



# "Shoot Me If You Must, But First Let Me Tell You About Jesus"

By Ron Myers

Greetings in Jesus' Powerful Name,

"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:37-39)

The following are a few accounts of *Samer*, eldest son of *Mom and Dad Samer*, whom I featured in my February Newsletter. Samer trusted Christ immediately following his aging parents, who had come to me one morning to get some meds and returned home as Born-Again Christians. They had learned that their legendary coming Messiah, whom they had long been seeking, had already come in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Like the meaning of his name, Samer's faith was always steady and unwavering, even in the face of adversity or impending danger. I would venture to say that, from the onset, his newfound faith and even understanding was advanced beyond many Christians years his senior.

It didn't take long for word to spread among their neighbors that the whole family nucleus had forsaken the State-ordained Buddhism for the foreigner's inferior religion, making them all *persona non grata*. Little did the villagers realize that Samer's Mom and Dad had secretly abandoned Buddhism years earlier along with their whole family. This was after they realized that mere religion had proven unable to break the grip the demonic spirits had over their lives, from which they had long sought to escape.

Upon learning that the family had abandoned Buddhism for Christ, persecution followed soon after. Samer recounted, that one day when he was walking to their fields, he was ambushed by the corrupt village headman and some of his cronies, who were lying in wait. Samer said they hit and kicked him, forcing him to the ground. Whereupon, the headman placed his foot on Samer's neck and with a rifle pressed hard against Samer's temple, using very derogatory terms, said, "You Die!" Samer replied, "Shoot me if you must, but first let me tell you about Jesus." As Samer was witnessing of his newfound faith to the headman, the man broke down and begged forgiveness as he helped Samer to his feet. However, as far as I know, he never received Christ. A few weeks later, the unrepentant headman was shot and killed in his home by someone he had wronged.



Following that incident, some men in the village went under cover of night and move the property fence line between Samer's rice fields and an adjoining neighbor's fields, effectually stealing precious amounts of Samer's property. Samer asked me what he should do. I encouraged him to take his title deed in to see the district's chief government officer with his complaint. He did so, and a hearing date was set for the two parties, Samer, and the neighboring field owner. When Samer arrived in good faith, he was surprised to see that the other party had amassed a sizable group of villagers who all chimed up in unison, giving false testimony concerning the boundary line. I was angered, but Samer calmly turned it over to the Lord, saying that God would repay in His time. My anger turned into embarrassment as I realized the sincerity of his faith overshadowed the weakness of my own.

Due to a speech impediment, Samer is not an elegant speaker, but his life is a steady beacon of light to those around him. I taught foundational truths to that small group of believers in Samer's home village twice a week before moving into town to expand our ministry and begin the Isan translation project. During one of my teaching sessions, I told how Christ took our sins upon Himself and gave us His Righteousness in return. Samer thought about it and, smiling, he placed his Thai Gideon New Testament down and covered it with his handkerchief, saying, this white handkerchief represents Christ's righteousness, and my Bible represents me. When God looks at me, He sees the righteousness of Christ as my covering, not me in my formerly sinful state.



In retrospect, I don't believe I've ever heard a better, more clear explanation of that great scriptural truth.

A couple of years ago, Samer became deathly ill due to a severe reaction to gout. He laid in the small local hospital for weeks, on the verge of death. When hearing of his plight, I immediately went to visit him. He was sleeping when I arrived yet I was taken aback by how frail he looked. Samer was pleased that I had come to visit him, which cheered him up immensely. I gave him the fruit basket I had brought, we fellowshiped for a while and prayed together before I left. Samer fully recovered and is now back to his former self.

By God's Grace and For His Glory,  
  
Ron & Cheryl Myers  
God's Word for Isan: IsanBible.org

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Pray that Samer's Church at Pone Boke will grow in the face of opposition.  
• Pray that the people in and around Samer's village will repent, trust Christ, and receive eternal life.  
• Pray for radio DJ Baaw Ter's continued good health and strength as he narrates the Isan New Testament.  
• Pray that his wife Ju' will receive Christ. • Pray that doors of opportunity will remain open in Thailand.  
• Pray that my upcoming shoulder surgery will be successful, so that I can soon return to Thailand.