

RODNEY & BECKY RUPPEL

CALLING CAMBODIANS TO CHRIST

SEPTEMBER 2026

Proverbs 27:10 "...better is a neighbor that is near than a brother far off"

For the last 30 years, Becky and I have learned that the Cambodian people and the other missionaries we serve with are such a tremendous help to us during our sicknesses and struggles. Most of the time, our blood relatives have been too far away to be of much help. However, the last few months, God has put us together with our family as all of us have faced a number of difficulties.

We came back to the States a month early to help our son move, but God also used this change of schedule to allow me to visit my step-brother who has been sick for quite some time. He accepted Christ as his Savior a number of years ago. My mom and I had a great visit with him as we talked about God's saving grace in our lives and the blessed hope of Heaven given to us through Jesus Christ. He passed away 2 weeks later. I thank God for the opportunity to visit him and for the opportunity to attend his memorial service with all my siblings. A brother and sister that is near is better than a brother and sister afar off.

In March of 2026, my dad was diagnosed with cancer in his bladder. After many tests and consultations, he decided to have his bladder removed. At 88 years old, he would be the oldest patient on which the surgeon has ever performed this surgery. The surgery was scheduled for September 8, 2026. God allowed me to be at the hospital with my siblings to support my dad and encourage one another. Around noon on the day of the surgery, we received word from the surgeon that all had gone well. He recovered quickly and left the hospital a week earlier than the doctors expected. I thank God for the opportunity to be near my family at this time instead of afar off.

While my dad was in surgery, we received word that my mom had a major stroke. Her left side is paralyzed. Four days later, she had another stroke while in the hospital, but the second one affected the right side. Because of the second stroke and some other complications, my mom is still in the hospital. The first part of our plan is to get her out of the hospital and into rehab by September 28th. The timing of this illness is not a coincidence. God is in control. This situation is not at all what we wanted, but I am so thankful for my siblings and for the opportunity to be here in the States during this struggle.

On a different note; We came back in July to help Ryan (our son) and his family move to Oklahoma where he is now pastoring Cornerstone Baptist Church. Our heart was filled with joy to have the opportunity to hear him preach. Then while visiting Blake (our son) and his family in Ohio, we had the opportunity to hear him preach also. These two men have grown to become wonderful preachers. Now Rhadee (our daughter) and her family have just arrived for a short furlough from the Philippines. We look forward to seeing them next week. We enjoy being near our children, but we know that no matter where they are, God is always with them and helping them. It also encourages our heart to meet the people that God has put into our children's lives to be near them when we are far off.

- Please pray for my dad's continued recovery.
- Please pray for us to have wisdom in making decisions for my mom's rehab and for her strength and spirit to face th
- Please pray for us as we are on furlough, and I continue to teach Online Bible Institute to students in Cambodia.

From not so far away,



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Archived prayer letters: theruppels.wordpress.com Facebook: The Ruppels - Calling Cambodians to Christ