



Cambodia Focus

The Newsletter of Troy, Lisa, Dmetri & Alex Tabor, Assemblies of God Missionaries to Cambodia

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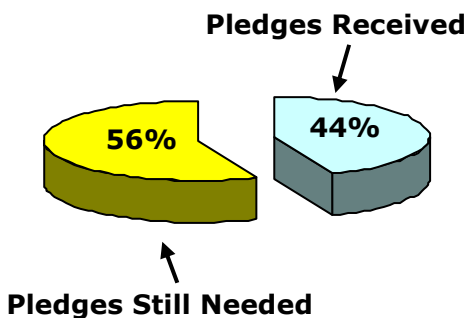
AGWM Account # 2482156

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Itineration Totals

- Miles Traveled To Date: 25,163
- Number of Services: 121
- Number of States Visited: 10

Pledge Overview



God's Amazing Grace

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast.” Ephesians 2:8-9 These verses are among the most familiar in the Bible. Paul was helping the church in Ephesus to come to a fuller understanding of just what the grace of God had done for them.

Webster's Dictionary defines grace as “The unmerited love and favor of God toward mankind; divine influence acting in a person to make the person pure, morally strong, etc.” The idea of “unmerited love” from God toward man was something altogether new to the people of Ephesus. The city was the home of the worship of Artemis, the grotesque mother-goddess of fertility. The idolatry revolving around this cult had become central to both the city's identity and economy; it was a daily part of life. And as with any form of idolatry, it was essentially a religion of works; you earned a god's favor by what you did for them. Grace had no part in it.

Prayer Requests

- Continued peace and stability for Cambodia
- That our budget would be raised quickly so that we can return to Cambodia in March
- God's protection while traveling
- God's blessing on our services; that (1) the lost would be saved and that (2) people would be called to missions
- God's direction as we plan for future ministry opportunities

In Cambodia we face a very similar situation. Over the centuries Cambodia has been dominated by Hinduism and Buddhism, two idolatrous religions that revolve around works. Today, 95% of the population is Buddhist, and as in Ephesus, many Cambodians' daily lives and identities revolve around their idolatry. In fact, the form of Buddhism prevalent in Cambodia today has become little more than a superstition of buying favor and good luck from a host of gods.

In addition, Cambodia is a country that has been dominated by a culture of hate and revenge. Even when revenge is not immediately available, hate and resentment will boil just beneath the surface, for years if necessary, until an opportunity for retribution presents itself. Grace is a gift most Cambodians can hardly imagine.

The message of a God of grace, who loves and accepts people not because of what they have done, but in spite of it, is a message of hope in a land of hopelessness. Pray with us that the message of God's grace will be heard throughout the land of Cambodia.

