

Cambodian Chronicle

*"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."
Philippians 3:14*

Dear Praying Friends,

The first "Pressing Forward" conference was a success! 170 registered delegates attended the meeting. 20 national pastors, and 13 missionaries were among those in attendance.

One of things that made this conference unique was the cost. Most conferences in Cambodia are completely paid for with outside money. We decided to charge a registration fee for this conference. It was a significant amount for the Cambodia believers, enough that a few missionaries thought we wouldn't have anyone come. We invited a limited number of churches, then prayed and planned for 150. The reluctance and limited enthusiasm coming into the first day quickly changed. Numerous people changed their plans or asked for another day off to be able to come to the second day of the conference. The people also gave over \$500 in offerings to take care of expenses that were not covered by the registration fee!

As people left the conference, talk of and excitement for next year's conference was already buzzing. Pastors and missionaries are already preparing their people to expect a higher fee next year, because we will need a much bigger place! This year's venue was the perfect price FREE! Thank you to my long time missionary friends, Kounaro and Chorvy Keo!

The people of New Hope Baptist Church got excited about this conference and took a bulk of the burden upon themselves from the very beginning. Pastor Sakaun gave \$100 toward the conference before the meeting was even confirmed. A factory worker in our church gave me \$50 for his \$7.50 registration fee and told me to keep the change. \$50 is more than a week's pay for him! Becky thought I had organized our people to clean up after the conference because of how quickly and thoroughly they worked to clean and organize the property of the host church, but I hadn't organized any clean-up! Our people jumped right into the most difficult and dirty jobs. I, on the other hand, was standing around talking to pastors and missionaries about next year. :) I am so proud of our people!

A quote from a missionary friend about the meeting: "We have had several people express their decision to take some steps--some to start witnessing with us...door-to-door. Some are giving testimonies tomorrow night and Sunday as well. We covet your prayers and we pray that the decisions will bear fruit for many months to come with the Lord's help. To God be the glory! We will be praying and planning for next year as well. Looking forward to hearing more details for PFC 2019!"

You can read a blog post by one of the missionary kids who helped play piano for most of the congregational singing at emmagracebenefield.blogspot.com/

Thank you for your prayers for our ministry!

Rodney Ruppel
Rodney Ruppel

Before the
Conference
Began

Please pray for
These people to
accept Christ!
Song (witchdoctor)

Rain
Touch
Dine
Et

Please pray for
these new
Christians!

Srey Nee
Sukia
Vanna
Rut
Pixie
Thavy
Chanee
Naomi
Phally

