



R Family News

March, 2017

Called, Committed, Connected By Rick

We serve a personal God, with specific callings for committed individuals, who are connected to Him and His people. That was the subtitle for GTO's (Global Tribes Outreach) annual retreat where I had the privilege of being their guest speaker this past month.



Throughout the sessions, we looked at aspects of our lives that God has planned and prepared for us. We just need to submit and follow what He has laid out for each of us. Knowing that God has our: name, job, future, map, back, strength, team and boss should be freeing and encouraging. May all of us be a called, committed, and connected people, for God's glory! ♡

(Since Rick was the speaker we as a family were invited to be at the retreat too ... it was a gift to us to connect with people that we have gotten to know over the years on this side of the world).



RaVonne & RaMont arrived back in Chiang Mai from the USA on March 9! It is so good to have them back! They brought two friends along, so there was a lot of activity going on! ☺ It's been an adjustment for them to be back in Thailand again! ♡

Pray for ...

- Rick and Renita, for wisdom as we train our family in Godly character
- Rick, giving leadership at IGo
- More students for IGo 1st Semester, 2017
- The last week of Asian Bible School
- Our witness for God in the community
- Our 3 oldest children as they find their place here for the last 9 months.

Praise God for ...

- RaVonne and RaMont's safe return from the USA
- A great missionary retreat where God worked in our hearts and spoke through Rick



We enjoyed connecting with Michael and Lia and their family from Southern Thailand again.



We loved being up in the mountains of Thailand and doing a lot of things outdoors!



Passing the Baton

This year is one of transition, both for us as a family and for IGo. Val and Barb Yoder moved to the USA in December, 2016, and handed the Administrator baton on to us. Since we are leaving in December of 2017 we will be passing that baton on to Duane Weber, who is Rick's assistant this year. This is a lot of transition in one year's time, but we really sense God's hand through all of this! We are so grateful! Our desire is to be able to pass the baton on smoothly! Good communication, passing on of vision & the work here, team unity, and God's grace are all a part of a smooth transition. **Please pray for us to be able to do this well ...** to enable the ones coming behind us and then to let go at the right time. This is one of our biggest goals this year! ◇



In February, Victory Christian School had a field trip to Ratchaphruek – a beautiful flower garden that was built in honor of the king in 2006. It was a place we had visited soon after we moved here and it was fun to see it now 10 years later! It is also fun to interact with the multiple cultures at VCS – 13 students who represent a mix of 6 different cultures. ◇

We were delighted to host Rick's brother, Montie & Heidi and family in February. It was so fun to have family here and to show them around Chiang Mai as it is now (Mont & Heidi have both been here years ago)!! We enjoyed eating Thai food at the market, a motorcycle ride around the mountain, the elephant camp, Night Safari, lots of basketball, swimming, cousin fun, Odyssey stories and some work projects too. Our children were so sad to say good-bye to them when it came time for them to leave. Good-byes have been a big part of our lives here, but lately it seems like it's been 'stepped up' a little...there's been a lot of coming and going of siblings, family, and friends. It's something that our children talk about a lot. ◇

