

## WITMER



## Debby & Kyle Witmer

### THAILAND

#### LANGUAGE

Thai

#### MINISTRY PRIORITIES

Education,  
Theological  
Education,  
Training and  
Capacity Building

#### CHILDREN

Hannah  
Brennan  
Julia  
Emma

#### BIRTHDAYS

Debby 9/9  
Kyle 1/10  
Hannah 10/12  
Brennan 12/5  
Julia 11/12  
Emma 12/16



#### LOCATION

Thailand



#### ABOUT

DEBBY serves as IM's Global Coordinator for MK (Missionary Kid) and Family Care, overseeing IM's initiatives to support missionary kids emotionally, spiritually, and physically by nurturing growth in their relationships with God, themselves, their families, their churches, culture, peers, IM, and others. She aims to come

alongside global servant parents in a supportive, encouraging, and equipping way and be to the MKs an additional caring adult to assist in building healthy individuals and families. KYLE serves the Thai Karen Baptist Convention (TKBC) Siloam Bible Institute in Chiang Mai, Thailand, where he works in pastoral education and leadership development. Young people from the Karen ethnic group attend the school with the goal of following the call of God on their lives to be pastors and evangelists among the Karen villages in the hills of Thailand. Kyle is also involved in continuing education with TKBC pastors and evangelists.



Om teaches the first-year Bible Study Methods Course at Siloam Bible Institute.

## “ MINISTRY STORY

In one of our classes about teaching a discussion-style Bible study, Om was sharing from Matthew 6:25-34. This style of teaching is a challenge for these students because they're not used to thinking in terms of this type of Bible study. For the most part, Bible study means that the leader studies, and the congregation listens as the leader shares what they have learned. This “new” method excites the students.

As Om brought the study to a close, she asked, “What kinds of things are you worried about?” A simple question. We each gave a response of some kind to keep the conversation going. There are always the obvious for the students: how are we going to pay for tuition next year? Are we going to get COVID when we go back to our family? How will we travel to and from the village? But then I turned the question on the “teacher.” What are you worried about in these days? Her answer surprised me and gave me pause.

“I'm afraid of being shot.”

You see, her village is close to the border

of another country where the military is seemingly not constrained by law, morality, or any other ethical considerations. And people on this side of the border have been targets. They have been targets simply because they are a part of a people group that the military has deemed available for extermination. Kind of put some things into perspective for me. Some worries carry a heavy burden.

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## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for our students as they navigate daily life and struggle in a place that invites them to trust Jesus in ways that are harder for some of us to imagine.

Please pray that Debby's ministry among the MKs and their families can bear much fruit that will last.

Please pray for our family as we navigate living on two continents.

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## SCRIPTURE

*“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”*

Matthew 6:34 (NIV)