Introducing Wit & Helen Boondeekhun [Thailand]

☐ **How did you first recognize God's call to be involved in missions?**
Helen: When I was 14 years old, some missionaries from Thailand came to my school and I was inspired and felt the call to mission to Thailand since that time.

Wit: When I was studying English in Australia, I had a dream about a big ship that was sinking. Many people were drowning and crying for help and I felt God's saying, "You go and help them" but I said, "I can't swim!" Then I saw the flag on the big ship and it was a Thai flag. I realised that God was calling me to mission in Thailand.

☐ **What is your favourite aspect of what you do in your present assignment?**
Wit: Visiting and spending time with people and seeking the opportunity to pray for them and, if it's possible, to tell them about Jesus.

Helen: Teaching English.

☐ **What are some of the challenges that you face in carrying out your work?**
People have never heard about Jesus before and folk Buddhist religion is very strong and hard to leave behind once they believe in Jesus.

☐ **Please share a story of a significant event or moment that has happened in your current assignment.**
Having a BMS action team with us for four months and we were able to put on a Christmas outreach event in the open air within the heart of the community. More than 150 people turned up. This was the first time many of them had heard the gospel.

☐ **How do you maintain a close relationship with God in the midst of the demands of missionary service?**
We are committed to spending time with God every morning and, most mornings, we spend time sharing and praying together. We also attend a weekly pastor's prayer group which has been such a great support.

☐ **What are the rewards of what you do?**
To see people's lives changed and enable them to earn supplementary income through basket weaving.

☐ **What are some aspects of the culture where you live that you have come to love or embrace?**
Easy going, fun loving, attitude toward life and delicious food and fruits.

☐ **Tell us a bit about your children and what they are up to**
DJ has just qualified as a primary school teacher and will start his first teaching job at a school in Bristol in September. He got married in August 2019. Josie graduated in Business Management last year. She took a gap year and will start a graduate training program with Safran in Gloucester in September.

Some interesting facts ...

Wit: Cycling, swimming, watching movies, playing 'Words with Friends'	**What do you like to do for fun?**	***Helen***: Cycling, swimming, reading biographies, crosswords and puzzles.
Wit: Eating spaghetti with chopstick, I cry whilst watching sad movies, and I desperately want to do sky-diving.	**What is something people would be surprised to learn about you?**	***Helen:*** Read the Bible in Thai every morning. Lived in Thailand over 20 years and still can't eat Durian.
Wit: Roast beef. Love gravy and roast potatoes	**What's your favourite food & why?**	***Helen***: BBQ chicken, sticky rice and papaya salad. Yummy
Wit: Rush Hour. Funny and good action	**What's your favourite movie and why?**	***Helen***: Sound of Music. Love the songs and the romance.
Wit: Good food and rom-com movie	**What's your ideal night in?**	***Helen***: Good food and rom-com movie
Wit: Beach resort	**What's your favourite place for a vacation?**	***Helen***: Beach resort or visiting places we've never been before and sight seeing.