



Ron & Cheryl Myers



GOD'S LIVING WORD FOR ALL PEOPLE



November 2023

A Faith-based Missionary Outreach Sustained Through the Prayers and Financial Partnership of God's People

“Faith Comes by Hearing the Word of God” (Part I)

Go Into All The World – Preach The Gospel To Every Creature

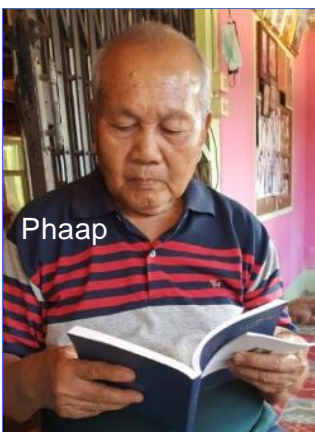
Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am nearing the end of my time here at our ministry headquarters in Nakhon Phanom, Northeast Thailand. The goals I had prayed about achieving have been more than fulfilled. These include:

- **Reach** as many Thai and Isan people as possible through friendship evangelism. As occasions arise and I meet new people, I introduce them to their Creator, who created the *nature* that they all love, through my Intelligent Design booklet *Considering Creation*. I've reached around 100 people so far on this trip.
 - A man my coworker Baaw Ter and I had witnessed to (pleaded with) was his friend, Lahng. Lahng was living on daily dialysis treatments for kidney failure due to alcohol poisoning. Baaw Ter informed me sadly Lahng got worse and died, most likely Christless.
- **Take** speaking engagements at churches during the three Sundays I am here. These believers are members of churches previously established under my ministry. Two so far and my third Sunday is in a few days. There, I'll be speaking at the first church established through my early ministry. They all need the strengthening and encouragement that only God's living Word can provide.
- **Teach** foundational truths to as many individual Christians as possible as the Lord opens doors and brings us together. More on that below.
- **Trust** God for a husband-and-wife couple who are eager to learn and grow into leaders.
- **Distribute** more Isan New Testaments and Intelligent Design booklets, called "Pondering Nature" in Thai.
- **Renew** friendships with those to whom I previously witnessed. Continue to encourage them to trust Christ.
- **Meet** with the Chinese Christian delegation Cheryl and I had worked with in June. They will be returning to set up a headquarters in Thailand since they can't in their homeland. I will be working with them in an advisory capacity instructing them about needed preparation to send missionaries out. This will take place when I return to Bangkok during the last few days of November



Lahng



Phaap

On my trip into the hinterlands, I visited the peasant farmer village of NaNai, where we lived and ministered during our first 8 years in Isan. Many old friends there had passed, yet folks still knew and greeted me by my village name E-tah Niran. Translated, it means Eternal. Cheryl and I were also addressed by our oldest son's name, "David's Father" and "David's Mother."

The one remaining person I knew was Moh Paap. I had visited him casually on different occasions but this time I came prepared to talk with him and his family about the Lord Jesus. They typically presuppose Jesus is the foreigner's Buddha, not nature's Creator. Here, Phaap reading the Word of God for the very first time, opened to John 1:1-8. Before I bade them goodbye, I prayed out loud for him and his family's salvation. Pronouncing an oral blessing is always well received, and meaningful. I then drove four miles down the road to the village of Phone Boke.

Phone Boke is where our first church was established—small but strong. The village is steeped in spirit appeasement and Buddhism. The oppression there is palpable and foreboding. Yet the Christians who saw me drive in welcomed me with smiles, including Mr. Bangkok. We call him that because he insisted on speaking Thai, not Isan. He’s now a believer and speaks Isan.

I’ll be teaching at the Pone Boke church this Sunday, November 26. Their lay pastor is retired Colonel Sanoh. I led Sanoh to Christ when he was a Sergeant, stationed in the communist-infested mountains that encompass Northeast Thailand’s upper region. I have a series I’ve been teaching. The first is *How Great a Salvation* (Hebrews 3:2). It covers the three aspects of Salvation: Justification, Sanctification, and Glorification. I also teach the fundamental doctrines of the faith. Most Thai and Isan believers do not know or have ever heard these foundational truths being taught.



On another occasion, Pastor Pitak wanted to take me to visit his wife Sri’s Aunt Nok, who recently trusted Christ. Nok has a small food stand in her village and treated us to fresh watermelon and a variety of delicious Thai custard desserts that she makes. Umm!

As her customer flow slowed, she came over and sat with us, listening attentively as we conversed about spiritual things with her. (*Pitak appears extra-large here as he is taking a selfie.*) Nok was very eager to learn God’s Word, the reason Pitak wanted me to visit her. As I taught, Nok soaked up God’s truths like a dry sponge. She also attended both Sunday services where I spoke.

