

# *the* FILES

MISSIONARIES TO THAILAND

Dear Family, Friends, and Supporting Churches,

January 2017

## URGENT PRAYER REQUEST

On Saturday, January 27, we took our youngest daughter to the emergency room because she was having severe pain in her side. They did some test at the hospital and saw that her spleen was very enlarged and so they wanted to keep her overnight. They did some blood work and on Sunday morning our world got turned upside down. Her white blood cell count was very high and the doctors informed us that she had Leukemia. They told us that we needed to go back to America because she was healthy enough to fly and that there were better treatment options there. So, we ordered tickets and flew home on Wednesday, January 31. We immediately took her to Children's Hospital in Little Rock, Arkansas. We were originally told that it was Chronic Myeloid Leukemia, but after a bone marrow biopsy they informed us that she had two types of Leukemia. She has what is called Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia in her bone marrow and Chronic Myeloid Leukemia in her blood. It is a very rare case for a child to have this. They have never treated a child here for this and there have only been a few cases in the US. They immediately started aggressive chemotherapy, and after one month they will do another bone marrow biopsy. The only way to cure this is to have a bone marrow transplant, but before we can get that we have to get the cancer in the bone marrow to go into remission. Hopefully that will happen this month and then we can get the transplant. If the transplant is successful, then we have to also deal with the Chronic Myeloid Leukemia. From my understanding, she will have to live with that but they have oral medicine that can help control that and many people live normal lives with that.

I am begging you to pray for our little girl. We are scared and hurting, and we need a miracle from God. We know that He is able and we are trusting Him to help us through this. I do not know how long this will take to get through. We are told that if she responds well that she could be fine in three to six months. We are anxious to get her well and get back to Thailand. Right now, as I close this letter, I am thinking of the lyrics "my Fathers way may twist and turn, my heart may throb and ache, but in my soul I'm glad I know, He makes no mistakes".

**Please Pray for Kristen**

In Christ,  
Daniel Files and family



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