



Ron & Cheryl Myers GOD'S WORD FOR ISAN NEWSLETTER November, 2017

Every Word of God Is Pure...

He Is a Shield unto Them That Put Their Trust in Him
(Proverbs 30:5)
 By Ron Myers

Greetings from Northeast Thailand,

I departed from San Diego on a two-day international flight, arriving in Bangkok, Thailand, on Friday, November 17 via China Airlines. After a short rest, I took a domestic flight to Nakhon Phanom Province, situated nearly 500 miles away on the western banks of the Mekong River, in the far reaches of Thailand's Northeastern or Isan Region. There, Pastor Pitak and radio DJ *Baaw Ter* came to greet me at the local airport; it was good to see them again. We had lunch at a local noodle shop while they brought me up to date.

Baaw Ter insisted that I stay in a spare bedroom in his spacious home on the outskirts of the city, to which I agreed. It's a balmy Wednesday afternoon as I sit here writing to you. Of course, the first thing Baaw Ter wanted to show me upon arrival was the refurbished radio studio building behind his home, and especially the newly-completed sound room.



Baaw Ter & Ron in New Sound Room



Baaw Ter Comparing Prices Before Ordering

Although nearly done, there was one main component still missing, a powerful computer and corresponding monitor capable of recording and editing the narrated Isan New Testament, as well as preparing programming materials for our new online Facebook page, aptly named "Good News." In fact, Baaw Ter has already started some trial programming for the Good News page in the form of soft Thai Christian music. It's amazing. For the one-hour morning program the day I arrived, he had already received a hundred positive comments from Christians and non-Christians alike, saying they enjoyed listening to the pleasant music, the life-giving message, and the spiritual encouragement they received.

Some of the respondents were as far away as Australia and even Thai and Isan Christians working in Bahrain, on the Persian Gulf. It's clearly evident how God has blessed these efforts from the onset, to get His word out to a world of hungry and needy hearts in their own language. It will serve an even greater purpose once we include the *Isan New Testament* in both audio and textual format, as well as *Considering Creation*, the *Intelligent Design* evangelistic narration, well-received by committed Buddhists. "For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword..." (Hebrews 4:12)

As I mentioned in my last newsletter, I have received numerous requests, from both missionaries and Isan Christians alike, to produce an audio version of the Isan New Testament. This was in the plan from the beginning, but the written translation must obviously precede it. One individual alluded that the narrated audio version would prove more meaningful than the printed version! I disagree. Although both will serve a great purpose, one cannot discount the intrinsic value of the written Word of God. We will have both. There's a vast potential readership (and/or listenership) of over twenty-five million Isan speakers, not to mention another seven-million in neighboring Communist Laos—the two languages being interrelated.

The Lord brought Baaw Ter into the picture for this very purpose. Although he received Christ just a year ago, he has become both solid and zealous for the Lord, including being excited about narrating the Isan New Testament. Please pray for his safety and wellbeing, and that of his family. Speaking of family, Baaw Ter's lovely wife, Joo, a head nurse at a local hospital and a committed Buddhist, feels estranged from her husband and son, Baaw Ter and DJ – both of whom have received Christ. She says she cannot believe, yet concedes that she needs time to better understand. Obviously, Joo is quite conflicted of heart and mind; and yet, there are definite signs of God's working in her life. However, there are also powerful opposing spiritual forces in play, attempting to dissuade her from receiving Christ.



Update: Joo was in a severe auto accident one evening last week while heading home from work. Another car rear-ended her at speed as she turned onto a side road. Her car was hurled down into a deep ditch, collapsing both front and rear as it crushed up against a concrete abutment. Being a late-model Nissan sedan with many safety features, including airbags, Joo was spared from serious injuries, although she complains of lingering back pain.

We know it was God that kept her safe, but Baaw Ter says she credits her Buddhist charms and amulets; that's all she knows in her unsaved condition. **Please pray for Joo's soon salvation**, and that the opposing spiritual forces at work in her life will be soundly defeated. Two nights ago, I had the opportunity to treat Joo, Baaw Ter, and their son DJ to dinner. We all enjoyed ourselves; it also afforded me an opportunity to better understand Joo's personal dilemma, and the love she has for her family. I'm looking forward to the day when they will all be *One in Christ* as a family.

By God's Grace and For His Glory,

 Ron & Cheryl Myers
 God's Word for Isan; IsanBible.org

In closing, both Cheryl and I want to express our sincere appreciation for your steadfast prayers and committed financial partnership in this very important endeavor, of which only eternity will reveal its full worth.