

The T Family's

trēkēin' tīlēḍḍ

One of my coworkers leading a Bible storying workshop



Aug. – Sept 2023

“Take my yoke on you and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and my load is not hard to carry.” - Jesus, Matthew 11:29-30 (NET, emphasis mine)

May grace and peace be lavished on you as you grow in the rich knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord! 2 Peter 1:2 (NET, emphasis mine)

Back to School – It’s that time of year: students groan, parents rejoice! Unless, like us, you homeschool. All of us though, are always learning and growing. That is the theme of this newsletter, inspired by the fact that we got to experience a real summer vacation in America. Now we’re *all* “back to school” – back to Asia, back to educating ourselves in the languages and cultures of this area, etc. Come, learn and grow with us as we take you through some of our adventures of the last few months!

Learning to be patient – Last year at this time, I wrote that our project needed prayer, because the project funds had not yet been approved. That is still the case as of this writing. My coworkers and I are tempted to *groan*, yet in the last year, we’ve all *grown* a lot. We’ve had time to hone our abilities – we’ve all gotten better at crafting good Bible stories, and checking them for accuracy. We’ve gotten chances to share Bible stories in places that we didn’t expect. God has used this time in our lives to grow us and people around us.

Now we’ve heard that the project funding will probably be approved in early September! Please pray that the project funds are approved, and that we will be able to start our Bible storying workshops in six languages right away! If not, we’ll just keep on growing in other ways...



An “Apple” for the Teacher – Paul wrote, “If we sowed spiritual blessings among you, is it too much to reap material things from you?” (1 Cor. 9:11) One of my coworkers leads a Story Fellowship Group each week, where he teaches a Bible story. After his group learns the story, he takes them to share it with others – together, that same day. They get requests from parents whose children have walked away from God. They get requests from churches who want to hear a new way of learning about God. On many of those visits people turn, or return, to Jesus. And everyone is so joyful, they want to feed the whole team of storytellers! It is a cultural value to feed people whom you really appreciate. A prominent part of many weekly reports is the delicious foods that my coworker and his team got to eat – fish, pork, chicken or a local dish. It’s a big deal, because for most of the Bible storytellers meat is a rare treat.



The story group told this couple some Bible stories in their language. He was a nominal Christian, and his wife was Hindu. Now they both want to live for Jesus, and she wants to get baptized!

Please do not share our newsletter without asking us first – Thanks!

Learning can should be fun! - I must admit, I like tech. In my work, I've learned how to build a web site, so that the Bible stories we produce can be shared widely. I've had to learn how to use certain programs and apps, which help me check newly-crafted Bible stories for accuracy – even when I'm on the other side of the Earth. I like learning these things. Recently, I've learned how to make instructional videos, so that I can teach others how to use the programs and apps I've learned to use. I am really enjoying it, and I know it will help others to help others. Thank you God! What could be better?

Summer Vacation - Our kids don't get summers off, usually. Going to America and not doing school was incredibly refreshing, for the kids and us! We spent precious time with my parents, my siblings and their spouses, and with our friends at church. We picked raspberries and strawberries. We went to an amusement park, a water park, several park-parks(?), and a giant candy store! We ate a lot of burgers and hot dogs. We played a lot of board games, but we never were bored. Not for one second.

We're thankful to family for sponsoring this trip, thankful to our church who gave us the Fellowship House to stay in, thankful to a church friend who loaned us a car for a whole month, and thankful to God for blessings beyond measure. It was a taste of Heaven!

Back to Homeschool – E_____ and I have learned that, even with a short break, our kids somehow “forget” how school works. When they start school again, it's like starting a train from a dead-stop: after a week or two, they get the momentum back, the rhythm, the groove. We were so surprised to see that this time, after a whole month of vacation, our kids went right back to doing school work without complaint! Praise God with us – homeschooling is hard, but maybe it's getting just a little easier for all.



In Christ,

The T Family



with us. May the seed of God's Word grow in all of our hearts, and in the hearts of those we're reaching out to, producing 30, 60 or 100 times what was sown!



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For information on how to contact us, please ask at the VCC office.

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Thank you for your willingness to *learn* and *grow*