



SHUUDAN

SCHMUTZLER POST

March / April 2021



To Our Faithful Friends and Supporters,

We just can't seem to get away from COVID-19. On April 23, the CDC issued a Level 4 Travel Health Notice for Mongolia. Additionally, the Mongolian government instituted a red-level lockdown at the beginning of April, and it has continued for the entire month. The short of it is that people are not supposed to leave their homes unless they're getting food / necessities. So, for the past month, we have been stuck inside our apartment, quietly working on our Mongolian language studies (which we're thankfully able to continue through Skype). Daily cases continue to rise (1300ish), and the death count presently sits at 115. As a result, the government is attempting to vaccinate as many eligible people as possible. They began with essential workers last month, a group that included all educational workers. Consequently, I received my first dose of the Astra Zeneca vaccine in March and received my second dose just a few days ago. Hannah hasn't received hers yet, but it's probably just a matter of time before she'll need to go in.

After Easter, we began a modest renovation project in Khan-uul Baptist Church's auditorium. Painting, patching, walling, etc. Once the lockdown lifts, we can finish it, but for now, we're content with what we were able to do before the restrictions were put into place.

Language studies are going very well. Our greater vocabulary is approaching 1,000 words and we understand most of the basic grammars. I just started working on comparative degree and superlatives, and Hannah is currently working on complex sentences. Please continue to pray for us in this area, specifically regarding our listening skills. Our reading and writing are improving considerably faster than our listening.

Naturally, our outreach is limited by the two Ls: Language and Lockdowns, but we're doing what we can, which at this point, seems to be mostly relegated to our apartment complex / grounds. We enjoy going to the store and buying up all the chocolate milk, then coming back to our complex and passing it out to all the neighborhood children. We've also passed out cans of Coke to the adult grounds-workers and they always happily accept it. I mentioned a few months ago that I met a man named Jorug. I ran into him again the other day and he excitedly began asking me how my Mongolia was progressing. Pray that as our friendship with



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our neighbors continues to grow, that the LORD will give us good favor with everyone. We aren't completely sure because everyone seems to be rather quiet about it, but we think our next-door neighbor's son is currently recovering from COVID-19. The ambulance came and picked him up a few weeks ago. After coming home, he is now visited by scrub-wearing health-workers every couple of days. And just a few days ago, we had 2-3 trucks with sanitizing "cannons" mounted on top come through and blast a cleaning agent all over our apartment complex.

In other news, there's an 80% of snow tomorrow. When will Spring come? Hah!

At the beginning of March, Khan-uul Baptist Church hosted its first ever marriage. Two young people from the church, Temuulen and Nymka, made vows before their families, friends, and the LORD. It was a beautiful event and is hopefully the first of many to come.

I'll end this letter with both a praise and a prayer request. More than anyone else, our family has persistent interaction with our Mongolian language teacher, Ganaa. She is a professing Christian but, due to some things that happened in the past, doesn't feel that she would be welcome. She knows all the theological terms and even dedicates a portion of our daily lessons to studying Bible verses, which is very helpful, and over the course of the past few months, the topic of church has been brought up a few times (sometimes by us and sometimes by her). This morning, I noticed that she had quietly logged into KUBC's online stream. It makes me happy to think about because maybe she's finally "pushing past" the past. Continue to pray for Mrs. Ganaa, if you would.

I believe that's it. Thank you again for your prayers and support. Please let us know if there's anything we can do for you and / or if you have any questions. The lockdown is tentatively scheduled to expire on May 8th, but there's always a chance it can be extended again. Mongolia has elections in June and I've been told that the government likes to look "in control" around those times, so who knows what'll happen. God bless!



Your Missionaries to Mongolia,
Cameron, Hannah, Isaac, Benjamin, and Joshua Schmutzler

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