



**Ron & Cheryl Myers**      **GOD'S LIVING WORD FOR ALL PEOPLE**      **May 2024**

*A Faith-based Ministry Sustained Through the Faithful Prayers and Partnership of God's People*

## **A Man Makes Plans but the Lord Directs His Steps** **“My Upcoming Trip in Thailand”**

By Ron Myers

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Although Cheryl and I find ourselves stationed here in San Diego, our commitment to reach the unreached masses in Thailand with the Gospel has not diminished. On Wed. afternoon, May 22, I'll board a Japan Airlines plane out of San Diego's Intl. airport. After a 13-hour flight, I'll have a brief stopover in Tokyo. After changing planes I'll board another 7-hour flight. Then, 12,500 miles and 20 hours after leaving San Diego, I'll land at Bangkok Thailand's huge *Suwanapume International Airport*. The local time? Midnight, Thurs, May 23. Before exiting the plane, I'll give a Creation-evangelism booklet to all Thai flight attendants aboard. Then, due to my weakened back and legs, I'll get seated in a waiting wheelchair. I'll then get wheeled through immigration, pick up my luggage, pass through customs, and board a taxi, whereupon I tip the wheelchair attendant and give him a Creation-evangelism booklet.



After an hour's taxi ride into Bangkok, i.e., KrungThep (*City of Angels*), I'll arrive at Bangkok Christian Guest House where I have a reserved room at a missionary rate. Time? Around 2:00 AM on Friday, May 24. I often make friends with the taxi driver, witness and give him one of my Creation-evangelism booklets. I'll go up to my room, unpack, shower, and retire. The Guest House has a large cafeteria where they serve breakfast at 7:00. By the time I get there, other guests will be there—usually missionaries or other Christian workers from around the world. The guest house used to serve three meals a day before Covid. Now, due to a labor shortage, they operate on a skeleton crew.

After breakfast and a few minutes chatting with other guests, I'll contact my Thai pastor-friends, one of whom keeps my Isan New Testaments at his church storage area. I'll also arrange with him to print more Creation-evangelism booklets. These are designed towards Thai Buddhists needs. They all love nature but have no understanding of origins or of a Creator God to whom they must one day answer. While in Bangkok I'll also try to get a one-year multiple entry visa.

Before flying to our ministry headquarters in Nakhon Phanom Province, 500 miles from Bangkok in Thailand's Isan region, I'll be meeting with a delegation of Chinese House Church members who will have flown in to meet with me as their appointed advisor. These dear ones have sensed God's call to *“Go Ye Into All the World and Preach the Gospel to Every Creature”* (Mark 16:15). I had occasion to meet these Chinese believers by Providential “chance” at the Bangkok Christian Guest House two years ago. Two of them were staying there, taking a short break from their studies at the Chinese-speaking Singapore Bible School. Then, last June, Cheryl and I were invited to participate in a 10-day teaching symposium held at a Mandarin-speaking Chinese Church on PhuKet Island, Southern Thailand.



Planning to send out their young people as church planting missionaries to unreached ethnic peoples, both in China's mountainous hinterlands as well as around the world, they will need the right tools. These tools are specialized training in linguistics, phonetics, unwritten language and culture acquisition principles, working with native language assistants, putting unwritten languages into written form, teaching people to read and write, Bible translation, etc. Cheryl and I received this type of training when we were with New Tribes Mission. I'll be advising them about this training and where to receive it.

On May 28, I'll take a 45-minute flight on an AirAsia Boeing 737 to our ministry headquarters in Nakhon Phanom City, nestled on the western banks of the Mekong River with Communist Laos on the opposite bank. Some of my Thai friends and ministry associates will greet me there. The NKP airport was once a USAF forward bombing base during the Vietnam War. It was given to Thailand when the war ended and now has been remodeled into a modern airport with daily flights.

