

Hughes News



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Bill and Julie Hughes

Dear Family and Friends,

Around the middle of March, the Covid 19 situation was worsening in Thailand and the government instituted a national lockdown. They closed non-essential stores and shopping areas. Restaurants can only do carry out. No gatherings are allowed. They restricted temples and churches from meetings. In the villages we work in, they don't want people to gather. In the city everyone is expected to wear masks when they go out. It is now extremely difficult to travel into Thailand from other countries and very few flights are leaving. There is a curfew from 10pm until 4am. If you are caught outside during that time you will be heavily fined. They are also quarantining everyone who has been exposed to the virus. In a small town just to the north of us, one woman came into a clinic with the virus and now 100 medical people are quarantined in a hotel for around two weeks. These restrictions are in place at least until April 30th. As a result of all of this, the number of new infections has been 50 or under per day for a while. As of April 15th, we have only had 41 deaths nationwide.



Most people around here are very nervous about catching the virus and are complying with the government. This has severely restricted our ministry since we can't go out and visit our people or reach out to new ones. However, I have started giving a short message from the scriptures online most days for those who can access it through their phones. Our leaders are ministering to individuals as best they can, mostly through phone calls. Please pray for us that we will be able to freely move about soon and that the gospel will somehow spread more than this virus! Also, please pray for the protection of the Lord for the people who live in the villages.

We know that many of you are going through many of the same restrictions we are encountering. We have been saddened by the reports we hear from the US of so many people catching the virus and especially to hear of the many deaths. Many of you are going through real hardships because of this pandemic. We want to stand with you in prayer until we see victory together. We feel more connected to you than ever. Thank you for standing with us to whatever degree you can through this challenge. We trust that God is going to be faithful through this as He always had been in the past.

We have been using this time as a period to focus on the Lord and draw near to Him in prayer. We are seeking His face and believe that He is still working all things together for our good and more importantly, for the good of His kingdom. We want to come out of this time better than we were before it started.

Thank you for your prayers, love and support for us in Thailand!

Bill & Julie Hughes ♥