

## **TEEN CHALLENGE OF CAMBODA**

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### Life on the streets

Our street outreach program has been moving smoothly and graciously reaching out to those young marginalized drug addicts on the streets. Our team of three people including one volunteer having their daily schedule on regular basis out to the streets to share with them the message of hope, joy and bright future. We also shared with them about harm prevention for their lives and taking good steps toward challenging behaviors. This month update, we reached out to 65 street children and young addicts, 20 of them are females, 45 are males. These 65 children and young addicts had the opportunity to hear the gospel, new teaching of living, and learning the new ways of preventing themselves from harming of drug injection and other infected materials. 5 of the children and young addicts agreed to be in our full program of Teen Challenge Center where it based in Takeo province. The situation of

street children and young addicts are very sad. They were treated very ungraciously and badly while they are on the street. They had to cope with vulnerability and high risky situation in their lives. They were thought of they were just like another kind of human beings. Some people in Cambodia believe that this is because of their Karma from their past lives when it comes to the point of view of the Buddhist's belief. Every single child and young addict who came from the street to our Teen Challenge Center, they came with nothing such as no hope, joy and future. Their lives were totally at zero point. Their body (mind, and spirit) was damaged because of drug and other things, and that also including sexually abused. The pains of bitterness, unforgiveness, resentment, abandonment. unattachment. trauma stayed in their inner spirit. Drug and sexual activ-



ity are one of the things which they used to cover up those hurts and pains in their lives. So dealing with physical needs are not also sufficient, but looking more deeper at the spiritual needs are significant for each one of them. They not only need food, safe environment, but also the true care that releases healing and growing them to the knowledge of Christ who can transform them holistically. We are here and called to be the hands, the feet of Christ Jesus at the Teen Challenge to serve them and bring them to experience the new love, joy and hope for their lives. Again, these children and young addicts are truly part of the Kingdom. Please keep praying and standing with us as we're expanding the terri-

## Living to add value into one's life

The teaching of Christ Jesus is so powerful. As I kept reading and focusing on His words, it compounds me to be revealed to the secret of sharing and giving to others. The more we give, the more we receive. We cannot be a blessing receiver until we are the blessing giver. As student of the word of the Lord, I am still making the mistakes and learning from them and applying the princi-

ples into everyday life. It was such the great joy and privilege for me to be able to share of the personal and life experiences in term of serving in the ministry for the Kingdom. I was invited to share about the project design and planning training workshop with 20 emerging leaders and directors and representatives from Christian ministries and organizations who are the

members of the Chab Dai network. The 2-day sharing was so blessed. We learned from each other weaknesses and strengths. We were able to have the time of connecting with each other and mentoring each other.



## Friendship is a Leader's strength

Friendship is the leader's strength. It is so important for the leader to make such the good friendship. There are so many benefits that we can have from making such the good relationship with people. Leader should value and respect that factor. In the book of Ecclesiastes says "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart" - Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. In this scripture is clearly indicating a lot of meanings. It teaches us about the principles and importance of being together as friends. There are four points I learnt from this scripture concerning friendship, I called it **TEAM** and I am sure that you will learn more than that. 1. The spirit of Togetherness. When the two or three people agreed together on particular things for the good of themselves, there are great things will happen in each of their lives. They share their value, experience

and insights to each other then each person can get the most of the points from each other. 2. The leader should be in the environment of Encouragement. As the scripture mentioned that when one falls, the other one will lift him up. People will definitely go through the time of suffering, and trouble in life and that allowing encouragement comes into the person's life. 3. Keeping each other to hold Accountable for. This point is so important for leader to be able to courageously share what the reality in their life with those whom they really trust. We should be brave enough to share what are our reality in life concerning our faith growing in the Lord, our life serving in the ministry and even our sexual relationship health. This will help us growing more when we pour out our life with the one who we really trust as a good friend. 4. Mentoring each other so that we learn together, we grow together and we enjoy the harvest together as friend. Good friendship is playing an important role as mentoring tool to guard each person's interest and benefit. If we keep our life with momentum of mentoring each other, there are great things will happen in our life. I



**Koy Chhim** 

would suggest you to find someone who you really trust to be one of your mentors on your journey of leadership and life development, and that would help you a lot for your life journey. The great example of good friendship is about David and Jonathan. They made life covenant between each other. The Bible clearly mentioned that Jonathan loved David as he loved himself. He laid down his life for David, even if his father almost took his life for David. The two of them were having the very deep relationship and they shared their personal values for each other. Again, as leader we should make good friendship so that the relationship will become the blessing to our relationship and supporting us when there is time of trouble and fall. As leader, we should value and respect that factor. As we continue to build up this friendship, we will be making the most of it and great things will happen in our lives. It will take some time to build up such the relationship.

