



Shalom Mission Cambodia



Quarterly Report April - June 2019

Greetings from all of us working together in Shalom Mission Cambodia.

We have been very busy across all areas of our work and it is our joy to share what God is doing among us. Rejoice with us, but also pray, for that is God's means of keeping us in His will. Jesus taught us to pray, "Your kingdom come, your will be done; on earth as it is in heaven" – and Paul also requested, "pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ" Col 4:3. But as that happens we also share the experience of the Apostle, "for a wide door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many adversaries" 1 Cor 16:9.

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Whatever new things the Lord does among us, the ongoing pastoral work of the churches remains the ultimate purpose for all our activities. Jesus said, "I will build my church" – our conferences, training and new ventures must always have as their purpose the growth and the strengthening of the church – those local bodies of believers living for Christ in their communities here in Cambodia.

Here are two encouraging stories recently reported to us by our pastors;

Pastor Bunreoun from Kompong Chhnang saw two women leave his area apparently unmoved by his witness, but he was to be surprised....

I thank Jesus so much that He is working within two women (Tuch and Hak) who are the wives of builders. They have heard the gospel from my family for a long time but they didn't accept it. Three months ago, they moved to Mondulkiri province with their husbands.

Sister Tuch, had a women's disease and had spent much money to buy medicine to cure herself but it reduced her pain only a little. Her husband often told her to accept Jesus, He will truly cure her illness. One day her pain increased and the medicine didn't reduce her pain. She decided to pray to the Lord Jesus and as she prayed she got better a little bit, and then a little bit more. When she saw how she had been heard she decided to accept Jesus as Lord.



At the same time sister Hak who had five months old baby - was trying hard to find work to get income to support her family. She suddenly developed a food reaction and suffered vomiting and stomach-ache for two weeks. She went to the hospital and took medicine but no improvement. Then she started to pray to Jesus, she prayed, "Jesus, I don't know who you are but if you are really God please show me your power and please cure me from my illness, that I will know that You are really truly God". Suddenly she starting sweating and very soon felt better. She was really amazed and decided to accept Jesus Christ to be her Lord as well.

When I visited Pastor Chhinho in Mondulkiri, I saw these women and they told me what had happened. I prayed for both of them to truly receive Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior and that they would now continue to follow him.

Pastor Hun Ratana from Ou Kombat Shalom Church reports;

This month I felt such joy and surprise that Jesus did a great thing in my church. My wife's cousin, Peb, and her daughter came to my house and joined to worship Jesus with us one Sunday morning. I just wondered so much about her because I knew that she was not a Christian. She is 38 years old and has had stomachaches for 20 years and has never been able to eat much because of this. She went everywhere to find a cure, but never improved. After worship I talked with her and asked



her many questions. She said she came, not because somebody called her, but because one night she had a dream. She said she saw me and another man who wore white clothes. It seemed like the angel of God had flown to help her and he invited her to go to church. When I heard this I was amazed and praised Jesus for His working. We all prayed for her, for the Lord Jesus to cure her. She is now a believer and has attended church for many weeks. She looks much better and eats much more than before.

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Pastors training on Expository Preaching with James Harmeling - May 2019

This ongoing series of training events continued with Dr. Harmeling and his wife Jacqui, leading separate courses for the men and their wives.

The men focused on crafting an expository sermon, using Titus to work through together. They examined the necessary steps in crafting sermons, from preparing our heart, to studying the passage itself, selecting what to include in the sermon, and ending with evaluation. Dr. Harmeling instilled important theological truths while continually reminding the students that a high view of God and His Word is

essential. This is what moves pastors to challenge Cambodian culture which says that getting results outweighs objective truth, lying is honored as long as one gets away with it, and pastors are evaluated on the basis of their prosperity and influence, too often regardless of their character.

Additionally, many pastors find it difficult to make time to do the necessary study to grasp and then deliver the vital truths healthy believers need to learn. Some have to work another job to support their families and other ministries or programs may be more popular with the congregation. Dr. Harmeling's reminders and advice on what is truly important in ministry and especially in our preaching was valuable and appreciated.

Challenges

Not surprisingly such vital work is contested - the day before training began, laryngitis struck Dr. Harmeling, and his voice was strained throughout our time together.

We also endured a power cut during a rain-storm, forcing us outside. Fortunately we had a battery powered mike to overcome the sound of the rain. But on returning we discovered that the roof was leaking! To

make matters worse, Pastor Chhinho's daughter contracted dengue fever on the second day of the training. But praise the Lord, all the students were eager to learn, refused to be distracted and were able to successfully complete the entire training while enjoying this time together.



Teaching outside due to the power outage

“Being in the presence of the other pastors were edifying and encouraging. What I like the most is [working on the outline of the book of Titus] alone and then talking about it as our separate groups and then talking together of how we pretty much come up with the same outline. To me that shows that the Word of God when handled correct will produce the same result.”

Jacqui Harmeling led the ladies to look at the topic of godly contentment. They expressed a desire to continue in learning from Jacqui, and want her to return again. The Harmelings also invited the ladies to stay with them in Singapore which allowed for another time of encouragement and edification in Christ. We really appreciate the dedication shown by Jim and Jacqui who, through their residence and travels in South East Asia, have developed a deeper understanding of the issues ministers in this region face.

