



The Sullivants Missionaries in Thailand

September/October, 2008

Dear Praying and Supporting Friends,

As we celebrated the Canadian Thanksgiving on October 13, and as we look forward to the American Thanksgiving in November, we are thankful for all that the Lord has done for us. It is without question that the greatest single thing any of us can be thankful for, is the Gift of Life obtained by Grace through Faith in Christ. This thankfulness of heart is, or at least should be, our motivation for serving God. With all that God has given us here on earth, and all that He has promised in Heaven, how can we refuse to give our short time on earth for Him?

One blessing we had for Thanksgiving was the arrival of a couple from the Philippines who are planning to come to Thailand next October as missionaries. Mr. Dong and his wife Bell joined us for our Thanksgiving meal and I was able to take them to Chiang Mai to look into their options for visas and language study as well as to see the city from Doi Suthep, a mountain overlooking Chiang Mai. They are a direct answer to our prayer for laborers in the field. Praise the Lord!

Let me also say thank you to those who have been supporting us financially. We praise the Lord that our support has been sufficient for the needs we have had and has increased since we moved to Thailand. With the current downturn in the exchange rate of the Canadian dollar our support in the local currency (the Thai Baht) has actually decreased, so the increase in support since we arrived on the field has been very timely indeed. About seventy-five percent of our support comes from churches in Canada and the rest comes from churches in the United States. We are thankful as well that the exchange rate for the US dollar is increasing in our favor against the Thai Baht. Having support in two currencies can require more time in accounting but it also helps to stabilize our support in times of economic instability.

Please continue to pray for the container being shipped to us with approximately 250,000 John & Romans and 10,000 New Testaments. I would ask that you pray for a religious exemption from the taxes and duties that usually apply to imported printed material in the Thai language. Brother Wayne Holder is the shipping coordinator for First Bible International and he has truly been going out of his way to get the details taken care of for us. Please pray for his health as well as he has been recovering from surgery since September.

The language classes continue and we are seeing progress each week. Our teacher, Nita, is also the principal at a language school in Chiang Mai. She told us this week that we had progressed further in our five months of study than most of the students who were enrolled at the regular school taking twice as many hours of classroom instruction. These other students had also been attending the school approximately 2-3 months longer than we have been studying. We praise the Lord for His help in our studies and we recognize that our purpose in learning the language is far more important than any other motivation the world could have to offer.

Jessica is enjoying the first grade and has learned to read short stories to brothers Wayne and Wyatt. The boys enjoy the stories and Jessica feels quite "grown up" when she can help Mommy take care of the boys by reading to them. Jessica will begin her language studies in January. She is looking forward to this as well.

The boys are doing well adjusting to the change in climate. Wayne thinks it is too cold to play outside without a sweater if the thermometer gets below 25° Celsius (78 degrees Fahrenheit). Wyatt is the happiest when his mouth and both hands are full of food. The folks here love Wyatt's curly blond hair and his overall chubby good looks.

The church people here are fervent soul winners and regularly bring coworkers and friends to the services with many coming to know Christ and follow Him in Baptism. It has been exciting for us to be able to watch as the Lord works in their lives and see their growth in Him. As our proficiency in the Thai language grows we have small opportunities to help answer some of their questions regarding what it means to be a Christian. Yesterday, I was able to explain to one man, who is a new believer, a little bit of the importance of daily devotions. This man knew he should read the Bible, and even though it has been preached about, he seemed a little shocked that we should read the Bible every day! The Lord has worked some marvelous changes in this man's life, but he is still a baby believer who is learning what it means to be a follower of Christ.

We are looking forward to the Missions Trip, January 5-16, 2009. My Dad and Mom are going to be coming, along with nine others from our sending Church in Winkler, MB. If you are not planning on attending would you please hold this meeting before the Lord in prayer? Please pray that souls would be saved, saints would be edified and encouraged to move forward for the Lord. Please pray for traveling mercies for those who will be coming from outside the local area.

Thank you again for your past prayers and, if I could ask you to pray for the following as well;

- * Wisdom in learning the Thai Language
- * Spiritual strength, wisdom, and protection
- * Our continued adjustment to a new country and ministry
- * The Missions Trip in January
- * Safe arrival of the shipment of Scripture portions, duty free

For His Glory,

Michael & Maureen Sullivant
Jessica, Wayne, and Wyatt

*"Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God,
be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen."*

I Timothy 1:17