CONE FAMILY

CROWN COLLEGE | BIBLE STUDY | LIFE CAMP



Contact Us

Brian Cone & Family

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BIMI

423-344-5050 <u>www.bimi.org</u> P.O. Box 9 Harrison, TN 37412 **Dear Pastors and Praying Friends,**

It was a special blessing to return to the States and help our son, Hudson, move into the dorms at The Crown College of The Bible. We want to say thank you again to those who gave us that special gift that we didn't know we needed. After our return to Thailand, we were aware that we needed to be there, and Hudson needed us to be there as well. We also enjoyed spending time together as a family before we said "See you later", again for an unknown period. Pray for Jamie and me as we have come to the harsh realization that this will be our first Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and also our children's birthdays where we will be separated. Our hope would be for Faith and Hudson to visit us each year at or around the holidays. But, it is just not possible due to expenses, school, and work schedules. Especially not once a year. Jamie has already experienced her birthday without either of our children present to celebrate. Now the children and I will experience it this coming January. I guess you could say we are feeling the full effects of an "empty nest" from halfway around the world.

Please continue to pray as we search for a building for our church plant. I know we sound like a broken record. We found a building that we would consider perfect for a church, with a large worship area, and several rooms on the second floor for classes and parking. Unfortunately, this building is out of our price range. Please pray the owners would lower their price or the Lord would put the actual perfect building in our path. Our living room is getting quite full on Sundays. We are grateful for it, however, it is a blessing and a burden each week.

The word is out that we are teaching English classes for free. Everyone who is contacting me understands that our goal is to teach them the Bible and they are all ok with that caveat included in the deal. Our driveway is full of bicycles and our front door is full of shoes. I wish you could see it and experience it with us. Recently, we had seventeen 10 to 15-year-olds show up. All of them were excited to learn English, anticipating the delicious banana bread snack we had ready, and interested in the Bible lesson. Some of them are asking questions about Christianity, please pray as the Holy Spirit works in their lives. One student asked if he could continue to come to class even if he didn't understand the Bible or know who God or Jesus was. I told him of course, and I said we would pray that he would soon understand. We would love to have a class specifically for their parents, but due to space and resources, we cannot make that a reality just yet.

Soon we will go to the 29th Annual LIFE camp that takes place Northeast of Bangkok. Several English ministries from around Thailand will come together with their English students to focus on learning English. Every day there will be English classes but there will also be Bible preaching and teaching throughout each day. Every non-Christian will be paired up with a Christian and will have specific one-on-one "Buddy Time" to discuss the Gospel. Please be in prayer for one of our students coming with us. His name is Geo. He is fluent in English and does not need to study more English. One time my wife asked Geo why he even comes to English class every week he said, "I just love hanging out with you and Mr. Brian". Lately, Geo has begun asking several questions about Christianity, trying to determine if it is better than Buddhism which most Thai people are indoctrinated with from birth. We were talking about being a Christian and he said something about not being a Christian I said not vet and he said that is true not vet. Please focus your prayers on every moment we spend with Geo during LIFE camp and that he will see a large group of Christians learning about and worshiping our Savior. Our desire is for Geo to see that Christianity is not just a religion to be studied but a relationship with our Lord and Savior. Please also pray for each person attending and the decisions they will make that will last for eternity.

Serving the Savior, Brian P. Cone