

# RODNEY & BECKY RUPPEL

## CALLING CAMBODIANS TO CHRIST

DECEMBER 2025

### Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and Merry Christmas!

Christmas always opens up opportunities to talk about Christ and His wonderful gift of salvation. This year we are having Christmas TWICE!

On the weekend of December 21st, Becky and I had the opportunity to go to Phnom Penh, visit and invite a number of our contacts, help with preparation for the evangelistic event on Sunday, and, of course, attend the service at New Hope Baptist Church. As we were busy helping on Saturday, I realized that I wasn't worried about a thing. The church is fully turned over to national leadership, and the burdens of planning, administration, and shepherding all belong to the Cambodian people that we reached with the Gospel and trained to take our place. They are doing a great job! They do not need Becky and I anymore, but it sure is encouraging to see them every once in a while.

God has allowed us to work with Pastor Tho and his family at Freedom Baptist Church in Trapeang Komplien Village. Pastor Tho and his wife are from this village. Pastor Tho was invited to church by Missionary Ray Shull, led to Christ by Missionary Stephen Benefield, and discipled by Missionary Dave Board. He was then pastored by Missionary Ray Shull and mentored by Pastor Proh, a national pastor helping Brother Ray at the time. Proh's wife, Chenda, had the opportunity to lead Pastor Tho's wife to Christ. Tho's family has been living back in their village for about 5 years. Becky and I have been with them regularly for just over a year.

Pastor Tho's ministry has earned the reputation of being a ministry for children and teens. A little over six months ago, we made a concerted effort to begin changing that reputation. At the end of July, God saved the mom of a couple of teen boys in the church. She has been coming very faithfully ever since. We continue to work and pray for this ministry to become a church of families. We desire to see whole families attending church together and serving together to reach more people for Christ.

Pastor Tho has not used the opportunity of Christmas to reach out to his unsaved community. A couple of things have hindered him. First, there used to be a church in the village that destroyed the testimony of Christ and Christmas. At Christmas time, they would hand out very generous gifts without giving the Gospel. This created carnal expectations in the community. Second, December is often the time to harvest rice as it was again this year. For most of the people in this village, the rice they harvest is what they eat for the following year.

As Pastor Tho and I prayed, we felt that God would have us celebrate Christmas on January 4th. Pastor Tho, his family, and the people of the church are excitedly inviting family, friends, and neighbors. Becky and I visited many people with them last Saturday as well. Pastor Tho has also expanded the 30-seat meeting place to now be able to accommodate 50-60.

We are praying that God would bring us as many as He pleases. We are especially praying for the Gospel to be sown in the hearts of men and for souls to be saved!

Merry Christmas,  
*Rodney Ruppel*  
Rodney Ruppel

**The remodeled  
meeting place in  
Tho's Village**



Sending Church: First Baptist Church of Bridgeport, PO Box 249, Bridgeport, MI 48722 (Pastor JD Howell)

Email: [rodneyruppel@gmail.com](mailto:rodneyruppel@gmail.com) Field Address: PO Box 2506, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Archived prayer letters: [theruppels.wordpress.com](http://theruppels.wordpress.com) Facebook: The Ruppels - Calling Cambodians to Christ