SHALOM DREAM CENTER

Opening Celebration - Easter Sunday 2019

On Easter Sunday this year we not only celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ but also the Official Opening of the Shalom Dream Center in Sen Monorom - from which the gospel will be proclaimed to the people of Mondulkiri and far beyond.

The Dream Center is the beginning of a dream fulfilment for Pastor Chhinho, and a place where those with dreams from the Lord can prepare themselves to fulfil them.



Visiting Pastor Basil Howlett preached and Pastor Chhinho and Samphors cut the ribbon. The whole family have made and continue to make many sacrifices to see this center completed.



The Shalom Dream Center is our base for training and outreach to provinces beyond the Mekong. We support local churches as well as preparing our own students to work among local people groups and throughout the region. The Center is well on the way to being built and, as God provides the funds, it will eventually include a church, Bible School, Dream Village Retreat Centre, camp site, vocational training centre, children and sports facility, clinic and self-supporting agriculture.



The main building is nearing completion but we are not waiting - training has already begun!



We did not delay until we had walls but managed without them (we have them now!). Before the rains came we could hold classes under the trees enjoying the cool breezes and the birds singing



Our dream is that people will come for learning, refreshing and encouragement and leave equipped and with increased faith to extend the Kingdom of God, whether they are young people beginning in ministry or experienced pastors who want further training. Dream Village will provide a haven for groups and individuals seeking rest or time with the Lord. Our site is ideal for youth camps - away from the city - where God's creation refreshes the soul.

Even though there is still plenty of building activity, we have been eager to begin ministry as soon as we had some facilities we could use.

So we have already had Bible teaching for pastors, conferences and youth camps as well as a team from the our friend's church overseas who came to help.

In the dry season we did not need buildings – it is so much cooler here and it was a delight to study the word of God in the fresh air!

Very importantly we have commenced daily schooling for poor local children to supplement what they get at their government school.

Between 40 and 80 children attend between 2:00 to 4:00 - Tuesday to Saturday, and we hold an extra class on Friday evening for those who cannot attend on Saturday.

They learn Khmer and Bunong literacy, basic English and also enjoy Bible stories in their Bunong tribal language. Many are hearing what is so familiar to us for the very first time!

It is especially important that the Bunong children become completely fluent in Khmer reading and writing if they are to participate in Cambodian society and show their true ability, and not be permanently disadvantaged.

Many Bunong have been evangelised, but the New Testament has only recently become available in their language, so many have not learned enough of the Bible to live by its teachings. We want to equip workers in future to raise this community up so that they glorify God by living transformed healthy lives.

We are so grateful for the dedicated team who have responded to God's call to serve at the Dream Center:



Our first management team meeting from left to right we are:

Peter Sat - who teaches Khmer and Bible

Pastor Chanthon - who teaches English

Sister Sanang - who teaches Khmer

Pastor Bunroeth - who manages the center and the building work - a man of integrity and commonsense!

Pastor Chhinho

Pastor Sari - our local Shalom pastor who teaches Bunong literacy and Bible.

We agreed that we want to see the children learn discipline so that they take full advantage of the opportunities we can give them, and also enjoy learning and playing together in a safe and happy environment

We are also very happy to provide some food for them and hope to continue to supplement their diet with healthy snacks

We will make further improvements including building cabins to hold smaller classes instead of teaching the children all together. We also plan a good playground as soon as we receive provision to buy what is needed.

The team all feel they ownership of the Dream Center and we will encourage this in all who use it – we want them to respect and care for it.

God’s love has brought us here and God’s love will keep us united as we see Him build his family here in Mondulkiri as a witness to the name and saving power of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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How can you support the work of Shalom Mission Cambodia?

PRAY – there are 3 areas of need that need your prayer support

- 1. Shalom pastors** – pray for their spiritual and physical needs – they usually minister to poor and needy people – pray for faith to see God answering their own needs and those of their churches – and also that they will have divine energy to reach out in evangelism and pastoral care.
- 2. Health** – Pastor Chhinho and his family and many of the Shalom workers experience spiritual attack through ill-health , accidents and stress. Pray for protection over them and an end to such harassment.
- 3. Favour with government officials.** Especially with the Dream Center, but also with Shalom International School and elsewhere, where we deal with local officials who see opportunities to extract money from us. Pray that we can fulfill all our legal obligations without undue cost.

GIVE – All our ministries need funds to pay staff and buy materials and services. Please contact us if you are able to support us financially:

CONTACT DETAILS

- Founder and Director: **Pastor Saing Chhinho** – Tel.No. **+855 (0)89741786**
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- Mission Email: **SMCAMBODIA@GMAIL.COM**

FUNDS TRANSFER INFORMATION

- Name & Address of Bank: **ACLEDA BANK Plc. Headquarters, #61, Preah Monivong Blvd., Sangkat Srah Chork, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.**
 - Account Name: **SHALOM CAMBODIA**
 - Account Number: **3100- 20-498585-8-5**
 - SWIFT Code/IBAN: SWIFT Code: **ACLBKHPP**
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If you live in the USA and wish to donate to Shalom you can now do so through our partner - **Allegro**.

Allegro is a charity in the USA, only, under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. They will send a receipt for all donations.

Online: via <https://allegrosolutions.org/donate/ShalomCambodia.001.php> or via our website www.smcambodia.org and clicking on the Donate page and following the guidance.