

CWEF staff Buntha facilitates a discussion on smoking and addiction in Des village.

Ministry happens on the edges. Aimee again visited border parts of [Ratanakiri Province](#) to assist the work of [Concordia Welfare and Education Foundation](#) (CWEF). There she and the CWEF team visited two [ethnic Jarai](#) communities in which Cambodia Lutheran Church (CLC) congregations are present. The team had visited these communities [earlier this year](#) to assess needs, meeting with some 60 people. One pervasive community problem that came up clearly in those initial meetings was addiction and smoking. Wanting to help the local church and community with tools to address this problem, the team prepared four lessons on the social, economic, and physical impacts of smoking and addiction on the individual and the community. The lessons, led by CWEF's team and Aimee, were developed by the global [Community Health Evangelism](#) (CHE) network. Each lesson started with a role play or activity before moving into the specific content. For example, in order to demonstrate the effects of smoking on the lungs, the team [displayed a plastic water bottle](#) filled with cotton balls. A cigarette was then placed burn-edge up into the bottle, with cotton to hold it in place, and lit. By squeezing the water bottle, air went in and out and the bottle effectively 'smoked' the cigarette. After four cigarettes, the cotton was visibly yellow (see pic). What a powerful visual cue of the





[See more pics here!](#)

impact of cigarettes on the lungs! Moreover, each lesson incorporated Scripture and aimed to be Christ-centered. When teaching on addiction, for example, the team guided participants to relevant Scripture verses, and couched discussion of overcoming addiction in terms of repentance and forgiveness found in Christ. When possible, sessions incorporated [congregational singing](#). This project of CWEF, funded by LCMS, is one example of Aimee's [desire to utilize CHE methodology](#) for community transformation.

SQUARE TWO
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John.Cima@lcms.org
Aimee.Cima@lcms.org

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Prayers: for Christmas events (a ripe opportunity for witness!) throughout Cambodia in the month of December; for [youth group](#) members facing unemployment in a dismal economy; for next steps in CWEF's work in Ratanakiri; for J.P.'s upcoming travels to Vietnam; for Celeste and Bella's end-of-semester schoolwork; for preparations for the LCMS Asia missionary family retreat taking place in Medan, Indonesia just after the new year.