



# Journey Walk in Asia

## Tom Post, Asia

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Dear Friends,

Last week Sunday was the children's Christmas program at Neland. It made me remember growing up in Trinity congregation and what it was like at Christmas time. It was so safe and so healthy. At the time of the children's Christmas program we kids always got a gift of a box of chocolate from Mr. Beukema, I think; and someone else gave us a big orange! Usually I had to sing in the kids' choir for the Christmas program. In those times most of us boys thought singing was a little bit of a girls' thing, but we sang anyway. In lots of ways we kids did not have any idea at all about what a good life we were living. We should have sung with hearts more full of thanks to God!



So, this is a thank-you Christmas card back to you with a little story. In November I worked in Laos and Cambodia to help people improve their farming. There, about 1/2 the children in the communities that CRWRC works with are stunted. Often they are born too small because their moms did not have good food and good care while they were pregnant. Usually it also means that the kids are given too much rice to fill their bellies and not enough protein. Or it happens when the kids have suffered too much diarrhea because their water is not pure, or because they don't even have soap to wash their hands. People eat with their hands there. Stunted growth in children comes mostly from lack of good food and lack of good health, and it's sad to see.

So, when people like you give Christmas or Thanksgiving Day gifts to CRWRC to help people like those of Laos and Cambodia have better food and better health---they are doing a Christ-like thing. I want to say thank you to the moms and dad's and kids of the churches that support me for this giving, too, even though times are hard for many. Today and yesterday I had to make hard phone calls to layoff CRWRC workers because we have to cut back. But, I know that God can do impossible things in very hard situations when we keep working in faith that he will---some of our pastors' Advent sermons have been telling us that this is true!

You can see from the man standing in the tall rice that our work is helping his rice grow better! There is another man showing off a cat fish that shows that he can grow more high protein foods, too. These things encourage us all to keep working to make our world more like God wants it to be.



Blessings to you at Christmas and in the coming year!

Tom Post  
CRWRC-Asia