I taught the three aspects of salvation and my *Fundamentals of the Faith* series that following Sunday. Around 40 believers were in attendance. Nok attended as well as a young couple I’d seen the previous Sunday. Ray and Jip.

They approached me after the meal, which followed the Sunday service, wanting to ask questions. We had spoken previously during a discussion time in the service. As we conversed, it was apparent they were quite knowledgeable of spiritual matters—more than the average Isan believer.



During our question-and-answer discussion time, Ray mentioned he had taken courses at Bangkok Bible College and Seminary. I asked if he knew my friend, Pastor Ek, a teaching professor at the Seminary. He knew Ek. It’s a small world, to be sure. This fact helped solidify our friendship.

Ray and Jip are a very keen couple, eager to learn and grow. Most importantly they desire to serve the Lord in a leadership capacity. I praise the Lord for this couple. He is certainly a prayer-hearing, prayer-answering God.

They were a direct answer to my prayer, that He would bring me a husband and wife team I could mentor and help to grow in Grace. We are continuing our newfound mentoring relationship through texting and exchanging emails.



Speaking of praying for people to mentor, a man whom I have known is *Boy* (his nickname). Boy is the oldest son of a Vietnamese restaurant owner called Pawn Thep, a very popular breakfast spot. I have a breakfast of ham and eggs, toast, and coffee there most mornings. The girls working there are also of Vietnamese heritage. All are busy working like clockwork to feed the morning crowds. I often wondered, how could I best share Christ with these busy people. During my conversation with Boy, I was pleasantly surprised to learn that he was a Christian, even though somewhat untaught. The lack of solid teaching is a common problem among Christians in Thailand.



Boy added that many of the Vietnamese girls working there were also believers. A couple of weeks ago, during mid-morning after most customers had left, Boy came over to my table and started a casual conversation; with a purpose, I found out. The subject turned to spiritual matters—the eternal security of the believer. This is a major issue for most believers so I reviewed some Bible verses with him. Verses that reinforced that great truth. Every verse I mentioned, he would look it up on his Mobile phone, read it in Thai, and then look away as he contemplated its profound meaning.

The security of the believer was a positive revelation for Boy, solidifying what he had hoped was true. His Vietnamese wife is also a believer and they are raising their three children under the nurture and admonition of the Lord. They and the restaurant's working girls attend a small Bible church just down the street. I asked Boy about continuing our Bible study and was glad when he asked me to continue teaching him through emails, another answer to prayer. This is better than meetings since Boy is quite busy and I'd be leaving soon.

My coworker, Baaw Ter, has also been busy so we haven't spent much time together. He is becoming very popular as a public speaker and emcee at various events with his trained radio voice, which brings in much-needed income. Last week, Baaw Ter emceed the daylong opening of a new supermarket. He later told me he continues to sense God's calling to pastor a church. He had pastored a fledgling group, which dispersed when COVID-19 struck. He had also baptized many new believers in the nearby Mekong River.

I invited him and his wife Ju to dinner the other evening, asking her choice as to where she preferred to dine. She pointed out a new dining spot overlooking the Mekong. Although She is a committed Theravada Buddhist (as are 94% of Thailand's population) we get along well. I've had various opportunities to speak with her, being careful not to try and *force* Jesus on her. I have noticed lately she seems more relaxed and ready to listen. I hope it's real and not just Ju being polite.



Please pray for Ju. *Pray* that she will see through the cold, emptiness of Buddhism and sense the warm, unconditional embrace of a loving God, who cares deeply for her soul. **Pray** Ju will understand and surrender her life to Christ's care, who died to pay her sin debt and rose again bodily for her justification. Finally, **pray** that, as a Christian couple, they will have a great testimony serving the Lord together in that spiritually parched land.

Concerning assisting other missionaries, I was pleased to be able to spend three days helping a new missionary couple, Mike and Daysi Mady. They sensed God's clarion call to serve God among the Isan people in Maha-Sala-Kham province, located in the central area of Thailand's vast Isan region. Isan's 28 million souls represent approximately one-third of Thailand's total population. Mike had learned of my Creation evangelism booklets, as well as the Isan New Testaments, so wanted some for their ministry. They also desired my assistance in learning the Thai language. I was more than happy to help them in all areas.

Cheryl and I appreciate all of you who support our ministry needs, both in prayer and financially.

By God's Grace,



Ron and Cheryl Myers

In closing, Believers have asked me to convert my Isan New Testament (based on the Byzantine/TR Greek) into the Central Thai language in a common vernacular version. I'm now starting this project jointly with another translator. Thai and Isan are similar languages with different vocabularies, yet they share many common terms. Potential readership? Nearly 80 million. Like my Isan version, it will be printed at the Gideon printers in Bangkok.