

# Blue Asia Grace



## Around The World In 90 Days

As you're all well aware of, I have a vise, but my family is still in need of visas for themselves. We made a trip to immigration recently, and they told us that they are unwilling to issue visas to them. So they are required to leave, and they can't come back until late summer because as tourists. I will be continuing on here in their absence. Of course it's not what we want, but, as Job observes, we must accept the bad things from God as well as the good.

They will be flying out to stay with her family for a time. Then they will be staying with mine until they come back. I will be flying out at some point to visit them for a period of time.

## Just How Bad Is It?

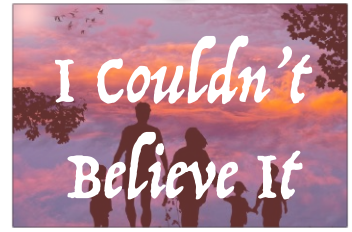
I am freshly reminded of the severity of alcoholism here every morning I walk to school by what they couldn't keep in their stomachs. One morning I was walking to school and saw a guy in his work uniform toss his cookies without missing a beat in his stride.

In my class one day, I had to practice reading questions and giving answers in the language of my studies, and one of the questions said, "Do you *need* to drink liquor?" My response was: "No one *needs* to drink liquor."

There's been a few men new to our church who have come in three sheets to the wind. I'm happy to have them with us. I've befriended one of the gentlemen, and I'm also happy to say that he's got a new job and has been dedicated to staying sober.


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I know my face looks like a million bucks, but for some reason it's only the homeless beggars who seem to notice it. Their harmless for the most part. They like to shake hands, but then they refuse to let go hoping to get something. Only once did a man latch on to my finger and bend it back while cocking his other fist back. I calmly said many times: My friend, don't do this. He was very drunk and insisted on at least a little bit of money, but I refused him. He eventually let go. Good thing is, they don't ever bother my wife and the kids.



Last month we lead the family fellowship night that our church has been doing once a month. It turned out great. The theme we used was communication. We had a game where we setup obstacles around the room and put plastic Christmas bulbs randomly about. We blindfolded the husbands and had two of them race to collect the most bulbs as their wives did their best to direct them with their words. It was loads of entertainment for everyone watching. We also had a meal together and played another game.

I gave a short message on Prov. 18:21 "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love its use will eat its fruit." Then I had the husbands privately say a few things they love about their wives and the wives a few things they respect about their husbands.

 The best part of the night was when a man—who's not from our church—spoke up and said "I'm not Christian, and I was nervous about coming here, but you guys are real and sincerely loving, and I've been

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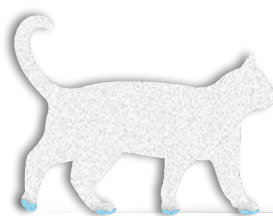


able to connect with my wife better.” His wife was shedding tears of joy. I couldn’t believe it! I constantly hear about how quiet and unexpressive the men are here. That moment was one of the highlights of my year.

**OOPS!**

In our last letter, I said that my wife heard at a friends house that the President here said that he was not happy with Christians being here. Since then, we have heard that it was **not** the President who said that, but a speaker for one of the political parties instead.

*Thanks to everyone for making this all possible.*



## Prayer Requests

Please be in prayer for my language studies.

For my family’s travels.

For all the changes and transitioning they will be going through.

For our children, especially in parenting our son. For our relationship with them.

For my wife as she continues to homeschool.

For God to meet our needs for my family’s 5 months in the states.

For endurance in our time apart.

