

Tim & Sharon Comer

Director of Samaritan Foundation

BIBLE PRESS ARRIVES FOR CAMBODIA



Cambodia is located between Thailand, Vietnam and Laos.

Before we departed from Sri Lanka back in November of 2010, I received a phone call from John DePree, president of Bethany Press in Minnesota. He began by telling me about the huge revival going on in Cambodia and how there is a tremendous need for Bibles in their language. My first suggestion was to have them printed in Sri Lanka and shipped to Cambodia. But there are restrictions on imports there, making it impractical to consider anything but printing them within the country. He was asking if I would consider helping them set up a Bible printing operation in Phnom Penh. There is already a Christian who has a small printing business there and who is welcoming the opportunity to print Bibles for their country. As most of you know, I have been in the printing business now for more than 40 years and have printed the scriptures in many languages. My heart leaped at the idea of being able to impact another country with the printed Word of God.



Last June I traveled to Delhi, India to inspect the press which is being purchased. It has now arrived and cleared customs. I am now departing next Wednesday, Oct. 19 for Cambodia and will return Nov 4. I will be helping train and instruct the workers there on Bible production. I need your prayers for good health, safety in travel and wisdom and insight for this new project. Sharon will also need your prayers during my absence.



The history of the Cambodian church

is a story of periods of growth alternating with periods of persecution. Cambodians who have turned to Jesus Christ from Buddhism or animism have been accused of betraying their country. In 1555, Gaspar da Cruz, a Dominican priest from Malacca, brought the gospel to Cambodia. The first Protestant missionaries arrived in 1923, but by 1970

there were only about 700 Christians in Cambodia. In 1965 Prince Sihanouk had expelled all missionaries in an anti-CIA campaign. Between 1970 and 1975 missionaries were permitted to return and the church grew to about 10,000. Then came Year Zero, when Cambodia became known as "the Killing Fields". By 1979 only about 200 Christians remained alive in Cambodia.

In 1990, when the church emerged from its most recent wave of persecution and was given government permission to function openly, there were ten evangelical churches in Cambodia. Today there are over eight thousand, with estimates of perhaps 500,000 believers. Most do not own a Bible in their language.

Thanks for your continuing financial support and prayers for our ministry.
Tax deductible contributions can be mailed to: **SAMARITAN FOUNDATION**

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We welcome opportunities to share with you one on one or with a group or your church.