

Spelling Class for younger children

	Time	Attendance	
1st week 19th Nov	9am to 10am 3pm to 4pm Topic	abt 20 to 24 children abt 5 to 7 children spelling of body parts, numbers, colours, fruits, transportation, animals, months, days, etc.,	(included some older children, aged 9 to 15 yrs old) (only handful of students, so did not continue with afternoon session)
2nd week 26th Nov	9am to 10.30am 6.30pm to 7.30pm Topic	abt 15 to 20 children average 15 children spelling and test, include	children enjoyed the lesson, class extended to 10.30am some could not attend day session and children suggested evening class worship songs, closing prayers each session
3rd week 3rd Dec	9am to 10.30am 6.30pm to 8pm Topic	abt 10 to 15 children average 15 to 20 sentence construction, daily drills on white board of spelling learnt in the morning. Test as well	after test, children are more confident (class only for those who could spell) 2 groups, ABC class led by Vuthy, Ravi helped me in the Spelling class

Remarks

Many of them are bright and intelligent children. Wanting to learn
In the evening they were always rushing to the front, wanting to be 1st to write on the whiteboard, to show what they learnt.
Very attentive children, when I had no translator, they told tell me "Teacher dictionary"
When we did combination of words, using topic of fruits and colour to make sentences: What is the colour of a water melon?
They asked: Teacher, inside or outside? That showed me their interest and attention in class.

There are also many weaker ones, who cannot write properly. So I started an "ABC Class"
"r" looks like "v". "n" like "h". Writing "f" from bottom up. Their "a" is using "u" and closing up the top" with "c"
There are also others who did not return to class after few sessions. Reason being busy with school work or no interest/unknown?

Thank God, that I had breakthrough with some older boys and during my evening session, they crowded round the Spelling class.
I asked Vuthy to help me control the children, and he was also my translator for the day Spelling Class
In the evening, I also asked Vuthy to help and led him to guide the younger ones in their "ABC class
Ravi too was very helpful, he helped to write "Khmer" next to the English word, so children could remember better
If Ravi's late or not around, other boys passing by, would come to help too.

Praise the Lord, for these helpers. They take the opportunity to be brothers to help the younger children.
It also builds their confidence to be in front, taking the chance to use their knowledge to help the weaker ones.
Knowing my need for their assistance, every evening they are standing together with me in the class,
under the fluorescent lights full of "light insects" and many mosquitoes from 6.30pm to about 8.00pm, without fail.

The last spelling test I did with them on "Descriptive words" was very encouraging to me. They had to spell by themselves, the opposite word next to the given word. From their test results, proved they were learning. (see attached attendance list)
Sopurn, who could hardly spell from the start, whatever she copied from the white board into her book was "messy".
She came for spelling class in the morning. Evening without me telling her, she automatically attended the "ABC class
She was placed as the top 3 in the last test results. With my encouragement and pushing, she is more confident
There are some older girls, who also cannot spell. They are shy to come to my Spelling class. I notice, when they came back from school, few will quietly, sit at the back and copied into their book, whatever was written on the board.
Not forgetting Kanya. Another diligent student, coming back from school, instead of going up to the dormitory, she will shyly sat at the back and joined the class. She was supposed to be in the spelling class, but at times had morning school.

Not only teaching, we had lots of fun and laughter as well.
We did worship songs, "How great is our God" and during Sunday school, the children were bold to come out and sing for the neighbour kids, telling them how great is our God.
Krem teased Dou, that she cannot spell and she was hurt and she cried.
Chi Leap will always want to speak ahead of the teacher and said "good girl" or "good boy"
One day, they were writing on the white board, things they did during free time, Maria got so excited she wrote " I like to play dog " The boys knew it was wrong. After class they kept teasing her " I like to play dog "
She felt so embarrassed, thereafter she goes slow whenever she came to write on the write board.

My last test with these children was to do with writing sentences, Chomra happened to be there and he said " children cannot do this"! I said we have been drilling for the pass one week. Yes, They can.

When I wanted to stop the lesson during mid of 3rd week. They wanted me to continue till Saturday. I believe we had such good time together. There is the bonding of love and friendship. Any openness in my heart, showing care and kindness, that they feel very free and easy with me.

The children will daily pray to God, giving teacher wisdom, joy and strength to teach. Me, the teacher, making the children to pray that they will not spend so much time playing, but to study, prepare for the test. Asking God to help them in their test. Bring to remembrance what they studied, not to look at books, or copy from friend sitting next to them. Teacher is not looking, but God knows.

