

GENESIS AND VERNA MARAAT



The Maraats moved from the highlands of Kenya in East Africa to the tropical climate of Thailand in 2005. Genesis entered ministry when he graduated from International Grace Bible Institute in the Philippines in 1987. After serving as an evangelist, teacher and youth minister, God called him to missionary service through the encouragement of missionary Vernon Anderson. Genesis arrived in Kenya in 1992 and then returned to the Philippines the following year to marry Verna.

The Maraats returned to Kenya in 1994 and continued ministering to and with African church leaders in evangelism, Bible school training and field administration. In 2000 the Maraats volunteered to move west to Kisumu on Lake Victoria to plant a new Grace church with the assistance of a Bible school student. When their children Andrea and Josiah began suffering from constant bouts of malaria, the family said goodbye to the now established Kisumu church and moved to Eldoret, much colder and mosquito-free at 7000 feet. It took one year of hard work to start a small church service in a rented schoolroom. Today Eldoret Grace Bible Church has its own land and building. Genesis completed his bachelor's degree while establishing the church.

In 2002 Genesis and Verna began praying for the Buddhist nation of Thailand—a country less than 1% Christian. The Lord answered their prayers and in 2008 they entered Thailand together with Nathan and Jessica Killion. The first two years in Thailand were spent in language study. Then God has opened doors for them to establish an English Center in the northern city of Chiang Mai.

Grace English Center was started in August 2011 with the purpose of reaching university students with the gospel through the teaching of English. The Center attracts students from university, elementary school, parents and working professionals.

The Maraats have also started a house fellowship with the Killions and other international and local people. Through this fellowship, their landlord and his wife came to know the Lord Jesus as Savior in March 2013. In June 2013, the whole family came to the U.S.A. to visit grace churches. On August 16, Verna, Andrea and Josiah returned to Thailand for ministry and the kids' schooling. Genesis continues to visit churches until his return to Thailand on November 11. Please pray that a Grace church will grow up in Chiang Mai which will lead to the salvation of the Thai people.

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**THINGS
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MISSION**