



# Zeekisms

Mike and Sonja Zeek

January 19, 2010

## Moving In

Our plans to settle quickly into our new house in the small Thai town of Tha Wang Pha and immediately start learning the Hmong language were thwarted! Improvements to our home took longer than expected. Then, at the end of November, we travelled 9 hours to Bangkok for Mike to take a government Thai proficiency test. The test was as Mike expected: impossible! He hasn't received the results yet, but we thank you for your prayers! However, Mike was able to begin reviewing Hmong sounds (phonetics) with a Hmong Christian. It appears to be easier to learn than Thai. The two languages are completely unrelated.

## December - A Crazy Month!

One week after returning from Bangkok, we drove 5 hours to Chiang Mai to settle our account with our former landlord. We unexpectedly received a letter that our landlord gave us from the police about a slander charge on a webpage. The letter requested us to go to Bangkok to testify to the police that our IP address was stolen. So on December 20th, we returned to Bangkok. With the help of some Thai friends, we met with a Christian lawyer, who also oversees a local Thai church. He connected us with a member of the church who was a police officer and could speak English! This police officer took us to the police station and translated for us (because it was a lot of legal language we don't know in Thai.) After 45 minutes of questioning, the information we provided was given to the person who made the accusations against us. The good news is we haven't heard anything back from the police; no news is good news. We returned home just in time to decorate and plan Sinjin's first birthday party! After all that running around, Christmas day was relaxing!





### **Hmong New Year-Dec 17, 2009**

We participated in the Hmong New Year celebrations by dressing in our fancy Hmong outfits. In one Hmong village, there were carnival rides and games set up in the school's field. Some of the old traditions are fading. So, it wasn't quite what we expected, but still fun.

### **Getting started**

Before we knew it, New Year's Day arrived. On January 7th we drove 40 minutes to the Hmong village of Doi Diw to arrange the place where we will stay when we visit. The next three months will be busy developing relationships with the villagers.

### *Prayer Requests*

#### **Melanie**

A young woman from Texas arrived Jan 9th and is staying with us for a month to see the Hmong ministry in the beginning stages. Melanie found us from our website and wanted to take a survey trip to Thailand to see if this is where God is calling her for missions. Pray for direction and guidance about possibly becoming a partner in the Hmong ministry.

#### **Hmong village-Doi Diw**

Pray for us to adjust to Hmong culture and to find language helpers. Pray also for the people's hearts to be open to the Gospel!

#### **Slander charge**

Thank you to our prayer warriors who have lifted us up in prayer. Like we said above, no news is good news, and we're pretty sure this problem is resolved.

*My message and preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power. 1 Cor 2:4-5 NIV*



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