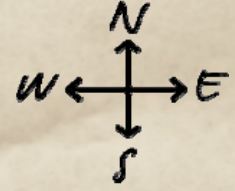


Hansen Journey Log



Log Entry Date: November 21, 2008

We gathered all the guys in the house to prepare them for some hard news. Joe began, *"We all have secrets, don't we?"*

The guys glanced around the room uncomfortably.

Joe continued, *"How would you feel if the secrets you most wanted to hide were written on a wall for all your friends to see? It would be embarrassing, wouldn't it? You might even wonder if anyone would still be your friend. I want you to think about how that would feel as you listen to what you are about to hear. This is a time to be a friend."*

They silently waited until one of them began to speak.

"I struggle with stealing," one of the guys said. He then told his Asian Hope family how he had stolen from his classmates, friends and even the people sitting in that room. *"I hope you can forgive me,"* he finished quietly.

Joe and I had been praying for this moment for several months. We knew this young man had been stealing. He knew we knew but was unwilling to admit his problem. In the last several weeks a series of events led to his admission of stealing several thousands of dollars in cell phones, small electronics and cash.

He is a likeable guy. He is smart, athletic and has a good sense of humor. Like many children in Cambodia he grew up stealing to survive. His needs are now met but old habits don't just go away.

The guys in the house had many responses to this news. *"We trusted him..."* one of them said sadly. *"I'm just glad to know the truth,"* someone else said. Others shook their heads not knowing what to say. But over the last few weeks we have seen all of them choose to be a friend.

He has several consequences for his choices. He will take a year out of school so he can work to pay restitution. It won't be an easy journey but the community surrounding him is encouraging him to never give up.

The Asian Hope boy's home is not called *House of Perfection*. Around here life is often complicated and rather messy. Spend one evening at our house and you will laugh at the hilarious antics and commentaries of the guys. You will probably also sense things that are sad and painful.

The Asian Hope boy's home is called *House of Hope*. We believe that God has good plans for every one of us even when, maybe especially when, our secrets are laid bare and we desperately need a friend.

Thanks for sharing our journey with us,

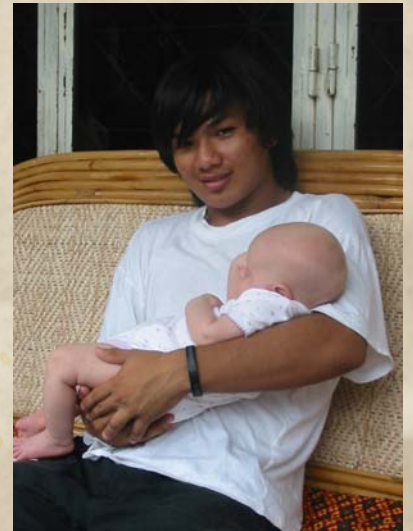
Joe and Rene



Tia and David



Sam



Hocklee