

Neil and Kelsie Cullers

2nd Generation Missionaries

Taiwan



Date: 06/20 - Prayer Letter Update:

Greetings all! Our prayer letter is delayed because there was some information I was waiting on that I wanted to include in this letter. Our time in Taiwan will expire September 8th, by which time we must leave the country for our home nation. We are not essential foreign personnel that benefit the economy and not being able to secure a visa due to the pandemic has come back to bite us. The only foreigners allowed to stay are those with the resident visa or who can prove they have no way to return to their country (i.e. no flights up and running). We will just barely have completed a year in country before we must return to the States. As you have no doubt heard from many of your other missionaries, this is highly disappointing and feels like a step backwards after the struggle to get here. Kelsie has worked hard on language and acclimatizing to a completely foreign place, only to have to leave at a vital time. I have no idea how long we will have to be back. We would like to get our visas while in the States but until the freeze on issuing visas is lifted we can not even begin the lengthy, complicated process. Remember our issues with it last time? The pandemic is really throwing a wrench in things worldwide. While we learned so much, we still are left with much more to learn and prepare for. We know God will make a way in His timing, though from a human perspective wrenches can be frustrating. :)

On a positive note, Logan will be able to really get to know his Caviness grandparents! :) it will be awesome for him to potentially see snow and experience Christmas in the States. We of course miss our home church and family, but wish the reunion was during the planned furlough. One thing about ministry - always be flexible! The good news is my parents need to move and have been praying about a place in Ping-Tung County, so it may work for them to live in our house and rent from our landlords in our stead. It blesses us to think my parents may follow up with our neighbors and contacts in Neipu. The house has the room for a Bible study and could hold a nice group of people.

On an even more positive note, I have made a new contact named Brady during the last few months. He is just a few years older than me, and went to the University of Seattle for a one year business degree. He approached me about doing a "culture exchange," a concept that seems to be gaining popularity recently and involves exchanging culture and language one on one with a foreigner. Basically, a missionary's dream! He has been teaching me Taiwanese and I have been helping him with English and learning to use business-appropriate English in dealing with customers. He is the global marketing director for a company specializing in maritime engines and components. I have helped to coach him through emails with clients and improving the English

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Tribal Bible Study
- Language
- Acquisition
- Health & Safety

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on his company's website. He has been invaluable in learning Taiwanese (his family's native tongue) and learning more in depth about Taoism. He is very knowledgeable and I am eager to better understand a Taoist mindset to be able to reach people in the future. Every single time we have met, he has asked me so many questions about Christianity and my views on issues as a pastor. I have been able to witness to him non-stop and I am hopeful and praying that he will get saved. He seems like the person every new missionary prays for - that first convert that can then be discipled and trained. So many times he has remarked how different our faith is from his and how personal our God is. He is looking to be married soon and we have also talked much about how the Bible defines marriage and childrearing. He has been impressed with the Bible way of doing things. He genuinely has a hunger to know more. I have been able to even step into a pastoral counseling role with him regarding his family. As is the cultural norm here, he lives with his parents and older brother's family, which has brought about considerable conflict. I was shocked he opened up, albeit hesitantly, to me about something so culturally shameful. Here, you NEVER bring up family shame with someone else! I could go on and on and fill pages, but suffice it to say, I hate having to leave because I don't want to run the risk of losing this contact and developing friendship. Please pray for Brady's salvation!

I will also try to strengthen a means of communication with Maichos and the Piuma village. The time spent there has not yielded a great deal of fruit yet but we continue to work and build relationships and learn about their daily life and burdens. The Lord knows and we await His guiding hand to open doors and use us for His glory. We SHALL return, Lord willing quickly. We yearn for a work of our own but we are thankful that we are not leaving a newly established work behind during a critical time.

One last update to leave you with: on Monday we leave for youth summer camp. I have the honor of being one of the guest speakers. Praise the Lord we can have these kind of activities in Taiwan still! We are praying for the teens that will be attending. We would love to see souls saved and lives changed through this week of camp. It is also a sweet time of fellowship with other missionaries on the island.

Now is a time for us to pray for your missionaries, and now is also the time for missionaries to pray for home churches as so much chaos is happening at home in our beloved country. Let's pray for each other! For God's glory, remembering the prize at the finish line!

Expecting Great Things,

Nathaneil, Kelsie and Logan Cullers