## **Staff Training at the base**

We always have the privilege, honor, and such the blessings to have our great friend from Australia. That was Ross and Jan, and their teammates were with us for two weeks both at our TC base and our church. They really had such the great heart for serving the Cambodians and adding value into the Christian leaders. Ross and Jan one of our great friends who are always standing behind, with and for us both in prayer

and financial support. We had them sharing the training with us at the TC base with our students and staff on manhood. This was one of their strengths to empower the staff on how to minister effectively to our students. The training was really indispensable and beneficial to each of our staff. It helped them to grow to the knowledge of Christ Jesus in serving our students passionately. Dealing with drug is not

an issue, but the real problem is the inner spirit of the person himself. That was involving (resentment, unforgiveness, hopeless, abandonment, bitterness, unattachment ...)



### Ways you Can help

- \$100 monthly support for one student (including: shelter, food, medicine, skill trainings, clothes)
- Buy a 100kg of rice. It's around \$65
- Buy a box of bibles. It's around \$75
- Send a short term teams to the mission field.
- Sport equipments (football, foes bal, etc..)
- The startup of income generation program
- Word-of-mouth to others who have passion to help
- 3 used laptops for students vocational training
- Funding our new women program
- offering for the building fund
- Help hosting friendship camp
- Adopt our whole program

### **Praise God for:**

- Phase one of dorm is being built to enlarge our services
- More of network partners were being built

### **Prayer Requests**

- General fund for TC ministry
- Women Program and TC Vocational Training Center are financially planted
- Three hectors of land 30000US\$
- Staff and wisdom to direct the ministry.
- ECO farm business will be able to

### **Testimony**

Tech Si To is born into a family of 4 children and he is the oldest one in his family. Si To is a young man of 29 years of age. His family is a medium living standard.

#### Life is in a mess!

Tech Si To has a lot of friends and he never helped out with house works. He always hooked up with his friends outside of the home. He stayed up late almost every night with his friends doing inappropriate actions. He has wasted of his parent's money and stealing things in the home to exchange for money. He drank a lot and smoked ice meth and heroin with his friends. He also joined a band of gangsters in his neighborhood area.

His parents were feeling very badly about him and tiring of his actions. They both decided to send Tech Si To to a Drug Rehabilitation Center where it is asked not to name (for security reason). They hoped his son will be recovered both physically and emotionally. Si To stayed there for almost 3 months. He experienced hardships and life of discipline. "I was tortured like a prisoner there. They treat me like a dog. They hit me by my head, they gave me of not enough nutritious food to eat. I am almost dying of living there, Said Si



Life At the Teen Challenge Center

Si To asked his parents to come back home and promised with mom and dad that he would never have done such the bad things once again. Finally, he can't keep his promise with his parents ending up with old life again.

A few weeks later at home, his parents heard of her friend through New Life Fellowship church that there is a Christian Center out in Takeo province is actively helping with children and adult whose lives were shattered by any addictions. So the parents contacted the Teen Challenge Center and finally sending her Si To to the Teen Challenge Center.

When Si To first came to the program he noticed that staff and some of the other students welcomed him so friendly and treated him just as a friend. After quite a few weeks staying at the Center, Si To began settling and building friendships and helping out with things at the Center. From day

to day, he is progressively transformed with his mind spiritually, and began to understand the message of hope. Finally, he decided to give his life to Christ Jesus. He said of Jesus "I would have died before coming to this Teen Challenge Center, but I am so grateful of Jesus Christ who has called me out of the pit already when I was in the band of gangsters"

### Marriage Life

After spending time for almost a year with the Teen Challenge Center, Si To completely decided to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. He asked the Center to leave the program and wants to help his parents. After thoroughly evaluating of his case, he is able to go back to his parents. The Lord has tremendously transformed his life and blessed him with a very beautiful Christian wife in one local AG church. So they both got married with the blessings under the grace of God.

Si To now is working as a supervisor over of drivers at Zaman International School in Phnom Penh where he is able to financially support their daily living and he began actively attending church where his wife is coming from (AG church in Takeo) and he is the father of one little beautiful daughter.

Si To says of Teen Challenge Center "Thank you Teen Challenge for helping me back to the beautiful meaning of life"

### OUR VISION

Facilitate life-transformation for people with life-controlling problem, one person at a time, by the power of God.

### **OUR MISSION**

Develop qualitative program to help youth, adults and families with life-controlling problems become established in society through faithbased solutions

#### **OUR CORE VALUES**

- We are **C**ommitted to help the students
- We are Honest to God and the people we serve and the relationship
  we have
- We are **R**esponsive to the needs of the people we serve
- We are committed to Integrity
- We are **S**tewardship
- We are **T**eamwork

# Want more information Or To make a donation?

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