

February 2021

# Called to Cambodia

Stories of the adventures of  
Jeff Henneforth as he  
responds to God's call to  
live among, serve, and love  
the people of Cambodia.



## Ahpoung's Story

One of the things that has been a joy for me since moving to Cambodia has been working with the kids at the Happy Home, which is a Christian children's home run by Mercy Ministry Foundation or MMF. In fact, it was on a short term mission trip to visit several of the MMF Happy Homes in Thailand as well as the one here in Poipet, that I was first introduced to Cambodia back in 2006. Most of the kids growing up in the Happy Home are orphans coming from extreme poverty and often very difficult situations. I've always considered it a privilege to be the pastor for the kids growing up in the Poipet Happy Home. And I've watched a good number grow from small children into young adults. These kids live in the home until they finish high school, and then go in a variety of directions. Some are able to go on to university. Others learn a trade and begin work. The hope of the leaders of the home, and my hope too, is that these young men and women will go into the local society here equipped with the knowledge and love of Jesus to share with others in the county. And it is particularly exciting to see when God calls one of these young people to serve in ministry. And today, I would like share about one of these young Cambodians who wants to use her life to serve the Lord.

But I want to do something a little unusual. I'd like to share the newsletter from a young lady named Ahpoung (pronounced Ah--pooh (like Winnie the Pooh)--ong (like the word song)). But a little background first. Ahpoung grew up in the Poipet Happy Home and has been a part of Calvary Chapel of Poipet since we began. She moved to the Happy Home when she was orphaned at 7 years old. I met Ahpoung and the other kids at the home when I moved here in 2010. Over the years, as the kids have grown, they've been a part of my life and I've been a part of theirs. Not only have I been their pastor, but I've travelled with them, played with them, celebrated birthdays and holidays with them, had Cambodian BBQ with them, taken them to a movie theater for their first time, helped teach them how to swim, and learned from them as I've watched them grow from small children into young adults. Ahpoung finished high school and last year, she went through a couple of programs at YWAM (short for Youth With A Mission), here in Poipet. She'll mention those programs by name in her newsletter. During that time, I saw her get excited about following the Lord and grow in her faith. She needed help with funding to go through the programs and a group of guys from my home church of Calvary Chapel Pacific Hills stepped up to provide much of the support Ahpoung needed. Now having completed these programs, Ahpoung has been asked to join the staff at YWAM in Poipet. As someone that has watched Ahpoung grow up and had the opportunity to teach her, I am so excited that she now wants to use her life to serve the Lord. Ahpoung continues to be a part of Calvary Chapel of Poipet and is even a regular volunteer in our children's ministry. I hope you will enjoy her newsletter:



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## Ahpoung Newsletter

Hello my name is Ahpoung. I'm 21 years old. I have 2 siblings. I growth up in an orphanage, Mercy Ministry Foundation (MMF). I just graduated high-school in October 2019.



Then I did the DTS (Discipleship Training School) in January 2020. Through this school help me to know God more and recognize my identity, especially I received a lot of healing and encouragement. I also had the opportunity to go on outreach to bring the gospel to different place in Cambodia. It is a great time for me to practice and develop myself from what I have learn in class. Beside that it was an awesome chance to visit some churches and encourage them with the word of God.

In July 2020, I did BCC (Bible Core Course) I learned a lot from this school about the character of God and I also understand about the meaning of the Bible.



Now I'm currently working with media, kid ministry, Mercy Ministry and evangelism. For media I am taking picture and videos, editing video, responding comments,...

My passion is working with kids. In the future I want to have children center, for poor family that unable to send their kids to school. The goal is to show the love of God to them.



### My prayer requests !!

- Pray for wisdom and health
- Pray for financial support



## Pray and Help

I hope you enjoyed Ahpoung's newsletter.

Even though Ahpoung is on staff at University of the Nations Poipet (the official name of our local YWAM base), she still has to raise her own support. This is normal for every person on YWAM staff. But as an orphan, Ahpoung doesn't know many people that can help, and it's a real challenge for her.

As you may have noticed from my previous newsletters, I usually don't make direct requests for donations, but usually just include an info box at the end if the Lord leads anyone to provide support. However, in cases like this, when we see God's hand working so strongly I think it gives us an opportunity to participate in His work. So I am making an exception here.

I'm hoping many of you will pray for Ahpoung, and also that some of you might be willing to help her with financial support. I've had the chance to get to know the YWAM leaders here in Poipet and recently went to talk to them to get more information about Ahpoung's support needs. She is seeking \$200 per month, which will cover room, utilities, food and other regular living expenses such as clothing, phone service and money to get around town. If you might be willing to partner with her as she serves the Lord, support can be given directly through the following link:

<https://www.ywamshipskona.org/donate/uofn-poipet/>

Donations can be made online and set up as an automatic monthly credit card payment or as a one time offering. The web page will initially fill in a donation amount at \$60, but that can be changed to any amount. The donation page is pretty simple, but it is important to put Ahpoung's name in the information box for directed giving so their accountant knows who to send the support to. The donation is set up directly through YWAM, which is a U.S. non-profit organization and is tax deductible in the U.S. YWAM doesn't keep any of the money for administrative expense, and so 100% will all go as directed.

If you have any questions or want more information, please let me know. Thank you for taking the time to read about Ahpoung! Please pray for her and the other young men and women here.