely....such deep hurt and crushing life in so many corners. Yesterday's very interesting question out of nowhere as I am sorting glasses was "Why would anyone ever want to be a Christian? Why did you become one?" Now these folks are not looking for biblical responses nor verses, just what is in my heart that I know. It is a tough answer for them to comprehend. Go Holy Spirit!!!

In review of what I am doing/ hoping to do as outlined by Pastor Ravy and myself...

1-English 5 days a week. I simplified my life and am teaching them from books how to read and write sentences. I let the others teach grammar out of their books. We are up to 10 words in a sentence in the second class. First class is chaos yet. Too many students (32) of ages and levels so sort out as new yet.

2-teen bible study in easy english. A newbie I start Monday. I will have five students to start.

3-women's ministry 2x month. Still in the baby stage. Have ideas that rolled in at 3am. Plus help stateside by Liisa. Tough topic culturally to minister to. I think I will grace the time with tea and biscuits, foreign to these gals.

4-Sunday after sermon simple talk. I am

doing the Sermon on the Mount right now. And relative project if I can figure one out. I also attend Pastor Benyon's church (Ravy's dad) in the morning on Sunday and do life with them there. There is always a translator for me as its talking too fast to grasp.

5-eyeglass clinics into the community. We should be able to do a solid 12 visits over the next months. First one in a week from now.

6-walking the community and be accessible and available over coffee. It is intentional that we always stayed in this community to build relationships. There is also security for me too.

7-The Cambodian lutheran church asks me to join them in their travels at times now, first one on the 20-23 December, to share with the community at large in Battambang.

8-writing articles for our church website and to help teach how to budget and use tithes (and get tithing started). Do church constitution etc. (see website below).

9-journal my life here. I struggle getting to this one but am able to almost do that when I'm sleepy and it makes sense.

10. Take care of me. Always last on my list it seems.

Website:

[https://  
hopelutheranevangelicalchurch.org/](https://hopelutheranevangelicalchurch.org/)



### **Knee Thoughts**

**Praise and prayers for sharing His love message to everyone sent our way.**

**Prayers for a safe return to Taros Village in Siem Reap city in a few days.**

**Praise of thanks and a grateful heart for the many helpers who contributed to getting me on the plane well stocked.**

### **Giving Page**

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- 1-Breakfast
- 2-very wet road to church
- 3-beacon of light to the community
- 4-second english class
- 5-'salt' project
- 6-first english class
- 7-glittery salt

