

A TALE OF TWO CITIES.



Our New Address:

Ben/Amy Riley

31 Chien Kuo Road, Section 2

Min Shiung, Chia Yi County,

Taiwan ROC 62145

We would love to hear from you! Packages, letters, clean underwear, candy bars... you send it, we'll find some way to use it!

But above all, send your prayers and please do so without ceasing.

Strange Foods

First of all I have to say that the food thus far in Taiwan has been much better than expected. Chicken and Pork are easily available thank the Lord, but other foods have set foot on our table. Thus far we have eaten oyster, squid, sashimi, frog leg, quail egg, star fruit, and dragon fruit. We've seen plates full of entire fish and eaten tofu textured substances. Can you say delicious? We sure can. Until next time, go out to a foreign restaurant and eat something crazy.

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

Matthew 5:14

Hello my brothers and sisters in Christ! Greetings with God's never-ending peace.



Time seems to be flying faster and faster as Amy and I begin our second month in Taiwan. Wow, was that a month ago when we stepped off our plane into this foreign land? To be honest things are not so foreign anymore. Amy and I have rearranged our room to make it feel like home, complete with plants and a few photos which provide a sense of coziness. We have become accustomed to scooter-infested streets lined with a collage of tea stands and mini-restaurants, each reminding me that we are in a vast mission field with brand new relationships on the horizon.

Speaking of relationships, the groundwork for new relationships is being laid with our new coworkers, most of which who are not Christian. I guess this is the part of our new city that is still foreign to me. The absence of Christianity produces a repressive feeling of darkness in this city.

I would like to share something from my 10th grade Bible classes. On the first day of class it is customary to have the students fill out a "Let's get to know you" form. The purpose of this questionnaire is to get to know the students (of course!). One question on the form is: Do you go to a church or a temple? I have six 10th grade Bible classes each containing about twenty students. As I turned sheet after sheet reading the handwritten "temple" or "no" my heart became heavy. Darkness in each class. Nice, respectful kids falling into a valley of darkness separated from Christ.

But that darkness does not compare to those cities on the hill. Those few papers whose answers cut through the darkness with a proudly written "church" and the occasional "Jesus died for me, He loves me" follow up. Praise God that He has truly given us the light to shine. Praise God that He has given us this chance to be a city of light on a hill, spreading the hope we have in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Taiwan is full of strange signs... sneak a peek at some of the bizarre ones we've seen this month!



Seen on the side of an escalator!



**1. 請以坐姿使用馬桶
Do not stand on the toilet.**

This is a close-up of the number one rule!



Yes, that is a construction worker wearing a coolie hat!

When all of you reading finish this letter, I hope you will realize that even though you are amidst the darkness (yes even in America!) Christ lights your way. SHINE THAT LIGHT in the darkness. Realize the joy of forgiveness and spread it to a dark and hurting world. Peace be with all of you my friends. Keep praying for our city as we pray for yours.

In Jesus, Our Light, Our Hope,

Benjamin and Amy Riley

*Okay kids! It's time to have some fun!
Can you figure out the following questions??*

(Answers can be found at the bottom of this newsletter!)

1. Where are Ben and Amy?

- a. Mexico
- b. Russia
- c. Taiwan
- d. Australia



2. Where do Ben and Amy live?

- a. A dumpster
- b. A mansion
- c. A cave
- d. The Practice Hotel

Ben and Amy in Taipei 101 (the tallest building in the world!)

3. What are Ben's favorite Chinese words?

- a. Chi-ro-fan (chicken rice)
- b. Bi-chan-lu-cha (passion fruit green tea)
- c. Chi-yo (Go!)

- d. Gwo-tea-a (razor-clam shaped dumplings)
4. What is Amy's least favorite bug in Taiwan?
- a. Ants
 - b. Mosquitoes
 - c. Snails
 - d. Crickets

Answers: 1: c-Taiwan, 2: d-The Practice Hotel, 3: a- Chi-ro-fan (he has even introduced himself as this before! TWICE!), 4: b- Mosquitoes (p.s. Snails aren't bugs!)