

Grace in Action

Stories of God at work in and through the GIS community

May 2018

Artistic Endeavors

In 1979, Bill Bright, the founder of Cru, released a biblically accurate film of Jesus in English. Known as The Jesus Film, it depicts Jesus' life, ministry, and death from the Gospel of Luke. Bright then created The Jesus Film Project to distribute the film in every language, so that all peoples could see, hear and understand the story of Jesus. To date, the film has been translated into 1700 languages, and just last year was viewed 107 million times.

GIS teachers and parents, Tim and Lisa C, have been serving with The Jesus Film Project for the past 15 years, many of those years in the US. When the organization built a studio in Chiang Mai for closer proximity to their projects in Southeast Asia, the C family moved to Thailand six years ago.

These days, the focus of the work is on recording the smaller, oral language groups. In the past 14 months, Tim has helped record 18 languages in the Philippines, Vietnam and Myanmar. From start to finish, a film project can take two to three years. Working with missionaries and their translation partners, the film's script is translated, voice actors are identified, the script is recorded, and the recording is edited. Tim travels with a portable studio, using articles at hand to dampen sound as he records. Then he cleans up the recording by doing lip sync and subtitles, even editing out chicken noises in the background.

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Since Lisa had been homeschooling the couple's three daughters, she continued in that vein when the family moved to Thailand. She also took advantage of GIS' Extension Services Division (ESD) for homeschooling families. When their oldest daughter was on the verge of 9th grade, however, Tim and Lisa could see that she needed to be in a more structured environment with peers, so they enrolled her full time in GIS. Eventually, their other daughters began attending Grace, too. The sports teams, choir and art are especially important opportunities for the girls.

In addition to their full-time jobs, Tim and Lisa accepted the role of leading the high school choir at GIS this school year. With musical gifts and experience in their backgrounds, Tim says leading the choir has allowed them "to revisit an old part of our life that we didn't think we would get to do again." It has been a new challenge—a very busy sabbatical, in a way—as well as a refreshing opportunity to get to know their kids' friends and other missionaries.

