



Medical DTS 2014 ... Team Cambodia

Week 5: Here, There, and Everywhere



“In His name the nations will put their hope.” (Matthew 12:21)

This week was a hectic and heavy one, with our team split into three different locations and ministries, working with the University of the Nations base here in Phnom Penh.

One group worked with **Children At Risk**, a ministry based in an industrial area of Phnom Penh serving families (some of whom live in slums and work in factories), especially children, who are at risk for sex trafficking. The ministry runs a children’s program several times a week, pregnancy support programs, adult small groups, building houses in the area for poor families, and more. Our team members played with local kids, washed and styled hair, taught bible stories, games, songs, and health teaching, and generally loved on the kids! Such a great time.

(Above: Tim, with Children at Risk, translates for Priscille, Alex, Jenn, Dani, and Eanja as they teach kids about handwashing and teeth brushing)

Another group worked with **Women At Risk**, a ministry targeted towards women who are either currently involved in or at risk for prostitution. This ministry works closely with prostitutes to build relationship, offer hope, and offer opportunities to exit prostitution into other means of providing for their families, connecting with existing resources and organizations in the city. Our team members ran clinics for families and women in the slums and on Trash Mountain, a community living in a garbage dump. They also built relationship with some of these women, sharing personal testimonies, worship, and meals, and did some prayer walks in key areas around Phnom Penh.

(→ Jenny takes part in children’s ministry during a clinic near Siem Reap)



Another group spent time with a ministry called **The Message Parlour**, located in a red light district of Phnom Penh, that seeks to offer hope and resources to those in the area, such as those working in prostitution or their customers, brothel and bar owners and workers, and other community members. The ministry has a small haven in a mall amidst beauty parlours and gambling centers, where they serve beverages and ice cream, sell books, provide a safe place for kids and adults to drop in and chat. Our team members taught the staff a CPR class (*← Max and Dani teach the staff important points to consider before performing CPR*), walked through and prayed over the red light district, and worked with the ministry staff for both men’s and women’s outreach.



We were also blessed with a piece of home, as **Barbara** (one of our school leaders) came to join us for a few days! For the next week or so, Barbara will be travelling with us, to villages and clinics and beyond, and has already been such a blessing to our team! It's great to have her enthusiasm, her passion, and her loving hugs and encouragement with us for a little while. (→ Barbara praying for some of our clinic patients in "the waiting room" prior to seeing a nurse)

Week Five was tough for many of us as we encountered hard situations: working in slums, seeing where some Cambodians live and work every day in awful conditions, meeting people who make difficult choices, and much more. We learned a lot about the love and compassion of the Lord for those we find difficult to love, and the hope that Jesus is to those who live in what feels like hopeless conditions or situations.



(← Doctor Charm sees a patient during one of our earlier clinics)



Please pray for us this week as we travel around to several villages and prepare for the final leg of outreach back in Phnom Penh. Pray for safety in travel, rest when we can find it, and energy for the work we do. Pray for continued filling from God in areas we need it most, for clear communication within our team and with our contacts (as misunderstanding and miscommunication is common), and for strength for the next three weeks of outreach. Please also pray that we don't become mosquito food as we stay overnight in a few villages in the next little while (especially Jenny... the mosquitoes seem to really like her!).

'Til next time, from Cambodia with love!