

# Extreme Love



A Report of Your Impact Through **Extreme Love Ministries**

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OUR MISSION is to partner together to restore social justice and destiny in individuals and regions through rescues, education, discipleship, advocacy, outreach, events, business, and community development.

*NOTE: The names of once-exploited beneficiaries have been changed to protect them from re-exploitation.*

**We so appreciate your faithful investment in this work!** In God's generous economy, you have produced fruit in the lives of many needy, at-risk children, adults, and communities here in Cambodia, AND you stored up treasure in heaven! We hope this update encourages you further!

## Shifting into the right gear

How you helped a prodigal find his way again

**F**inding one's place in life is challenging for every kid. But it gets much harder when, after a wrong turn, a child finds himself lost. Tee learned that lesson the hard way.

Tee was 8 years old when we first met him. He had no father around, and his mother worked long days collecting trash to survive. While working, she left Tee to care for his 2-year-old sister, putting them both at great risk of being

trafficked and exploited. There were many close calls.

At that time Tee was forced to run drugs for dealers in his community. They would beat him and threaten him if he didn't do the work.

Learning of this, and knowing his sister was too much for him to care for, we stepped in and got Tee into school and provided daycare for his sister.

*continued page 2*



*Tee\* overhauls an engine with two of his classmates*

Fall | 2023

BRINGING GOD'S LOVE, JUSTICE AND HEALING TO THE NATIONS

# My Thoughts

By Andrea Koftinoff, Director of Extreme Love Ministries

## MORE CHANGE

Why does it seem that, just when we get comfortable, change seems to come? I don't know about you, but that's often my experience. And even for me and others who enjoy change, it sure can be exhausting! A Greek philosopher once said, "The only thing constant is change." While I would agree that is partly true, the supreme truth is this: "The only thing constant is Jesus." In an ever-changing world, our foundation has to be Him; only He is "the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). Isn't that comforting!

Waves of change have hit us over the last several months . . . one of our Shiloh communities was forced to relocate; one of our churches moved to another building; many of our EEP students went through change; my husband and I unexpectedly moved to new housing; change impacted several of our clients, our aftercare efforts, and our EL training program; changes occurred within our team; and the list goes on. So, while I love the always-new—and the adventure—change can be tiring! I know many of you are also experiencing "shifting" in your lives, too.

Transition is unsettling by nature; we are no longer where we were, and yet not fully where we are going. By very definition, then, as citizens of a Heaven we are constantly in transition. That's good—God is preparing us to be with him! In the same manner, as we move to each new place God would have us (physically, spiritually, emotionally), I find continued comfort in the truth that He is our constant. He is an unchanging rock we stand on and cling to when change moves us into our next place (Psalm 89:26; 95:1). We are praying for you and for all that God may be shifting in your life, too.

Let's remain grounded in Him always . . . our solid foundation, our cornerstone.

*Andrea*

## The right gear

*continued from page 1*

Tee was a top student, studied hard, and loved Jesus! He attended our special kid's prayer services often and would talk regularly about his desire to know God more and tell others of His love.

But as Tee grew older, his mom pressured him to work. Then, during Covid, she pulled him from school and sent him to live with his grandfather in a rural province, away from the city. We lost contact with Tee, but God continued to watch over him.

Then one day earlier this year, our team was on a routine visit to the slum where Tee grew up—and there he was! He had just returned from the province!



*As a young boy Tee (center) liked to pray and worship with other kids*

Now 16, he told us the sad story about his absent years. As we had feared, Tee struggled while living with his grandfather. Life there wasn't easy for him, and he missed school very much. Without strong godly influence or purpose, he eventually turned to drugs and alcohol.

Our hearts grieved for him, and for the loss of his childlike heart. But we also sensed that he wanted to "come home." And our arms were wide open!

Tee then asked us if we could help. He had missed a lot of academics, but he was good with his hands, so we asked if he wanted to attend a training school. Tee told us he wanted to fix cars, so after some searching, we found a great program for him doing just that!

Once a prodigal, Tee is now back on track, learning a very marketable skill. ELM is providing for his tuition, as well as for his meals and on-campus housing. After completing the program, the school will get Tee a job with a reputable company repairing cars so he can then support himself safely and with dignity.

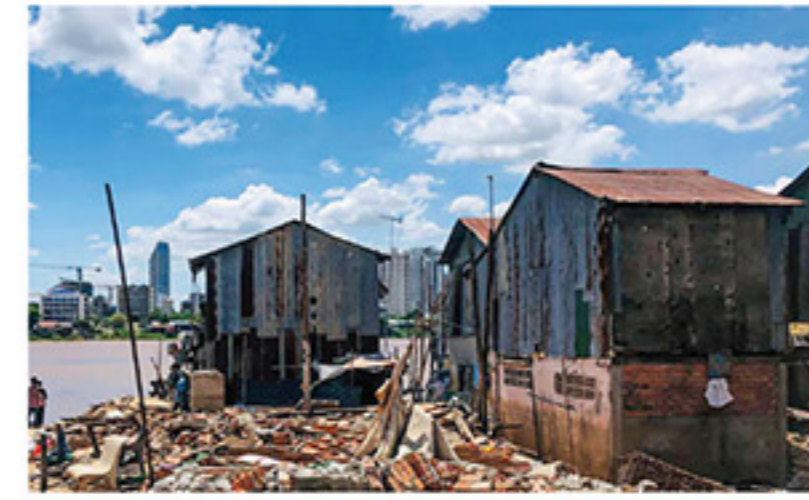
Thank you for helping Tee "shift his life into the right gear" once again! And there's good news about his little sister, too: she's now enrolled in school because of a sponsor, and we regularly check up on her. She's doing great!

