

Report of Missions Trip to Sihanoukville and Kampot, Cambodia (13th to 18th May 2010)

by Ng Boon Choo

All praise and thanks to God for a blessed trip. Initially it looked as if I would be going alone but thank God for moving my ex-FEBC classmate Heni, almost at the last moment, to come and help with the work. Sis Heni's talent in music proved to be very useful. Not only did she serve as pianist, she also voluntarily conducted some music lessons for both Sis Lydia (in Sihanoukville) and Sis Thavy (in Kampot) so that they can improve their piano playing. Indeed all things did work together for good.

A large part of the first and last days of our trip were spent traveling. Thank God for His protection during our travels: flying in and out of Phnom Penh, 4 hours' bus ride from Phnom Penh to Sihanoukville, 2 hours' taxi ride from Sihanoukville to Kampot, 3 hours' taxi ride from Kampot back to Phnom Penh, as well as the numerous motorbike rides we took getting around Sihanoukville. Although we effectively have only 4 days to serve, those 4 days were nonetheless fruitful.

Sihanoukville (13th to 16th May)

This was my first time visiting Pr John Saray and his family (wife Lydia and their two children, Jonathan and Melissa) after they re-located to Sihanoukville to start a new work there. Their ministry centers on children's work. All the classes/lessons are conducted from their small living room. Although there

are limitation in terms of space and manpower, Pr John and Sis

Lydia faithfully teach (in the day time from Monday to Friday) a half-hour Bible lesson with some singing for P5 children. The Bible lesson is followed by an hour of



Mathematics or the Khmer language tuition conducted by a trained local teacher. In the evening, there are 2 English classes. They are able to reach out to more than 40 children through these day and evening classes. Thank God that on this trip, I was able to teach a Bible class of P5 children in the afternoon and then one of the



English classes in the evening. Although we did not have the chance to attend their regular Sunday school, I was informed that they have about 30 Sunday school children (mostly students from their various classes).



Instead of the regular Sunday school on the morning of 16th May, a children's gospel rally was held. One of the main objectives of our trip was to help with this first children's gospel rally. Friday and Saturday mornings were spent preparing for this rally. Everybody helped,

including little Jonathan. On Sunday morning, more than 30 children came for the gospel rally. Sis Lydia led in singspiration, Pr John Saray taught the memory verse and I gave the message "Jesus is the Light of the World" with Sis Lydia as my translator. Then the children had a time of art and craft: making a mask for the blind man in our Bible story from John 9.



In the second half of 2010, God willing, they plan to start their youth outreach by starting a class for students from the junior high school. Please pray for this new outreach.

Kampot (16th to 18th May)

On late Sunday afternoon, we arrived in Kampot and settled into the comfortable church guest room. Thank God for the growing ministry in Kampot. The Bible school (started in January 2010) has 5 students. One



of the students is Sis Saron (Pr Rotha's wife). Every week, they conduct a total of 16 hours of lessons. The teachers are Pr Sopheak, Pr Rotha and Pr John Saray (who travels to Kampot every Wed). While they use FEBC lecture notes (with FEBC's permission) as their teaching materials, their teaching is in the Khmer language. I am very encouraged by the perseverance

of these Bible school students. Not only do they have to overcome language difficulties (the quizzes were in English) and endure the smoldering heat every afternoon, some of them are also university students having to cope with their own lessons in the mornings. Do remember these students in your prayers as they will be having their Bible school exams for the first time soon.



Every weeknight, there are 5 English classes going on simultaneously with over 40 students. Besides Pr Sopheak, Pr Rotha and Sis Thavy (Pr Sopheak's wife) teaching, two of the Bible school students (Bolen and Chanroeur) also help to teach the children.



Thank God that many of these children also regularly attend their Sunday school. Although we did not have the opportunity to see their Sunday school, on Monday night I was able to teach one of the English classes. May the Word of God sown during the English classes and the Sunday school bear fruit in the lives of these children.



Ministry in both Sihanoukville and Kampot are growing steadily by the grace of God. Please continue to uphold the work in Cambodia in your prayers. In August 2010, they will be conducting their Children's Vacation Bible School (7 to 8 Aug in Sihanoukville, and 12 to 13 Aug in Kampot). Pray for their planning, the provision of helpers and for the salvation of the children attending.
