

Indochina

The People Group

The people of Indochina are polytheistic and follow Buddhist and Confucian ideas while continuing ancestral worship and joining in with Western celebrations like Christmas. They are well-known for their hospitality and the country is growing economically and in tourist popularity. As a developing country with a huge population, challenges such as education, healthcare, poverty and human trafficking remain present.

The Ministry

There is currently a small team in serving in Indochina. Mark and Ngoc arrived at the start of 2020 and are Indochinese nationals. **They are excited to serve among their own people and are passionate about Indochinese people following Jesus in their own distinctive ways.**

They spent 2020 and most of 2021 in a northern city of the country, establishing themselves in the community, building relationships and teaching English to children and young adults. They also connected with a disadvantaged rural community and shared God's love through word and deed.

Global Interaction previously partnered with Hoa Stone, who ran an organisation in Indochina supporting people with disabilities. **With his passing in mid-2021, Ngoc and Mark made the decision to relocate to the city where the organisation is run in order to work through that ministry.**

Ngoc and Mark are currently preparing for the birth of their first child.

Team Members

Mark and Ngoc
Andy* (Team Leader)

**Based in Australia*

Prayer Needs

- » **Pray that God would be going before Mark and Ngoc as they seek to build relationships with people of peace**
- » That God would be opening the hearts of people in Indochina to receive the truth of the Gospel and follow Jesus in their own distinctive ways
- » For God's leading as Mark and Ngoc relocate and serve through the ministry empowering people with disabilities
- » **For doors to open for Mark and Ngoc to connect with their neighbours and engage in community life**
- » For God's Spirit to be powerfully at work, revealing who Jesus is and growing hearts to know Him

Stories of Hope from Indochina

Doing Life Together

Mark and Ngoc share about their ministry in the northern city. “We run an English Club with 15-20 university students every Monday night. We are completely in charge of recruiting students, lesson planning, paying rent and handling all the admin. After working through the initial kinks of the class details and learning how to support each other, we’ve turned into quite a team! Things run a lot smoother and we have lots of fun with this group of students.

During this time, we’ve also started doing dinner (and doing life) every Friday night at our place with a few locals, some of whom are from the English Club. It is a chance to tell them about God, what He has done for us and learn from them culturally.

Of course, we’ve been letting it happen organically, so it will take some time. The group is made up of three young women, a 12 year old boy, and three young men.

Ngoc has started a knitting club with the young women. They all seem very interested in knitting – they get together at our apartment on Saturday afternoon for some cake and tea, some knitting and a lot of talking.

Mark meets the boys individually during the week for coffee, as well as English lessons. Mark and the other men in the group have been really enjoying spending time together. **Last Friday one of the men, Mr T, actually decided to put his trust in God. We all nearly fell off our chairs with excitement!** He now wants to read the Bible with Mark every Wednesday morning at their coffee meeting.”

Piglet Project

Through piglet loans, Ngoc and Mark are seeking to empower disadvantaged village families and share God’s love in practical ways. This project is now fully supported and they look forward to implementing it as soon as COVID travel restrictions allow them to begin.

They write, “We are so thankful for those who have generously and sacrificially given towards this cause. We plan to implement this project at the end of this year once we settle down in the South.

The idea of this project is to give two female black piglets per family in the village (at a cost of \$100.00 AUD per pig) so that they can start their own herd of pigs. This particular black pig is a good investment as they are easy to raise, will eat just about anything and multiply quickly.

They are in high demand for their lean meat. After a cycle of four months, the female pigs will be able to reproduce their own piglets, two of which will be given to another family in the village.

We can see that this project will be able to make an impact and assist those villagers to raise some extra income, especially during those colder months in the mountains. It will also be a tool for reaching out and building meaningful relationships to the surrounding villages.

We have found a very trustworthy leader here who will be closely monitoring the project on our behalf. We plan to visit the village bi-monthly to encourage and share with the villagers to make sure the project is managed properly and effectively.”