

# “I’ve met Him. I am a follower of Jesus.” (Sophal's words to me)

The most intriguing character in the book of Acts is the Holy Spirit. I don't think too many Christians would argue with this. Contained in these short 28 chapters we observe God's spirit moving in the lives of Jesus' followers to guide, convict, inspire, heal, speak, give vision, and draw thousands to Christ. Obviously God is making it clear to us that His spirit is at work amongst us every day, all day. Yet, even with this biblical revelation and my own experiences, I find myself sceptical. Not sceptical concerning the existence of the Holy Spirit but skeptical of His will to work in the lives of those we minister to. With Sophal's recent decision to follow Jesus, my skepticism, I'm glad to report, is at an all time low!

About two months ago, Sophal (a former student and graduate of Logos International who I have been ministering to and praying for since he was in the 7th grade) made a decision to follow Christ! In our last newsletter, I mentioned his newfound curiosity and peeked interest in the big questions, like, how can we really know God exists, etc. We met a few times to discuss these follow-up question to a class that I teach the seniors at Logos. He told me that he was basically intellectually a Christian but had not experienced any type of radical conversion or euphoric feelings to accompany his mindful decision. After discussion about the pitfalls of relying on feelings to determine our status with Christ, I suggested he read the gospel of John and cry out to God to reveal Himself to Sophal. A week later Sophal asked if we could meet again. He began that meeting's conversation by saying, “I’ve met Him. I am a follower of Jesus.” My next words to him were delivered through teary eyes and a tight throat.

Since Sophal's encounter with Christ, he has found a joy in reading the Bible and we meet fairly regularly to discuss his future plans. Please pray for him as he comes from a semi-buddhist/confucian family who will not be happy when they find out Sophal has become a Christian.

As missionaries here in Cambodia, we do not always get to see the fruit the Holy Spirit produces from our meager efforts. It is because of this that being present for Sophal's conversion and early discipleship is a real treat. Thank you so much for your prayers!



We finished our homeschool year at the end of May! Seth finished 5th grade, Hadassah 3rd, and Gianna 2nd. They love to learn and make teaching a joy(most of the time)!

We started summer off with a bang with the arrival of 2 very special visitors all the way from America: Brad's parents! The kids were so excited to welcome grandma and grandpa! We had such a special time with them. They did amazingly well with their first trip to Asia and had a great 5 weeks here. It was fun showing them around Cambodia.

Seth chose to get baptized while his grandparents were here. It was so special to see him get baptized by his dad and grandpa, 3 generations of Barrett men, following Jesus, what a legacy! Seth also got a surprise visit from an awesome friend who is a mk in Thailand. We had been keeping it a secret for 6 months

and it was so worth it to see his face when he saw his friend!

We have visitors coming from Hawaii in a couple of weeks on a scouting trip to potentially send future teams to Cambodia. We are excited about their visit!

We also have VBS coming up, which is always a highlight of our summer. Brad and I are both helping this year and all 5 kids get to attend. The kids are counting down the days.

This typically would have been our summer we go on furlough, but now that we are a family of seven we have decided it would be financially wiser to go every 3 years. We are hoping to go on our next furlough the summer of 2018.