



รักแท้

rak teh | love : authentic

rak teh translates as “love : authentic” evoking feelings of a lasting, life-changing love that cannot be bought or sold

Who then is my neighbor?

*rak teh : serving and loving our neighbors
in the way of Jesus on the streets of old Bangkok*

Wander just a few blocks away from Bangkok's Grand Palace and you might bump into some interesting neighbors:

- A 17-year-old male sex worker, exploring the life of male prostitution as a way to support his video game addiction.
- A 37-year-old homeless man, on the streets since the Tsunami took his wife, his daughter, his business and all of the fingers on his right hand.
- A 45-year-old deaf woman, sick with AIDS, her family is long gone and she doesn't know where else to turn.
- A 60-year-old grandmother, she has been selling sex for money on these streets for decades now, too ashamed to ask her children for help.

The people who sleep on our streets every night, and the men and women who sell sex in our neighborhood (24 hours a day), each have stories – a mother and father, a home that they come from, and a childhood dream of who they hoped to be when they grew up. In each story, there is a sad chain of events that led them to where they find themselves now. Some still readily smile, they have friends on the streets, while others are barely holding it together, struggling with addictions and scrambling for a few coins each day in order to use the bathroom or buy a cup of noodles.

Jesus lives in our neighborhood too. How do we know? Because he told us:

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Jesus is leading us and showing us how to love those around us – he is opening our eyes to see each of our neighbors as a unique, precious, God-breathed creation. Our work is to see God's glory made known on these streets – for truth to be made manifest through changed lives and healthy relationships, and for all of us neighbors to grow together in our experience of God's transforming love.

Jesus changes lives.

Jesus transforms communities.

Jesus uses us.



What is Rak Teh's Response?

How is Rak Teh loving our neighbors? We are working towards:

1. Praying for the transformation of the neighborhood, city and nation: **Intercession.**
2. Introducing the community to Jesus: **Evangelism.**
3. Encouraging individuals to live a life reflecting who God has created them to be: **Discipleship.**
4. Connecting neighbors with government services, training, health and employment resources providing for basic needs and long-term opportunities: **Networking.**
5. Working in partnership with neighbors to meet felt needs within this community: **Mercy Ministry.**
6. Planting the church in this neighborhood: **Church Planting.**
7. Inviting YWAM and the Church to grow experientially in relationship with the poor: **Training.**

What Can You Do?

Pray.

Sign up to receive regular prayer emails, or contact us about praying alongside of our team periodically in the neighborhood.

Serve.

Come & See: love our neighbors by joining with ECB's monthly "Visiting the Homeless" 4:30pm @ Baan Rak Teh near Sanam Luang, the 3rd Saturday of every month.

Go & Teach: we gather for "Church" (in Thai) at Baan Rak Teh every Monday night at 4:30pm
Come help us teach or support the work with either children or adults.

Let the Children Come to Me: on Thursday afternoons at 4:30pm neighbor kids come in for "Kid's Club"
Would you like to help young disciples grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord Jesus?

Give.

Financial gifts may be used in a variety of ways, from providing meals or medical care for neighbors in need, to buying bibles or children's resources for church services at Baan Rak Teh, to encouraging small business start-ups with neighbors, helping keep the air-conditioning running at our center.

If you are interested in giving towards general ministry costs, specific needs or supporting the staff of this ministry please contact us for more information.

Wanna know more?

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