



"rak teh" translates as
"love : authentic"

evoking feelings of real,
lasting, life-changing
love that cannot be
bought or sold.



Rak Teh #11 – December 2009

Happy Thanksgiving from America and Merry Christmas from Bangkok!!

These last few months have been a blur!!! While in the USA we were honored to share meals with many of you (the uncomfortable expansion of Iven's waist line bears testimony to your marvelous hospitality), were showered with gifts at Kashmira's baby shower, and had the privilege of speaking at the United Christian Parish, Reed College, Film Faith and Justice, Rainier Avenue Church, Calvary Community Church, University Presbyterian Church, House of Oaks Ministries, and New Horizons Ministries. It was so good to be with so many of you but we did over-do it a bit! By the end we were literally running on empty – on the way to our final support appointment in Seattle our car actually ran out of gas (not the best way to make a first impression, but at least we're honest)!!!

Family highlights were a trip with all 4 of Kashmira's parents to Vancouver BC, and being in California to celebrate with the family as Iven's dad turned 60 and his sister turned 17.

Thank you for sharing your lives with us - we are much richer for your friendship.

Christmas Cookie Caroling Extravaganza...

After a very hectic first week back in Bangkok, with lots and lots and lots of help we celebrated the Rak Teh Christmas Cookie Caroling Extravaganza. Our 2nd annual Christmastime cookie outreach had an amazing show of support, with volunteers joining us from churches, schools and organizations throughout Bangkok. Nearly 1,500 cookies were made and delivered to our "cookie wrapping headquarters" (special thanks to Bo, Celeste, Lisa and the New Song crew!) and about 70 people showed up on a balmy Sunday evening to hand out cookies, belt "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" at the top of their lungs, and bring Christmas cheer to the streets of Bangkok's largest red light district focused on male prostitution. As we had hoped, the guys received both our presence and their cookies with joy.



Do you remember “B” whom we wrote about in our last newsletter? We hadn’t seen him for several months; he had lost his phone, and had changed the place he was working – so we were really delighted to see him on the night of the cookie outreach. He was also excited to see us, greeting us with hugs, and enthusiastically ushering us upstairs into the new dance bar where he is now working so we could give out cookies to the young men that were on stage. We thank God for all of your prayers and volunteer hours that made this event such a resounding success!!!

The Christmas Party...

With lots more help from our YWAM friends, we put together a gorgeous party for the guys. We love the way our friend Brandon wrote about the event on his blog: <brandonfox.missionsplace.com>



“The next day we prayed and hoped that of the 1500 cookie invitations that we gave out that some of the men would come out. We set up, prayed and waited.... And one guy came out! We waited some more and my friend Iven (him and his wife led us in this whole adventure) had 2 thoughts; one of which was the Shepherd leaving the 99 for the 1. The other was a banquet that was thrown with food prepared and a servant sent to invite people to the party, and no one came. So the King said to go to the streets and invite the poor the lame and the crippled... SO we prayed and many people felt the same, so we live this adventure with God and went out and some people came. The guy I met was named Saluang and he was 61 and was searching the garbage cans, he came to his first Christmas party and we sent him home with stories of Jesus and buckets of food and cookies. It was so much fun!”

Please Pray For:

- Encouragement in our relationships with guys.
- 6 consistent volunteers who can keep outreach going while we adjust to life as a growing family.
- The safe delivery of our healthy baby who is DUE MARCH 7.
- The birth of Rak Teh community!

Honestly, we (I&K) were tremendously disappointed at first. We **know** it is worth it to be faithful in our obedience to seek to lavish authentic love on this community, but given how well the outreach went the night before, we had hoped for more than just one guy... and honestly, when the turnout is that low, it means we made some mistakes in our planning. Oops!!!

But for those of you who remember last February’s newsletter, it is super special that the one guy who did show up was “Sonny”, the young man from Cambodia whom we met during the Cookie Outreach last year. Sadly, he’s still involved with the industry, but we are so encouraged that he is continuing to seek honest and deep relationship with Rak Teh and we were able to bless him with a Cambodian Bible and a great spread of food, made just for him!

Our Address in Thailand

Iven & Kashmira Hauptman
c/o YWAM Thailand
Box 20 Thungsetthi
Bangkok 10263
THAILAND

Support Address!!!

Iven & Kashmira Hauptman
c/o YWAM Montana
Accounting
501Blacktail Rd
Lakeside, Montana 59922
USA

Please make checks out to “YWAM”, write “3588” on the memo line, and include a separate note that your gift is for “Iven & Kashmira”. Please don’t put our names directly on the check. :)

Thank You!!! // Financial Update // Looking ahead to 2010...

Thank you for all of the ways in which your partnership and friendship make it possible for us to be here in Bangkok – we are able to serve through your continued generosity and we truly consider it a gift to be able to represent so many of you in this place.

As we look ahead to the birth of our first child this March and the continued expansion of our ministry activities there is presently a **\$500-\$800** dollar a month gap between our 2010 target budget and our pledged monthly income.

We continue to be amazed at how creative God is in providing for us and we aren’t stressing about the gap between our budget and our reality, things really do always work out! That said, we think it is most faithful for us to let you know that if you have an interest in joining our pledged regular support team there’s room for you! :)

You mean the world to us, and we thank you on behalf of ourselves, Rak Teh, and the guys whom we have the honor of loving. Happy new year!!!

All grace and peace,

Iven & Kashmira

P.S. You can see more pictures from the outreach at our new and improved blog: www.iveandkashmira.info