

# sharing faith



This month, Aimee and JP led a training session for the Luther Institute of Southeast Asia (LISA). The course sought to equip 30+ local church leaders (pastors, deaconesses, and others) with tools to share their faith in a personal, contextualized manner. In the Parable of the Sower, we see the Sower God who sows the seed of His Word in all kinds of strange soils. Even as we celebrate the God who plants His seed extravagantly, the reality of different kinds of soil is also instructive. The course was designed to help Khmer Christians discern the different kinds of “soil” all around them and use God’s Word thoughtfully and appropriately to plant seeds. The first tool for discerning soil, taught by a missionary friend, was an exploration of traditional Khmer values and a biblical response that recognizes both connections and departures. The second tool was the Law/Gospel dynamic in which we discern whether someone first needs to be shown their sin or whether they are ready to hear the saving Gospel. A third tool is the variety of images the Bible uses for God’s saving action in our lives, e.g. justification, reconciliation, adoption, conversion, illumination, etc. These speaks of the ONE action of God in Christ in a VARIETY of different ways, giving us freedom to apply the Gospel in ways that are specific to a person’s situation. Finally, Aimee (pictured) emphasized how simple love and care for the felt needs of people can be a powerful tool for “preparing the soil,” creating an environment of trust where opportunities for sharing about Jesus abound.



## SQUARE TWO

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**Prayers:** for witness during the Advent/Christmas season; for Aimee’s travel to Papua New Guinea in early December; for the upcoming convention of the CLC.

**Wanna help us impact the people of Cambodia?** Give online [here](#), or mail a check to 1) P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861 (payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod), OR 2) 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034 (payable to Mission Central). For ALL checks, in the memo line write “Cima family-Cambodia.”



The topic of sharing our faith is important for Aimee and I as we get to know the “soil” around us. For Thanksgiving, our house was filled with the sounds of silverware scraping plates, clinking glasses, rowdy children, and lots of laughter. We had 15 people over for an epic feast, all homemade by Aimee. Two families were Khmer neighbors who are not Christian, so we were anxious to emphasize the occasion as a time to give thanks to God for all His gifts. It was a great chance to further friendships and make new ones, all while announcing and demonstrating the love of God in Christ.

J.P. traveled to Hong Kong to attend the graduation ceremony of Concordia Theological Seminary (CTS). He was thrilled for and proud of the four Cambodian students (from left: Songim, Naro, Kimnang, and Ravy) who graduated with their Bachelor’s of Theology degree. J.P. was honored (as shared earlier) to teach courses on Christian Stewardship in Mission and Hosea as a part of this program, as well as a guided study for one student on the Theology of the Cross. The program represents a multilateral partnership between CTS, the Cambodia Lutheran Church (CLC), and the LCMS.



# sharing food / sharing joy