#### BANGKOK, THAILAND

ISSUE NO. 2

ROSE LANE/MISSIONARY TO THE PEOPLE OF THAILAND/JUNE 2011-PRESENT

**SAWADEE KA!** 

# WHERE TO BEGIN again?

As most of you know, the past two months have been a challenge for me due to the fact that about two weeks after my arrival in Bangkok, my computer died on me (literally) and thus I was unable to stay connected to most of my friends and family for what seemed like a very long time. However, just this past week, with much anticipation and prayer, a brand new MacBook Pro arrived for me from America (special thanks to Preston Rhoads and the Walthall family!)--since then I have been trying to update everyone on life in Thailand. I have been so blessed by many incredible moments in the past two months, both spiritual moments that can only be attributed to the Holy Spirit as well as teaching moments for myself. I continue to run into new things every day and to make new friends! As always, I am in need of constant prayers as God shapes and forms my life. Please enjoy some of the stories thus far and remember to check out my blog for weekly updates!

#### Much love, rose. www.roselovesthailand.wordpress.com



# **Celebration of New Birth!**

Two weeks ago I was invited to participate in the baptism of nine new believes at a river about one hour outside of Bangkok in the province of Petchburi. About four years ago, a man named Dang was brought to the Lord by a missionary at the BSC; since then he has been gathering a group of young people called the 300 group (based on Gideon and his army of 300 in Judges 7). There are about forty young Christians in this group so far, but you can be assured that it is growing quickly and is a strong force to encounter. I have been blessed to make friends with many of these young adults and am encouraged daily by their strength of spirit.



THE NINE STUDENTS getting ready to commit their lives to the Lord in public.We prayed over them before their baptism and they outwardly proclaimed the commitment that they would be making!



MINT STARTED COMING to conversation corner (offered daily for free at the BSC English conversation practice) about 5 months ago. The 'conversation' is lead by missionaries looking to spread the gospel--IT WORKS!



WE PRAISED GOD with music before the baptisms. I have never felt so blessed to be part of something so large! God is working in the lives of these young people, and the group is growing rapidly!



#### nickname: Kik

age: 23

#### residence: Bangkok

**hobbies:** anything athletic, soccer, biking, giving, 'punk' style, traveling.

**previously:** alcoholic, drug user and cutter. Kik says she didn't care what anyone thought about her & even shaved her head to prove it.

testimony: Kik had a run in with the 300 group that changed her life--literally. She says that she converted to Christianity but it was really a year before she had truly committed herself to the Lord. I get texts from Kik weekly with Bible verses encouraging me. She also asks me for prayer requests & we have had some incredible moments in prayer together.. Most Thai's are joyful, but with Kik you always know it is genuine & from the Lord. She is a blessing to anyone she meets, and is incredibly outgoing! Kik makes about 300 baht (\$10) a day at her job which is "part-time" but she still works 40 hours a week (she says it's part-time because she can take off times if she needs it!) It's unreal how little Thai's can live on & still be such incredibly happy people!

# Another Celebration of New Birth: LIFECENTER BBK!



#### I WAS PRIVILEGED TO JOIN IN THE GRAND OPENING OF A NEW CHURCH STARTED BY A SWEDISH COUPLE THAT CAME TO BANGKOK FIVE YEARS AGO WITH A VISION THAT IS NOW SEEING RESULTS!

One of the many ways I see God working in Thailand-especially the Holy Spirit at work--is though the people. I have been blessed to become friends with some amazing Thai people, both Christians fully converted, as well as Thai's that are just curious about Christianity. In America we welcome new believes into the church immediately. It's not uncommon to hear of someone visiting a church service and becoming a Christian right there. However, in Thailand that is not usually the case. Some Thai's will be 'curious' about Christianity for many years and might still not make a commitment one way or the other. Like my good friend Ting who has been coming to the BSC since 2007. Ting is a more committed Christian then most confessed Christians in the states, however she says she's only 80% Christian and does not claim the 'title', because she doesn't understand everything about Christianity. Like how Jesus, being perfect, could die on the cross for everyone's sins--and believe me there are many "sins" in Thailand that you can only begin to imagine. As many missionaries as have tried to 'explain' Christianity to Ting, sometimes the

## **NUMBERS**

According to the last 'census' in Thailand taken in 2000\*

Percent of Thai's that are Buddhist:

94.6%

The second largest religion is Muslims, with:

4.6%

Christians, mainly Catholics,

0.7%

\*Stats taken from Wiki "religion in Thailand" only way a Thai can understand is to see it acted out. But even with her doubts, Ting has been bringing people to the BSC, to Bible studies, etc for the past four years! She introduced me to the opening of this new church, LifeCenter, and invited our good friend Bank to join us too. Bank is a very curious Christian as well and can ask some of the most insightful questions. For example, after we attended the grand opening of LifeCenter, we were all walking home together and Bank told Ting (in Thai) that while the speaker was talking (his sermon was titled 'Jesus is Better!') Bank got a "feeling" in himself. What he described is what American's would call goose bumps and I explained to him that I too get that same feeling many times when I'm at church or in the presence of the Holy Spirit. This led to some very inspired conversation between the three of us, that could not have been planned! It is moments like this when I am humbled and reminded that I am merely a vessel to share God's power. I am constantly amazed at the Thai people's curiosity and their understanding that their is a higher power out there. Please continue to pray that God will give me the words to use to express his love for the Thai people so that they may experience salvation with nothing holding them back.

## LIFE IN BANGKOK!



Our Sunday evening Bible Study group. We were lucky enough to have a team in town from Washington DC this week and to celebrate the 40th birthday of one of the missionaries! The Deb & Grant Spencer, a family that I went to high school with passed through Thailand on vacation & I was able to spend a day with them. I was blessed by their generosity & love!



I am constantly reminded of God's love & faithfulness as I meet other missionaries that have given up years of their lives to minister to the people of Thailand. Please continue to pray for not only the people of Thailand, but the missionaries!

## **ADVENTURES IN BANGKOK:** PRAYER REQUESTS!



Ting & myself getting excited about eating mango sticky rice! Ting is the most generous person I've ever met and we have conversations about salvation regularly. She is not fully committed but is very close!



My good Australian friend Dani. She went home for a term & will return Sept 1st. Please pray for a safe return & a knowledge that God has her future plans safe within his hands. Also, pray for spiritual accountability between us.

Please be thinking of me on the following dates & continue to pray for me! end of term IV 8/18 traveling to provinces in Thailand-pray for safety 8/20-8/29 Registration term V begins 9/1-9/3

term V begins

9/5

## **Photos from Bangkok!**





• Fellow teacher "Jay" and myself getting enjoying some fellowship before class

2. Traditional Thai "Wai" on the dinner river cruise for mother's day in front of the dessert table!

3. Dad & me at Wat Pho in front of the enormous "laying down" Buddha

4. Me and Dad in front of one of the many beautiful towers at a Thai temple.

FROM THE DESK OF DYLAN WHITTENMORE The BSC is always looking people to come teach or do missions work. Recently we had a team from D.C. visit & here's what a 19 year old college sophomore studying elementary & special education said:

"Home safe from Bangkok. I had the best week of my life (I am not just saying that. It really was the best week I have ever had!!) I would rather go back to Bangkok once than go to the beach 30 times! God has taught me so much within the last week. I will never be the same as I was before I left. I feel like I got to live as a legit missionary for a week! & I love it! praying about maybe dedicating my life to missions. praying, praying, praying."

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