



The Richard Guay Family Missionaries to Thailand

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Dear Friends,

"But my God shall supply all you need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus" Phil. 4:19. We praise the Lord supplying all of our needs and we thank each of you for your prayers on our behalf. We have had many ups and downs the past months, but we are always encouraged as we watch how God supplies our needs!

Several months ago we felt so puzzled about how to solve Richard's health problems. We knew he should get some testing done, but we just didn't have the money to do testing. Then so many of you heard about our need and sent money into a medical fund for us. We were so overwhelmed at how the Lord supplied the money through so many of you. Richard had lots of testing done in April. They found 2 problems. He has a deterioration of the cartilage in the upper spine. However, this doesn't need treatment and isn't bad enough to cause chest pains. He also has esophageal spasms which seem to definitely be what is causing the chest pains. The doctor gave him medicine for that and the pains are gone! One complication of the medicine is that it can cause migraines, but it hasn't! We praise the Lord for His great help in this matter. The doctor still feels that there is another problem which is causing the esophageal spasms, so more testing will done in June. We want to thank each of you who made it possible for him to get the help he needed to stop his chest pains! Although the pain is gone he is still weak and tires easily. In addition to this, he has had a very poor appetite lately. Please keep praying for his health.



Richard teaching at Wang Jow

The meeting in Bangkok about our visas went good, but the organization through which we get our visas said that there is another church named Send the Light Baptist Church in the same province, so they asked us to change the name of our church. We were surprised, because we had never heard of the other church. We tried to keep the name similar, so we changed it to Light Baptist Church.

Our visas and permit for missionary work will expire in June. The government has the paperwork, but hasn't actually approved it yet. Pray that they will approve the permit before the visas expire, otherwise we will have to pay \$28.75 per person (all 10 of us) per day. Although we submitted the paperwork on time, we still have to pay the fine if the government takes longer approving it.

Richard's prison class is going really good. He has had fewer students, but they are really listening to the Bible lessons and even memorizing Bible verses! One of the prisoners that he taught last year in Nakhompathom was just released and said he wanted to come here to study the Bible. We have been making preparations for him to come, but he hasn't contacted us since he went home. Please pray for him.

We are still averaging 7 people plus the 10 of us on Sundays at church. We had a special service for Easter and actually had around 24 people come. Many of those people had never been to a church. We were especially excited that our landlord and his wife came!



Kristi teaching three deaf girls

We have been able to start an English class with a Bible lesson afterwards 30 minutes away at the deaf girl's house. Her family was interested in our class, but it was too far away so we are now having a class in their yard at Wang Jow. That is an exciting class to us because it is at her grandmother's house. Her grandmother is a medium (witch) at the Buddhist temple and now she and her family are hearing God's word each week. Pray for them to be saved! The only bad thing about this new opportunity is that the deaf girl had gone to a nondenominational church before. They had contacted us and wanted her to go to our church because their church didn't have a deaf ministry. Little did we know that they get paid for teaching English at their church which is only a few minutes from our new class. We teach for free (really for an opportunity to teach the Bible) so the other church was very frustrated when we started teaching in their area. We suppose they decided the best way to

stop us from teaching there was to get the deaf girl to return to their church. They began pressuring her to go back to their church. She felt obligated to go there since that was the church she went to first. That was so discouraging. Our sign language had been improving quickly with all of the extra practice and now we will only see her at the English class on Saturdays. The good part is that her family still wants to do the English classes! Pray that God will give us a deaf ministry (and the ability for it) if it is His will.

Many years ago an older man got saved and somehow met some Baptist pastors in other areas. He requested them to start a Baptist church in Tak. That is why Tak Baptist church was formed several years ago. As most of you know that

church was closed because the pastor had some problems. That is what led us to come here and start Light Baptist Church last August. We weren't to hopeful of the original members coming to our church, because they had lots of hurts from the other church and they really wanted a Thai pastor right away. We just prayed for them and kept going by to visit. God let Kristi keep running into one of the ladies at the market. One day one of the men and his daughter came. They started coming off and on and then one day the older man who had wanted a Baptist church came! We knew God was answering our prayer. At the moment that man and his granddaughter come almost every week and 3 other people in their family come sometimes. A few weeks ago, the older man gave a testimony and told about how everyone at home was arguing about where to go to church, but that he was thankful that he had peace now about where to go to church and he thanked God for letting our family return to Tak to start this church.



Matthew teaching Bible

Our last bit of news is family news. Our oldest child, Matthew, turned 18 last month and will be our first homeschool graduate this year. We are so thankful for Matthew's long hours of work in helping us in the ministry. We could have never accomplished so much in the past year (or years) without his help. He teaches children's Bible classes, English classes, plays the piano, leads the singing, helps his Dad at the prison and with visitation, and cleans the church each week. One of our biggest concerns when we surrendered to come to the mission field was about paying for college for our children. We had five children then and now God has blessed us with eight. While Richard was working as an engineer we felt confident that we could save up for college, but as missionaries that looked impossible. Over the years our support has been sufficient for our daily needs, but rarely have we been able to save. So as this first child's graduation approached we knew we didn't have money for college, but we always told him to just pray about where God wanted him to study and what God wanted Him to study because we were sure God had a plan! Matthew spent hours and hours writing essays for scholarships and praying. After much prayer Matthew

feels like God wants him to study Engineering at the University of Texas and Theology at Tabernacle Baptist College at the same time. He can do all of the Bible college through correspondence and the first 1 ½ years at the University of Texas through correspondence. He plans to stay with us in Thailand for the next three years while he hopefully completes Bible college and does the first 1 ½ years towards his engineering degree. Then he will go back to complete that degree in Texas. After the decisions were made about where to study, we waited to see if he received any scholarships or grants. First he got a the President's Volunteer Service Award and a personal letter from President Bush. This was a big surprise because he didn't know he had been nominated for that. He was nominated for it through one of the other scholarships which he had applied for. Although he didn't get the scholarship, he was really pleased with the letter from President Bush thanking him for all of the hours he spent volunteering to teach. Since then, he has gotten one scholarship which will pay for the first year of Bible college and his books and he has gotten a grant which will pay his full tuition and books for one year at the University of Texas. God has truly supplied this need! The best part is that we don't have to part with Matthew yet, and he is still excited about helping us in our work here. He isn't sure yet what God's future plans are for him, so please pray for him to have wisdom!

So though our life as missionaries may be full of ups and downs, we are just thankful that God supplies what we need each day. He knows exactly what we need and sends it in perfect timing!

Sending Church

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Yours For Thailand,

Richard and Kristi Guay
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Romans 10:14