

๐๐ รักแท้

“rak teh” translates as
“love : authentic”

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



Rak Teh #12 – May 2010 - Transitioning

Izayla Talae – Our Little Gift To The World!!!

We are so very, very much in love! Gosh is she beautiful! Who knew that drinking milk, sleeping, and pooping could be so interesting? Three weeks ago she started smiling – we figured that would get us (and it does!!!), but even her screams (“*That bath water is way too cold dad-what do you think you are doing??! Why are you killing me??!*”) reinforce our love.

Izayla Talae (I-zae-luh Ta-lay) is just over two months old and utterly delightful. Even from early in our pregnancy we had a strong conviction and awareness that this little girl is a gift from God, but the neatest thing is that every time we go outside we can see how she is a gift not only for us personally but also for our neighbors and the guys. The week we brought her home from the hospital we had people knocking on our door almost every night to come and see the baby. Her full head of hair and toothless grin have melted even the grumpiest of our neighbors and opened up many conversations about family, children and other important parts of life. Our neighbor’s comments are so consistent that we’re a little afraid Izayla might come to think her name is “na-rak-muen-tukata” or “lovely like a doll!”

Our little girl is teaching us to love deeper and fuller than we ever have before – to love her but also all those around her that she so freely delights in... even as they delight in her. It is truly a joyful journey that our family is on in this season.

So What Is Life on Outreach Gonna Look Like With This Little Girl?

The honest answer is we don’t really know yet! We’ve been blessed with nearly 40 days

of grandmothers as both Kashmira’s and Iven’s moms have seized the opportunity to come and cuddle their first grandchild. But between Kashmira’s recovery (3 weeks of bedrest), Bangkok’s protests and visits from our family we really haven’t spent much time outside of our immediate neighborhood since before Izayla’s birth. (You might say Rak Teh has been on maternity leave!)

In the midst of being home-bound one gift from this slower season is a reminder of our call to “the streets” and “the Loop”, even more than the bars. Recently a friend of ours was praying for us and made the comment that we are “street people.” How right they were! We really love nothing more than squatting on the





sidewalk with our homeless neighbors or praying under a street light with one of the guys. Bangkok is the most street-focused city you can imagine – people eat, drink, work, shop and sleep all on the streets.

(A side story: after one outbreak of political violence not too far from our home the first person to call and see how we were holding up was Wa, one of our homeless neighbors. He got brave and borrowed a cell phone in order to contact us! Don't worry the protests are nowhere near our home anymore!)

The few times we've been able to go on outreach since Izayla's birth we have also tangibly sensed God's favor on the streets, while the bars have seemed surprisingly cool towards us... our first few nights back on the loop in 3 months brought us back together with 2 different groups of guys we've known for more than a year, each so happy to reconnect – and a new connection with a young man who was moved to tears as he shared about his desire to know and honor God (he had just recently become a Christian) in the midst of his shame connected to this work.

On a practical note even as we are raising up volunteers to continue working in the bar neighborhoods, street outreach near our home is more accessible, healthier and more comfortable for Izayla. Thanks to a generous gift from Kashmir's parents of a very Bangkok-friendly, incredibly durable stroller, some battery-powered fans to keep our little girl from melting, and a mosquito net, we have found going outside in our neighborhood to be easier and more fruitful than ever before.

- Please Pray For:
- Wisdom & Teamwork
 - Focus & Obedience
 - Our Volunteers
 - Our Summer Interns
 - The Guys
 - Our Neighbors
 - Our City: For Shalom
 - Leadership Abilities
 - Real Fruitfulness
 - Transformed Lives
 - Abiding in Jesus

Our Address in Thailand
 Iven & Kashmir Hauptman
 c/o YWAM Thailand
 Box 20 Thungsetthi
 Bangkok 10263
 THAILAND

Support Address!!!
 Iven & Kashmir 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 & Kashmir". Please don't put our names directly on the check. :)

Iven and the BLT (what's that about a sandwich?)

Over the past 9 months Iven has been invited to have a more influential voice as part of the YWAM Bangkok Leadership Team (BLT) as an "observer" – allowing him to shadow and learn from our more mature leaders here in YWAM Bangkok, as well as opening the door to give input and help out from the perspective of one who loves urban ministry and the city. At the beginning of this year he was also asked to take on a coordinating role for the YWAM Bangkok staff meetings which occur every two weeks.



Looking Ahead...

In mid-June we will be welcoming our first set of summer college student interns from University Presbyterian Church in Seattle. We are eagerly anticipating the arrival of these two young men and two young women into our neighborhood and city. We are still working out the details of what their summer of service will include, but are eagerly anticipating how this time will be a blessing to them, us and especially our neighbors and the men we work with.

Also in June, our good friends Sam and Pat will be moving to a nearby neighborhood and working closely with us to love this part of the city. Their vision includes serving and loving the homeless members of our extended local community, and they are seasoned leaders and vibrant pray-ers. We are really looking forward to working with them as each of our focuses develop alongside each other and intertwine.

P.S. You can see more pictures of our little girl at our new and improved blog: www.iveandkashmira.info

All grace and peace,

 Iven & Kashmir