

## THE FILES FAMILY MISSIONARIES TO THAILAND

Dear friends, family, and supporting churches,

May-June 2022

Thank you so much for your continued prayer and support. We had some special visitors last month. Our oldest daughter Katie finished her first year of Bible college and decided to come visit us for a month. She brought a friend from college and Kristen's best friend with her. It was a blessing to see how God is working in Katie's life and to see how much she has grown spiritually. She is excited about serving God and doing God's will for her life. Being so far away from her is hard and we pray often that she would stay close to God to this point, God has answered that prayer. It was good for Kristen to be able to spend some time with her friend from our home church.

As we mentioned in our last letter it has come time to change our visas. We had to leave the country of Thailand for a short time in order to do this. We are back at our home church now and are waiting for our visas to get approved. We have scheduled our return trip to Thailand for next month. Please pray that our visa is approved quickly. We are excited to get back to Thailand as soon as possible and have an actual missionary visa that enables us to stay there long term.

Please pray for our church that we are serving at here in Thailand while studying the language. Every time we seem to get a little momentum going a covid outbreak will happen and everything slows down again. Please pray that we will not forget the Thai language that we have learned. It is good to have a little break but we are ready to dive back into it. I am continuing to study online as much as I can while here so hopefully that will help me retain what I have already learned. Someone asked me recently why Thai was so hard to learn. I shared just this one word with them to help them understand. The word "kao" pronounced cow in English has many meanings depending on the tone you use. It can mean rice, white, knee, elbow, entrance or news. The meaning completely changes with subtle differences in the tone that you use. Reading and writing is even more difficult. Many letters are pronounced the same but written totally different. I'm getting a head ache just thinking about it while writing this letter. Please continue to pray that God will give us understanding as we study. I talk with people often in Thai about where they will go after they die. They always say that they have no idea, and they are trying to "tam bun" (make merit) do enough to good to go to heaven. I try my best to explain that they can never do enough good and must have help from Jesus. It's so frustrating not to be able to speak well enough to explain where they can understand, but it motivates me to work harder at learning.

Thank you so much for praying for us. We need it. Sometimes it seems like an impossible task but we know that with God, all things are possible.



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