



Ron & Cheryl Myers

GOD'S WORD FOR ISAN NEWSLETTER

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

Returning To Northeast Thailand (Part V)

"Happy Endings to a Tedious Problem"

by Ron Myers

You're likely aware that on my April trip to Thailand I was not allowed entry – lacking a Thai Pass. God has blessed this second trip from the onset. For starters, Thai Pass in hand, I sailed through the Bangkok Airport at midnight on June 16 without a glitch. Following that, I was able to arrange the printing of 20,000 more *Considering Creation* Intelligent design booklets with gifts from friends. I also met three new missionary families at the Alliance Guest Home where I stayed, helping them with pronunciation tips for difficult Thai consonants and vowels. I'm now in Thailand's Northeastern or Isan Region where I'm staying with Baaw Ter – my Isan coworker.

I conversed with a Thai Army Colonel on the 500 mile flight up here to Nakhon Phanom province. He asked if I was a Catholic Priest. I said, no; I was a Christian and that I had a booklet that would give him a full explanation – the last remaining copy of my *Considering Creation* booklets. He read it through twice during the hour-long flight. He then remarked it was very helpful, adding he still had some questions. Being stationed at the Thai Army Base a few kilometers out of town, I suggested we discuss his questions over lunch. I said I know a retired Thai Army Colonel, a Christian friend, whom he might enjoy meeting. I haven't heard back yet, but we parted company on a positive note. Please pray that our lunch meeting will occur, and be fruitful.

The day after I arrived in Nakhon Phanom, a woman in an adjacent province whom Baaw Ter had led to Christ called. She was the only believer in her village and needed encouragement. We took turns assuring her of God's watchcare, to which she affirmed she was blessed by God's Promises and by our encouraging words. We plan to visit her village next week, a 300 kilometer trip each way (180 miles). Petrol (gas) prices here are upwards of 48 Baht per liter and climbing – around \$5.30 per US Gallon.

Pastor Pitak asked that I speak at his church last Sunday. I asked Baaw Ter to come and speak as well. He gave a rousing testimony of God's loving watchcare and goodness in his life. A gifted speaker, Baaw Ter is comfortable with crowds, having been a professional speaker with his own radio program. Afterwards, I spoke on God's Love that brought salvation full and free to *whosoever will* repent in faith believing, apart from works, which nullifies Grace. I then introduced the three aspects of Salvation: Justification, Sanctification, and Glorification, comparing them to a road map. Justification being our starting point. Sanctification being the journey of life – growing in Grace and knowledge of God as we draw nearer to our final destination; our Glorification. When we see Christ we will be like Him. Our mortal bodies will then become immortal (1 Corinthians 15:35-49). I'm presently rewriting my *How Great a Salvation* teaching notes into Thai as a resource to ground sorely-untaught Thai and Isan believers in their faith.

A survey was conducted among Thai Christians a while ago, inquiring what drew them to Christ. Eighty percent said they were drawn by the warmth of God's Love, opposed to Buddhism's impersonal coldness. Jesus spoke with Nicodemus about the Holy Spirit being like the wind in John 3. That's like God's Love. We can't see it directly, but we can sense God's presence as His Love envelops our very being. Since God is the personification of Love, 1 Corinthians 13:13 tells us God's Love is the culmination of everything.

Sensing that truth might help draw Baaw Ter's wife, Joo, to Christ, I paraphrased 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 into Thai and gave it to her. She returned to her apartment without it, then called and asked that I send her another copy – a positive sign. Joo also suggested the three of us go out for breakfast together the following morning – signs she is warming to the Gospel. Please hold Joo up in prayer, that her heart will continue to soften in response to the warmth of God's Love for her and receive Christ as her personal Lord and Savior – following her husband and son.

With your help, we will continue to reach previously unreached souls for Christ using proven principles and methods that effectively communicate God's truth – the end goal being to see the miracle of the *new birth* transform lives into new creations in Christ to the Glory of God (2 Corinthians 5:17-21).



After dinner; the Mekong and Laos in Distance



Ron & Cheryl Myers – Missionaries to Thailand
God's Word for Isan <www.IsanBible.org>