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Quite the Change in Scenery

Yep, Dorothy isn't in Kansas anymore 😊. It's definitely been very different scenery for the past 6 weeks. I wrote at Christmas that I was in Bangkok. That continued for quite some time, as my health continued to be pretty precarious. I got to know the halls of the hospital really well. Turns out the 'cold' I thought I might be getting was actually Influenza B, which set my respiratory system right back to the way it was when I was still in my country at the end of November. The doctors weren't quite sure what to do with it all, but they definitely threw the medicines at me. I ended up spending two weeks just trying to get things settled down to a dull roar.

I was worried I was going to have to cancel further plans, but finally I progressed enough to be able to travel down to a resort set up for workers like me. It was so nice to get to the quiet, fresh air, a natural beauty right along the ocean. I still wasn't able to do much for most of that time, but it gave me a great place to just be quiet, read, and finally do some walks along the beach as the cough gradually got under control. It was a gift to stay in such a nice place, have great food without any effort, and even visit with some others currently out of my country as well. I even extended my stay there for a bit, with the bonus of moving to a room right on the ocean front.

and also confer a bit with leadership here. I once again was treated in being able to stay by myself in a house rented to use as a training center. It is in such a nice quiet neighborhood, with a great place to walk along a canal and during the best month of the year, when it is still quite cool. It was so nice to feel up to walking, with both of the issues down to a dull roar. My foot was so happy with the nice smooth walking surfaces, though it continues to let me know it's there. And I was finally able to cut back on medicines and get back to almost normal with my breathing.



"But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, 'You are my God'.

My Times are in your hand.....

Make your face to shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!"

Psalm 31:14-15

One of the passages that our Lord really encouraged me with in this difficult time.

There has been plenty to think and intercede about after being denied a visa for my adopted country. With the current approach the government is taking, there is basically no regular type of visa that I would likely be accepted for. So, this definitely means a big change for me. I haven't been feeling like this is the end for me quite yet, despite everything. So, I have decided to try a semi-distance approach for at least the coming season of time. Hopefully I can still manage to be in-country for 5 months each calendar year. I will plan to continue with some of what I was already doing as well as look for opportunities to develop

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much the mobile phone era has changed capabilities throughout the country over there. So, I am looking to live in Chiangmai, Thailand the rest of the year, where I should be able to get a visa. Hopefully there will also be the chance to establish some relationships and work with my countries nationals working here and maybe even those in Bangkok.

So, I'll be heading back this week. Join me in asking that I will be able to get in without problems on a tourist visa. I plan to spend 3 months at first for this year. I am hoping for the opportunity to go out west again at some point to help with some work out there. But, I will also face the huge task of closing down my household there. Needless to say, this many years of living have added up to quite a collection of 'stuff', and it won't be an easy job. I won't be able to afford to rent a place in both places, so am planning on moving to more living out of suitcases, leaving just the basics in each place. I am hoping I will be able to find reasonable furnished places to stay in temporarily as I come and go. Please be asking for His help in this job, that I'll be able to get at least some funds from selling things, and also that I will be able to get a refund on the half-a-year of school fees that I had already given. Finances will be getting tighter with this new life-style, so I hope the Lord will help in providing some in this way.

Stay tuned for this next saga. I really know what it will look like, and I'm sure there will still be plenty of surprises. But it is so encouraging to know that none of this is a surprise to God. He is still in control, knows what is best, and will work all things for good. Yes, ***my times are in His Hands!***

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