Well, many more to tell, the joy of my achievements with the children, has indeed be a great blessing for my spirit and my soul. They are such good children. I brought back many wonderful memories of the time I had with them. They strong bonding of relationship, a heart for these children, gives me the endurance and strength each day to bring love and simple warm gesture, brought many cheerful smiles and greetings to me each day, despite language barrier.

Last Wednesday, I was down with flue, and I saw vision of the children, crowding besides my bed, praying and waiting for me. I missed these beautiful children.

Grammar Class for the Teens

Time : 11.30am to 12.30 noon

	Attendance		Topics
1st week 19th Nov	average 20 to 24	full attendance	Noun - singular, plural, countable, uncountable Verbs - collective noun, adjectives, adverbs, verbs, pronouns
2nd week 26th Nov	about 21 to 8 many were busy, christmas competition	attendance dropped practising for	handicrafts/bookmark propositions, opposites, past tense, present tense composition/writing
3rd week 3rd Dec	about 6 to 15 but many cannot catch up, as we were doing creative writing	some came back,	creative writing about Myself Our English Lesson My walk with God

Remarks

Not knowing their level of English, but I was direct by the Lord, to bring a Grammar Text book.

So that was it. To do grammar with the teens.

It may be already known by some, but it was good for them to be refreshed.

From observation, the theory I gave is indeed helpful to many, teaching them how to apply the correct word.

Perhaps some teens are better, but many are weak in their grammar

Many cannot speak or shy to speak English, so it was a good start with basic grammar.

With enthusiasm, they came to my class. With encouragement that the grammar may be simple, but with the exercises and drills, we were doing, it helps in building, their grammar, sentence construction, vocabulary, spelling and gradually building in verbs, tenses, etc.,

Chomra, was my translator for few days. He was busy and later on I had Soreath to translate. She found the lessons interesting and she also joined in as a student. However, she had to be away for seminar, and I am left to 'swim' with the children on my own.

It's good, the teacher and the students working together with dictionary, and try communicating in English, as that was an English class.

Chomra, said this way is "better", without translator.

Somnang (Bro Naum's daughter), said she can speak, but her school teacher said her grammar is always wrong. She said she's learning.

Others were shy to speak but I knew, they were learning.

2nd week - was a discouragement to me. Many disappeared from the class. They were busy preparing for the Christmas competition. which it is more important. I accept it. I also realised I was fast and perhaps one reason they were also struggling to learn.

I slowed down. They were also slow in copying, as their vocabulary is weak and same goes with spelling. So with the one hour I had with them could not really do much. But appreciate their respect, coming back from school at 11am, quick lunch, to rush for my class at 11.30am and I had to finished by 12.30noon, as they need to prepare, change get to school again by 1pm. (some, but not all)

In one lesson, as there were not so many students, I decided to do handicraft with them

Which is good. "breaking the ice". Building friendship, removed away their shyness, and the language barriers.

Chatting and encouraging them to try to communicate with me. Yes, it was a breakthrough. They enjoyed doing the heart bookmark.

Later on many who were not in class, was brave to come to approached me that they wanted to learn the handicraft too.

So the rest of the 2nd week of English lesson, was more relax, they were bolder to speak even unsure of the answers.

Willing to try and more responsive to question, so we continued with our grammar.

3rd week - Time to apply what was learned. It's writing about "MYSELF"

I gave some example about what to write. Try short, simple sentences, and free to write whatever comes to mind.

Many had difficulty in writing. Till 12.30noon, they had only few sentences, their name, age and grade in school.

But they did not gave up. Many stayed on till 1.30 pm to try to write something.

When finished, they patiently waited for me to go thro with them one by one, correcting and applying what was learned.

Many realised if they try it was not difficult, they could do it, despite their weakness and errors in grammar, tenses.etc,

Next writing - Topic was about This English Class.

I gave many pointers. This is our English lesson, It starts from 11.30am, lasted for one hour, Our teacher her name is Wendy, She comes from Singapore. She speaks very fast. If she is slower, I could understand better.

I want to learn English, it helps in my study. I want to be able to communicate with foreigners. Etc.,.....

Praise the Lord.. This time their writing gets better..... Many said they want to be able to translator and some a missionary.

One said he wants to be an Engineer. Vuthy said he is praying to God about his future...