# Shiftings...

Your lease is up. That's the message city government officials told the residents of a slum community we call Noah's Ark. To be fair, the poverty-stricken residents had never paid anything to live on that land, and the government has given them time and a place to move to, but the move is a massive shift for this fragile community. Thankfully, you've helped us build and maintain relationships with them for years, and had an established Shiloh church and Lighthouse presence.

ELM has been engaged since we first heard the news, helping them with this transition. Recently, you've helped us provide staples like rice, and lots of blue water barrels (they are moving from the riverfront to a waterless inland plot).

Changes of this size can leave vulnerable adults and children at higher risk. With continued help from partners like you, we will do all we can to make sure the people of Noah's Ark survive the rough seas of change.



At left, a few of the buildings still to be taken down; bottom left, our Shiloh church being dismantled; below, a water barrel at the new location



The residents of the new Noah's Ark community have been so grateful to receive your love in the form of rice and other life-sustaining gifts. At right, Pastor Jonathan speaks about God's love and care for His people before a rice distribution.



More shifting happened in another slum community we simply call Railroad. This time it was a good problem: our Shiloh church had outgrown the building we had been renting. Thankfully, we found another building that has more space and two floors, giving us ministry space for both kids and adults. After some cleaning and painting with the help of church members, we're thrilled to be worshiping God and ministering to one another in our new space!



Early in August we were saddened by the passing of a beloved member of our Shiloh church. She will be greatly missed!



During what we thought would be a routine slum outreach with a visiting team, one of our leaders found an abandoned newborn baby! Thanks to training you helped provide, our team quickly responded, placing the baby in the safe care of a loving Christian home that same day.

# Be part of the harvest!

Jesus has invited all of his followers to join in His harvest. Harvests require preparing soil, planting seeds, and LOTS of water and sunshine.

Many of you have been a part of that work here in Cambodia over the years, for which we've been grateful. Some have sown resources God has given you. Some of you have even come here to do personal outreach side by side with us.

The thing is, harvests don't happen without input and time. As slum communities have been forced to move, many hearts have shifted to greater openness. We're "adding water" by providing tangible needs like food, and sunshine by sharing with them about the true bread of life—Jesus. And we're seeing signs of a coming great harvest!

You can help increase this harvest by "adding water" to the seed planted in this fertile field. So many more need to hear about God's love. And changed hearts change communities—and helps protect more vulnerable children and adults from human trafficking and exploitation.

***Please help us reach \$12,000 by September 30th to water what's been planted. Any size gift will help.***

## JUST ADD WATER

...please

Jesus tells us to "pray to [Him] to send out workers into the harvest" (Mat 9:38). There's a great harvest here in Cambodia, and we're seeing "shiftings" that are bringing

new harvests into view before our eyes in the poorest, most needy communities. **You can help bring in that harvest!**

\$10     \$75     \$250     \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 I want to give this amount monthly for where most needed

I'm sending this completed form and my check to:  
Extreme Love Ministries, P.O. Box 170, Maricopa, AZ 85139

I'm going to donate by credit or debit card at:  
[www.ExtremeLove.com/donate-fall](http://www.ExtremeLove.com/donate-fall)



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Please use the enclosed form for your gift

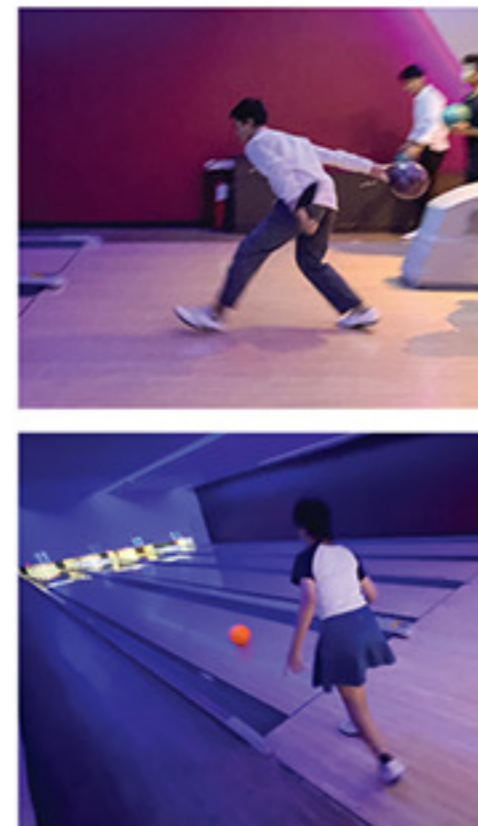
> Did you know we're now scheduling team outreaches to Cambodia? Space is limited! Email us at [info@extremelove.com](mailto:info@extremelove.com)

## Education students on the go!

Several of our students recently received **academic awards** for excellent work. We're so proud of them!



School is now in session, and the kids have received **new backpacks, thanks to their sponsors!** Watch for more photos in the weeks ahead.



### What? Bowling in Cambodia?

Yes, our EEP students got to bowl for the first time early this summer, and we think it was a hit (no pun intended!).



## Prayer closet

Please pray for...

- Noah's Ark residents, who have to rebuild homes, get jobs, and find safety
- Students in a new school year, and for more to find sponsors
- Finances to meet new and growing needs
- Wisdom to hear and follow God's leading through change



EXTREME LOVE  
MINISTRIES

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