

# **TURNING LIVES TOWARDS JESUS**

It's a challenge of going against the culture and life patterns of a particular living environment and culture.

### The Afternoon Activity Jan-June 2019

I thank the Lord that I can be a part of His work here in Bangkok, Thailand. Five and a half years has passed and day after day, I am still awed by His faithfulness in the community of **NONGMAI**. It been very much a part of my life now to live and minister to the kids here. Everyday, there is only one prevailing thought in my mind and that is; how can I help these kids to turn their hearts to Jesus in the way they think, in the way they express their feelings towards those they live with, like their parents, siblings and friends. My work is not just to organize activities to occupy their free time after school, but to give them a place with a different environment from that of the slum. One of love, acceptance and joy where they can dwell in the love of Jesus, where they grow to be a positive influence to the society but most importantly a disciple of Christ.

Before joining the "Afternoon Activity" program, the kids would spend most of their time at the common playground area. They would fight, yell and seize all opportunity to tell tales and see their friends get beaten up by their grandparents. Yet they can still play together every single day. Without even realizing it, they create for themselves a vicious cycle of unhealthy characters, social habits and behaviors which inevitably flow into their teenage life and adulthood. This is further reinforced by the examples they see at home; most of which are dysfunctional. So these kids watch, copy and paste that into their lives. Many of these kids are not bad, they just lack LOVE. Many desire attention, affirmation, acceptance and approval. For the kids that I work with, they are learning that they do not have to fight, take revenge and be angry just to get these.

I thank the Lord for the "Afternoon Activity" where the kids can come and find a safe place where they can laugh and enjoy every single moment with their friends without the unnecessary strife. (picture of they laughing and playing) it took 4 years for these kids to stay regularly everyday 3-4 hours just for me to cultivate positive mindset, to share the love of Jesus , to teach biblical principle and to pray together(pictures of praying together)

Many kids and youths have come and go but those who stayed, we can see a change in their mindset and behaviors towards themselves and one another. For this reason, the Afternoon Activity is essential for it provides an alternative for the kids; one which they can grow up in love and proper guidance.



#### TangLek 7

He came from a family who deal with drugs. He used to be an angsty boy who likes to stir trouble with other kids and often fights. Ever since he came to the Afternoon Activity's program regularly. He has changed to become a smiley boy who learns to be at peace with other kids in the Afternoon Activity. He enjoys the company and loves the loving atmosphere here. I thank God for His work in the lives of the kids here, even though they may not realize it. May they one day understand that the Lord has always been with them when they come to know the Him.





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#### PRAYERS

Please keep this work in your prayers

-The work of the Holy Spirit in their lives, to change their hearts towards God.

-The continuation of financial support to keep the work going after next year (as the Norway

Mission Board decided to stop funding this work from 2021 onwards)-Good health and good sleep -for me, so that I can be in good shape to do His work

-Opportunity and learning moments to teach them about God and their need for God through their everyday life

-These kids will eventually be the godly influence in this community to other kids and b bring them to Afternoon Activity and eventually to Christ