A chance to express themselves. Improvement, no longer using words..... "and because... and repetitive sentences."

Shorter, simpler., easier to understand.. Lesser mistake. I strongly believe they are encouraged. Class ended at 2pm

Last writing - wanted them to write about their school. But the Lord said to pray blessing for them and to write on the topic.
MY WALK WITH GOD.

I had Chomra to be on standby to translate. I prayed for cleansing, forgiveness, decree on verses of promising and blessing for 15 minutes on the 15 children for the writing class. They were very serious during my prayer time and I know the words got into their spirit. So I said, this is very personal, you write anything. You may take a memory verse and write from there.

Some teased and said. "in the beginning was the word and the word was with God". Yes, you may say there is power in the word and you go on just write anything that comes into your mind.

At 1.30pm, only few managed to write, others say will give me later that night, some said tomorrow. But all did not come back to me. Few who persevered. I was impressed with their writing which gets better, simpler and know God gave them a family. Thankful to God. Some praying daily to God to bless their adoptive parents.,

The 3 weeks of English lessons with them, makes me realised it is more that academic/educational needs.

In the girls dormitory, when some girls were sick they come to me.

Even in the outreached, at 2 the bookmark counters, I was to have only 3 helpers at each bookmark counter, I landed up with a 9 and a 7 helpers/children at each counter. Giving them the trust and responsibility to take charge of the counter, they wanted to start early the next day, instead of afternoon. The friendship and joy of working together as a team.

Conclusion :

I am more than a teacher. I am a friend, a mother, a sister, an aunty

I needed my afternoon, to spend time preparing lessons, marking test papers and felt I missed out doing many things which I could have done.

- * Praying for them individually
- * Counselling them
- * get together to prayer and worship
- * only did devotion with the girls, could have done with the boys too.
- * wanted to teach them computer skills, but both computers were not working.
- * teaching them cleanliness
- * among all, just sitting fellowship to get to know them better, a chance to express themselves.

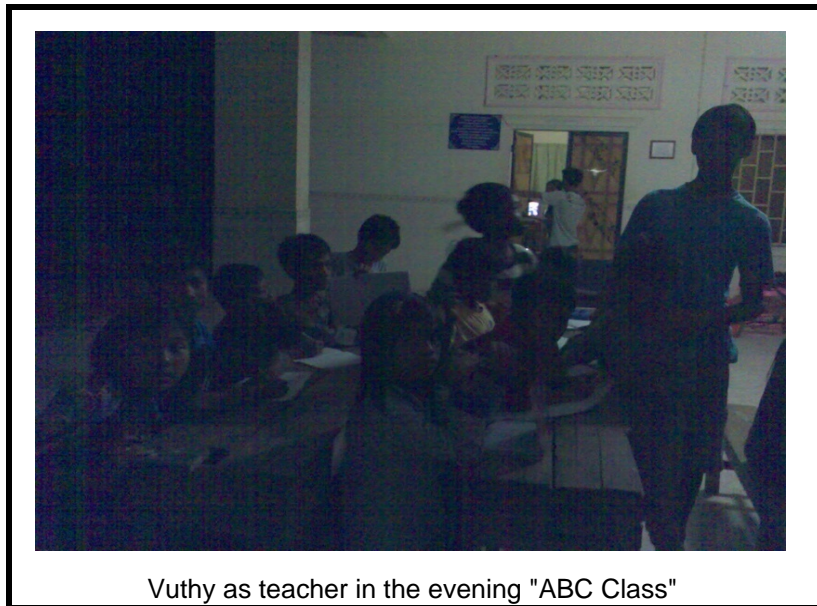
Teaching at Bantey Meanchey - Spelling class with the younger children



Day Spelling Class with Chomra Translator



Ravi as translator in the Evening Spelling Class



Vuthy as teacher in the evening "ABC Class"

2nd December 2007 - Evangelistic Outreach at Bantey Meanchey
Time : At Sunday School with the children and neighbour kids



worshipping the Lord



fun time with the children

fu



children given "Jesus loves you" bookmark



our children singing "How great is our God" to friends



time for sinner's prayer



Praise the Lord : 6 neighbour kids accepted the Lord

Serving the Lord with :



gladness



tears



joy

Don't push, don't rush:

Our God is a "God of more than enough"



He supplies exceedingly abundantly, beyond our needs!

Praise the Lord, the response to this outreach was overwhelming!



All glory, and honour is His. It is Him who make it possible!