[Nakhon Phanom](#) (NKP) was once a remote spot no one knew about. When Cheryl and I first moved there as missionaries, we couldn't find a loaf of bread to buy. It's now become a multi-national tourist spot. There's at least 75 lodging establishments from small to large modern edifices, like the huge 7-story Riverview Hotel complex, situated on the banks of the Mekong River; and at least ten 7-Eleven convenience stores spread throughout the city. There's all sorts of eateries, six auto dealerships and a mammoth building supply and appliance store called Global House, that dwarfs Home Depot, Lowes, and Dixie Line. NKP has three large variety department stores with grocery sections, somewhat akin to Walmart but more like self-contained malls. Now, there a huge Robinson's department store being built. Click on [NKP](#) for a 26-minute YouTube tour.



When I first get back to our "home" in Nakhon Phanom, I visit all my long-time friends, both Christians as Buddhists. If it's around lunch time, we might enjoy a typical meal of *Kuay Tiaw*, a bowl of flavored noodle soup with meat. Or a meal of their famous Thai curries that restaurants in the States try to emulate, yet can't without the special herbs and spices here. While there, I'll be staying at the new Aiyara Riverine hotel. It's small, but clean and classy at a budget price. I usually get invited to speak at churches started under our ministry. It's a good opportunity encourage believers and reteach much-needed foundational truths. Also, to inoculate believers against the false doctrines and practices so prevalent throughout Thailand these days.



The first is bogus tongues, of which its adherents try to get every other Christian involved. 1 Corinthians 14:22 is crystal clear. Biblical tongues was for reaching the unsaved of other languages while prophecy was for teaching in the church. The second problem is the idea that salvation by grace through faith needs to be reinforced by good works. This notion mixes salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9) with service (Ephesians 2:10), of which salvation comes first, followed by walking in truth and serving the Lord. Once the Thai truly understand this, they become strong believers that the Lord can use to spread the Word, do corrective teaching, and reinforce local churches.

This brings me to what I believe is probably the most significant aspect of my ministry. That is, Bible translation. The Isan speaking people in Thailand's Northeastern Region never had the Word of God in their heart language before I translated Genesis first, then the whole New Testament. It was finished, printed and distributed in 2016 among Isan churches throughout Northeast Thailand. I have now been asked to translate an accurate version of the Thai New Testament. I didn't have to start from scratch because I had done all the heavy research work doing the Isan New Testament. What I need to do now is convert the Isan New Testament into Thai, the two being sister languages, not unlike Spanish and Italian.

Why do the Thai need a translation? I'll not go into detail here but in every Thai New Testament version, for whatever reason, every passage concerning our eternal standing or position and inheritance in Christ is turned into commands. **This is wrong!** Most afore mentioned type passages in Thai translations turn Salvation by Grace, through Faith into requirements believers must do. **THAT'S WORKS!** It's not only heretical but the those responsible will have to answer to the Lord for their insolence.

Worst yet, it confuses Thai believers as to whether Salvation is Grace-based or works-based. Thus, they feel the need to try and maintain good works to be saved and stay saved. Pray for me as I work to correct this problem. The newer Thai translations are done in spoken Thai, yet these too share many of the same mis-translated passages. The Thai Bible Society's versions are translated using high, literary language, hard for most Thai to understand. Thai Bibles need to be in everyday spoken Thai. The Greek New Testament was written in everyday spoken or *Koine* Greek. Why not Thai New Testaments?

May God Bless & Prosper You,



Ron and Cheryl Myers  
Your Missionaries to Thailand

**Conclusion:** Cheryl and I express our gratitude to all of you who support our ministry. Until the Thai have an accurate New Testament in their own spoken tongue, the Thai church can *never* be truly strong internally, even though it may appear that way externally.

**Pray** with us that the Holy Spirit's convicting power will flood over Thailand, the land of golden temples and ornate spirit shrines. **Pray** for spiritual awakening in the lives of the Thai. **Pray** also as we print more of my Considering Creation booklet. The unsaved Buddhist enjoy reading it and give it to friends to read. They often say, "*I never thought about it, but there must be a Creator.*" **Pray** that my coworker Baaw-Ter's wife, Ju', will receive Christ. **Pray** as I return to Thailand to advise the Chinese church, teach, and do Bible translation.