

How great of the Lord working

On August, 15, 2017, Ms. Heng Sophanny who working for Women Desk Ministry assistant and she goes to Siem Reap with IJM staffs. Sophanny is representing of Ms. Marilyn Chan who is the Women's Desk Ministry program and Women's Desk Ministry livelihood program work and focus on how to promote the living of the poor or the oppression to be better life. According to the request from IJM staff for the support their client family to be better life and sending their request to the Women's Desk and Women's Desk also not working alone or focus on the church members but we focus to all the people really need help and real need. So Women's Desk assistant goes to the Siem Reap to meet with the family and Women's Desk answer through the request to support this family as:

1. New bicycle
2. basket for put the vegetable
3. Small tank
4. Scale
5. Carry baskets
6. 1 sack 50 kg of rice
7. Money to start in her small business

Ms. Hem San will start her small business from buying the village vegetables to sell at the market to earn the income to support her 4 kids.





This is her story :

IJM Client and Family Story

Ham San is 30 years old and a widow mother of four children living in Thlak village, Kchas commune in Sonykhum district of Siem Reap province. Her first son is currently 14, second daughter 5, third son 4 and fourth son 2 years old. They are the poorest family in the village. Ham San is unable to read and write, and do not have a stable job though she is trying very hard to earn some money every day to support the needs of the family. Every morning, she goes to the field to pick wild vegetables, fruits and red ants to sell to other villagers, and often at very low prices. She earns 3000 to 5000 Riel per day in this manner to buy rice for her children, but this meagre income is insufficient for their daily needs. The children do not get enough food to eat and are malnutrition. The family's diet includes rice with red ant soup mix with some vegetable that the mother brings back from the field; they never have pork, beef or chicken for their meals.

Ham San also tries to work for her neighbor in the rice field to transplant rice seeding, harvest rice and carry rice at the rice mill in the village. But as no one is around to look after her young children, she worries for her children's safety whenever she goes to work at the rice field, especially when they are at home by themselves in the village while the eldest son goes to school. In some seasons, she brings all her children to work in the secluded cashew farm with the neighbor at the other district, far away from the village and people. As a result, the older son is unable to attend school as he need to help work at the farm and look after his younger brother and sisters.

The family faces many issues like poor housing quality, nutrition, hygiene, health, lack of protection, job and income. They also do not have access to support from their relatives and family as Ham San's mother passed away many years ago and her father has moved to

another district in Siem Reap after remarrying. She has two siblings but they have moved to live with their families in other provinces. Her close relative has migrated to work in Thailand, giving them little access to any help and support.

Ham San would like to start a small business so she can earn more income and support her children, sending them to school like the other children in the village as she does not want them to become illiterate like her. She wants her children to have enough food to eat daily, to see them grow healthy and not get sick so frequently, like her youngest son who has got lung problems, coughing and suffering from fevers at night. Due to lack of transportation, and that she has to go to the field to pick fruits and vegetables to sell, sometimes she is unable to access health care service.

Ham San told us that she used to sell vegetables at the market but as her mother was seriously ill, Ham San was unable to continue her small business due to lack of financial support and other issues in the family. Ham San is really keen to start her small business again as a vegetable seller. She plans to buy the vegetable from the villager to sell at district market and she believes that she can run it well due to her prior experience and her connections to villagers who can sell it for her.

To make this business work, Ham San would need a 1-bicycle, 2- vegetable basket, 3-rubber bands, 4-steelyard, 5-plastic mat and 6-some funds to buy vegetables from the villager. She is considering to sell the vegetables to Dom Dek market at 3PM in the evening. Most of the buyers would like to buy the vegetable from the district market in the very early morning so that they can transfer the vegetables to their customers at the Siem Reap town in the morning at 5 -6AM to other customers. In the evening not many customers would like to buy the vegetable because people don't like to bring the produce back and forth to their home and then bring to the market so it is hard.