

January 22, 2012

# ZEEKISMS



## Arrival of Mikaela Naomi Zeek

We celebrated a simple Thanksgiving in Chiang Mai while waiting for our little girl. Mikaela (pronounced Ma-kay-la) was born on 11/30/11. We are

busy adjusting to life with a newborn and a 3 year old. We thank God for all of our many blessings! Visit our website for more photos.

## Hmong New Year on Christmas Day

The Hmong New Year falls on the new moon, which was on Christmas day this year. The Hmong in all of the surrounding villages celebrated their New Year the entire week between Christmas and New Year. The Hmong Christians in our village celebrated Christmas with a special dinner after the church meeting. Later they gave out cookies and snacks as part of an outreach to the village.

## Christian Hmong Conference

On January 15th-17th there was a conference of 60-70 Hmong believers from around 10 villages in the area. Mike had the opportunity to demonstrate the Project 316 audio players he's been putting together. Around 30 Hmong are very interested in receiving a player so far. Praise God!



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### Project 316

Some Bible material is still being translated by our Hmong friends in the US, but we are getting closer to distributing the players in the near future. We've had a plethora of technical difficulties with the players themselves and couldn't transfer the information we currently have. Fortunately, on our latest trip to Chiang Mai, we were able to exchange the malfunctioning units with new ones that were shipped from Singapore. Hopefully there won't be any more difficulties. First, we will test the players with the believers in our village where we work. We heard about other missionaries who have used the audio players in Thailand among other people groups, and they have had great success. There is very little material available in the Hmong community, but when all of the teaching resources are completed it will be the most complete set of material available to the Hmong. We will also make these teachings available in other media formats as well. The impact of Project 316 will hopefully be far reaching.

### Teaching English

Many of the children who we teach at the Hmong school or as part of our Learning Center don't remember much of the vocabulary that we teach. The children at the school are not required to be tested on what we teach, and we have different students every week-end learning at our home. So, we are now developing a reading program. All of the students know the



“ABC’s” but they don’t know how to read, primarily because their teachers don’t know how to properly read either.

### Mike’s Translator

Over the past few months Ja, who is from the Hmong village that we work in, has not only been translating for Mike, but told us that he is learning a lot, too. As Mike

teaches English to Ja, they go through the lessons that are taught in the village, and in this way Ja is not only getting better in speaking and reading English, but he is learning many things pertaining to the Bible that he has never before learned.

### Prayer Requests

- Pray that everything will go smoothly with Project 316 and that the first set of initial teachings will be completed soon.
- Pray also that there will be a positive response from the believers and that they will start using the audio players right away to share the Gospel with others.
- Pray for the continued relationship with Ja to be successful.

*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace...  
Ephesians 1:7*

*God bless,  
Mike, Sonja, Sinjin and Mikaela Zeek*

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