

# “The promise is for YOU and for YOUR CHILDREN and for ALL who are far off, EVERYONE whom the Lord our God calls to himself” (Acts 2:39).

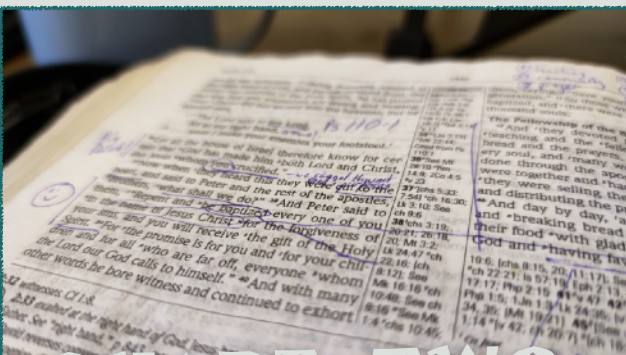
## Seminar 2 Aug. 24-26



Last month's newsletter briefly mentioned a three-day seminar in July that J.P. led on the book of Acts. J.P. was invited to facilitate the seminar again in August. The invitation came from Pastor Naro Phin, the director of [Lutheran Hour Ministries' work in Cambodia](#). For both seminars, the audience was team members and partners in LHM's work. Most were Khmer but there was also one Filipino missionary as well. The theme of the seminar was "Mission in (Acts)ion: Exploring God's Mission through the Church in the Book of Acts." Given the limited time available, a full study of Acts was impossible. Instead, we tackled it through 7 themes. For each theme we explored key stories and events in Acts. Each lesson also invited application of the theme for Khmer Christians today. For the first lesson, we noted how active the Triune God was in Acts, identifying God as the owner and main actor of mission. We then asked how this fact might change the way we do and evaluate mission today.

For lesson 2, we identified the universal scope of God's mission; it is for all nations. We then discussed who to whom God has called Cambodians to witness (Acts 1:8). In lesson 3, studying the sermons and speeches contained in Acts showed how proclamation of the gospel was the key means of mission (usually connected to Baptism, too!). We asked, "In what ways are sermons today different from or the same as the sermons in Acts? Does that difference matter? Why or why not?" In lesson 4, examples of prayer revealed the dependency of the early church on God, both in the successes and challenges of mission. We worked to express that connection between prayer and mission in terms of our own ministries. Lesson 5 revealed how God (surprisingly!) used the persecution of the early church to deepen and expand His mission. We then distinguished this from the way Khmer Buddhists usually talk about suffering: in terms of karma. In lesson 6, we saw how miracles in Acts were never an end in themselves but always pointed

people to Jesus. We compared and contrasted this with the way Khmer Christians and non-Christians typically understand the miraculous. Finally, in lesson 7 we appreciated the ways that the apostles contextualized the gospel for the sake of those who were coming to Jesus. We then asked, "Does becoming a Christian mean leaving Khmer culture? Why or why not? When or when not?" All of this generated wonderful discussion among each group, leading to a Word-centered environment in which lots of learning happened about matters of vital importance!



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## Seminar 1 July 27-29

## SQUARE TWO

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**PRAYERS:** for those who participated in these seminars, that they would be encouraged that God's mission has come to them and inspired to participate in that mission to others; for the kids as they start a new school year virtually; for peace as we miss being able to see our family this year; for Aimee's mom's and JP's dad's health; for JP's preparations to take his comprehensive exams.

**PRAISES:** for the or two people at youth group who expressed a desire to be baptized; for positive gains in building relationships with neighbors; for (slow) progress in reading Khmer.

## 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."