

Ashleigh Gibb

Prayer letter, August 2018

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As I write this, it's around two months before I begin my home assignment back to the UK. I am in the stage of starting to process this. Would you judge me if I told you I had written a list of all the things I intend to do when I'm back? On said list, we have walking around Tesco for 4 hours, visiting various crossfit gyms around the UK and of course the ultimate, a trip to Nandos. I have no shame in admitting I have been dreaming of days spent with Piri Piri chicken and mint peas.

On a more serious note I am going to welcome the rest and the opportunity to be poured into by loved ones. I can't wait to embrace my family and best pals and spend days by the fire drinking good coffee, as well as talking to all you wonderful supporters about the work God has been doing here in Thailand.

I thought I would write one last prayer letter before I venture onwards to HA as a lot has been happening in and out of the ministry. There have been some extremely hard times and some moments of sweet joy. Through all this God continues to show me his love and his faithfulness. As I wrote in my previous blog, just because we are journeying through seasons of uncertainty and our emotions don't always feel so stable, one thing we can be sure to rely on is that we serve a God who is forever unchanging. Our emotions don't necessarily equate to reality.

I would love to update you about an area that we are continuing to serve in and that is outreach. This has changed over the course of the time I have been serving with BMS partner organisation Nightlight. The way human trafficking is being dealt with here in Thailand has changed quite recently, and has resulted in fewer women on the street. We continue to seek God's wisdom on where to take his presence and how best to tweak our outreaches to still bring glory to him. Just because we don't necessarily speak to as many women on the street does not mean we should stop bringing the presence of the Holy Spirit into areas of darkness.

Last week we visited a brothel we had not been into for some time. The Russian ladies were really happy to see my friend and me. We had a beautiful conversation with a woman and she shared a lot of her heart with

us. She confided how the work was making her feel and how much she missed her darling babies. It was one of those conversations that was so peppered with God's love and grace. We felt so honoured that she felt able to open up to us. In those moments it's not about giving wisdom, giving advice or pushing any opinions. It's simply about being an ear and letting her know we both love and care for her. We see her struggle and we see her. Next week, as we come with invites for our medical clinic, we will do so bearing gifts of baked goods.



A beautiful cappuccino created by a beautiful woman



Thank you God for creating beauty from ashes

The job training for the African woman continues. I find such joy in watching the girls progress as they learn the skills of latte art or how to create a beautiful

sponge cake. The time is coming where girls are starting to move on to the next season of their life. My only hope is that amongst the learning of new skills they feel loved, accepted and heard during their time at Nightlight. It's thanks to the support of BMS and the churches that women come in to the program and develop. So, from the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you.

Outside of work, exciting things have been happening in church. I had a beautiful opportunity to speak last weekend about identity in Christ. I had shared my testimony in church a few months back, and this time was able to go a little deeper into my past and God's pursuit of me. I spoke on how blessed we are to find

our worth and stability in Christ when everything and everyone around us is fleeting. It was an emotional service and I thank God that he spoke through me to reach others. Off the back of this I have begun a women's bible study around the topic of identity, covering such areas as addictions, body image, lies from the enemy and beauty in Christ. I still have to pinch myself when I realise the place that God has called me to. My heart and soul is dedicated to serving Jesus and letting his daughters know that they are precious and so very loved.

Please pray for the development of this in and outside of the ministry. Big breakthroughs are coming!

Ashleigh

If you would like to support Ashleigh by prayer and committed regular giving, visit www.bmsworldmission.org/partners or call 01235 517617 for a 24:7 Partners leaflet.



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