

# Transformed



Winter 2021

A newsletter of TMS Global



Your support makes it possible for Chris and Dora Barbee to serve in Thailand and introduce students, like Jiin, to Jesus.

## Because of you, students in Thailand are following Jesus

Chris and Dora Barbee live and work at a welfare school in Roi Et, Thailand. Jiin\* has been involved in the Barbees' ministry for years. She made the decision to follow Jesus and has been growing in her faith. Over time, Jiin developed into a student leader and started discipling other Thai students in their relationship with Jesus.

### Jiin's struggle

During a student retreat, Jiin opened up to Chris and Dora about the struggles she was experiencing.

She wept and said, "It is all so hard. I love Jesus. He is so good to me, and I love growing with Him, but my family makes it so hard."

Jiin's family are strict Buddhists and believe that their daughter's life needs to be focused on the rituals of the Buddhist religion. Jiin knows that following Jesus is about a relationship with Him, and many of the things she is being asked to do by her parents seem to be at odds with her blossoming faith in Jesus. **Jiin knows that she is the greatest**

*Read more of this story continued inside, pg. 2*

**INSIDE:** •Your support is spreading the gospel in Malawi •Spirit-led adaptability

*continued from cover*

**hope her parents have of ever encountering Jesus**, so she doesn't want to damage their relationship in any way.

"We grieved with Jiin about the difficulty of her life," said Chris. "We reminded her that Jesus understands, and He is crying along with her over the hearts of her family."



Your support enables Chris, Dora, and their children to minister to students in Roi Et, Thailand.

## Jesus is worth it

During the retreat, Jiin prayed for understanding. Chris and Dora taught about Jesus and how He provided an example as to how we should live. One night, the Barbees held a foot-washing ceremony with their students.

The Thai culture views feet as the dirtiest part of the body, unfit to be touched by anyone. As Chris and Dora taught about Jesus washing people's feet, and as they washed their students' feet, understanding of His humble nature swept over the kids.

Jiin said, **"Thank you for reminding me about how amazing Jesus is! It makes all the difficult situations worth it!"**

"We want to invest in the lives of our students and help them find opportunities to be a blessing to their families and their community," said Chris. "Jiin

is learning to follow Jesus respectfully inside her Buddhist culture. These students are the greatest hope for their families to ever encounter the love of Jesus."

*Thank you for your support, which enables our cross-cultural workers to share the love and message of Jesus with students in Thailand, who then share their faith with their families.*

## Your support is spreading the gospel in Malawi

Moses\* had always been looked down upon by his neighbors in Malawi. He is a subsistence farmer who struggles to grow enough maize to feed his family. That changed when he encountered Foundations for Farming.

Dean and Stefanie Babcock teach Foundations for Farming principles, which are proven techniques that help local farmers grow more and healthier crops.

Dean recently attended a Foundations for Farming conference in Malawi. At the event, 70 people gathered to share ideas and stories of the impact the program has had on their lives.

### Moses' success

Moses attended the conference and told the other farmers how he had struggled with his crops and how his neighbors disrespected him. He began to use Foundations for Farming principles, and everything changed. Dean said, "Moses harvested 20 bags of maize, then 33 bags."

Amazed by Moses' success, three of his neighbors then began to use the same principles, then 10, then even more. Dean said, "In addition to helping people have adequate food, there are opportunities to walk alongside these farmers, pray with them, and share what the Bible has to say about their situations."

*continued on next page*



Your gifts enable Dean to train local farmers to grow better crops to feed their families.

## Muslim chiefs come to faith in Jesus

At the same conference, Dean heard other encouraging testimonies of transformation. “In a mostly Muslim area of the country, loving people through farming has broken through opposition and opened many doors,” said Dean. “Four Muslim chiefs have been baptized in Christ. **One confessed that he used to send curses on people before he knew Jesus. Now he is teaching his neighbors about better farming methods and sharing with them about new life in Christ.**”

In a country that suffers from droughts, flooding, and constant food security issues, the Babcocks are meeting a felt need while sharing the gospel. Dean leads a Bible study for anyone who is interested in learning more about following Jesus, preaches in local churches, and encourages pastors. Dean and Stefanie share their faith with Malawians (many of whom are Muslim), both in the course of life and through their teaching.

*\*Names changed*



## Spirit-led adaptability

One of TMS Global's core values is Spirit-led adaptability. While adaptability is our capacity to adjust to new conditions, Spirit-led adaptability refers to our willingness to be shaped by the Spirit of God in every area of life.

While 2020 was a hard year, the change in schedule also provided me with an opportunity to reorder my life in healthy ways. I protected the Sabbath and took time off work. I spent more time in prayer and meditating on God's Word. I spent unhurried time with my family, simply being present with them and engaging in meaningful conversations.

During a difficult season, I found new joy and peace as I reconnected with God and my family. Let me encourage you to intentionally allow yourself to be shaped by God's Spirit, not only during trying times, but daily submitting yourself to His will as God molds you into His image.



**Max Wilkins**  
President & CEO

# TRAIN, MOBILIZE, and SERVE cross-cultural workers around the world!



**It is your support that enables our cross-cultural workers to live and serve in communities around the world, sharing the love and message of Jesus with their neighbors.**

Please send a gift today to help us TRAIN, MOBILIZE, and SERVE more cross-cultural workers to share the gospel and equip local churches to reach out in mission locally, regionally, and internationally.

Thank you for your support! Because of your generosity, people have been introduced to the good news of Jesus and their lives have been transformed by His love.



**YOUR  
SUPPORT  
MAKES A  
DIFFERENCE!**

## 3 EASY WAYS YOU CAN GIVE NOW!



### **GIVE BY MAIL:**

Return your gift with the enclosed reply form in the envelope provided.



### **GIVE BY TELEPHONE:**

You can also give your gift by calling **800.478.8963**.



### **GIVE ONLINE:**

Make an immediate impact by giving securely on our website at **[tms-global.org/give](https://tms-global.org/give)**



TMS Global | P.O. Box 936559 | Atlanta, GA 31193-6559