

Mid-May Update

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ,

After finishing my week's work in Bangkok (May 12-19), I flew up to Nakon Panom (NKP) Monday morning, May 20, on "Nok" (bird) Airlines, a local Thailand-based carrier. They have now upgraded their twice-daily flights to NKP from turboprop commuters to Boeing 737s.

It's evident that NKP is growing in both size and stature. In fact, it was designated as the new central location for the area headquarters for ASEAN—Association of Southeast Asian Nations—since Nakon Panom's location in northeast Thailand is close in proximity to Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Nakon Panom also has a new huge bridge that was recently constructed, which spans the Mekong River just north of town and conjoins to a main highway through Laos and on to the South China Sea—a potentially valuable trade route.

During my week in Bangkok I was able to get the Considering Creation evangelism booklet reformatted and ready to print in "A7" format, a pocket-sized 3.5 by 5.0 inches. The Thammada Press print shop that I use is Christian-owned, and the owner (Khun Vairoj) offered me an amazing price of 2.2 Baht (7 cents) per piece for a 32-page booklet with a 4-color front cover. At a 20,000 count, that comes to 44,000 Baht, or around \$1,475 at today's exchange rate. The pocket edition should work out great, because it will be much easier to carry in shirt pocket or purse.

The front cover photo will be a well-known falls here in western Thailand called "Erawan Falls." Its perfect for a Thai booklet on "Considering Creation." In fact, it is becoming more and more in demand among the Thai churches. This is because it speaks to the hearts of unsaved Thai Buddhists much better that the majority of Thai tracts, which are written in a way that Thai Christians understand, but not unbelievers--defeating their very purpose.

It's amazing. These last few days alone, I have been able to speak with at least ten new people about the Lord using the creation evangelism approach, for which they show real interest and gladly receive the Considering Creation booklet, often saying they are interested and want to read it (I brought a few dozen copies with me this trip)... IT REALLY WORKS! For example, my unsaved barber, having given his copy away, asked for more to pass out to customers who asked for them.

Now, concerning the potential Bible training and church facility here in Nakon Panom, situated just outside of town. I recently received new information on Rhombus Industries' electronics assembly plant here. It's a fairly new building on a prime parcel of land, which I oversaw the initial moving, construction, and facilitation process of the business up here from Bangkok in 1997-98. I was initially told that it is now dormant; however, I just learned from my close friend Mr. Krajai that it is still in operation, but with dwindling operations and a dwindling crew.



Rhombus Industries assembly plant

It is now up for sale by its American owner. The owner approached Mr. Krajai to purchase it, but Krajai told me this morning that he wasn't interested. When I told Krajai about my goal and vision for the facility, he (*a practicing Buddhist who has been acquainted with the Gospel since youth*) voiced 100% agreement, saying it would be a great utilization of the place. He will discuss it with the owner for me.

The vision and goal is, to use it for a much-needed Bible training and church facility. There will also be plenty of extra room for other things, including an English language school. This alone always draws many upper-class Thai, who desire to study English--every Thai's ambition. It also allows them the opportunity to become more closely associated with the real Gospel message--not their pre-assumed version. What with the new aforementioned ASEAN development in the works, this will be a prime location to acquire, especially before prices go sky high, which they most definitely will.

Please pray that God's people will get behind this project and help in the purchase of this soon to be vacated modern and complete two-story facility. (*I'm not sure at this juncture what the asking price will be, but I'm asking the Lord to provide it for the furtherance of His work and His glory here in a spiritually-parched and thirsty land. It would be placed under the stewardship of a foundation. I already have mature and highly-qualified people in mind who would love to be a part of the endeavor.*)

Changing the subject: my translation assistant Pastor Pitak will be available to help me with the review and minor editing process on the completed Isan New Testament starting next week, a mandatory process before printing.

I am very happy for Pitak, who is presently putting the finishing touches on a new home that his two sons went together in the purchase of for their parents. Nice huh. They have both become fine young Christian men and work as high-wage professionals in Bangkok. Concerning Pitak, he is now only a semester away from finishing a ministry degree at Bangkok Bible College and Seminary.

Thanks again for your prayers and partnership in this vital endeavor.

Love in Christ – By God's Grace and For His Glory,



Ron (& Cheryl) Myers
Missionaries to Thailand



Pastor Pitak & Sons

P.S. Please pray about my sciatica condition: It has been giving me much pain in my left hip and groin area, as well as general weakness in both legs. I've tried about everything in the way of sound medical treatment, yet to no avail. I bought some new pain and swelling medication two nights ago at a local pharmacy. Amazingly, this seems to be giving me some much-needed relief, allowing me to walk without a cane or pain at times. However, due to the remaining weakness, I had a freak accident last tonight. I slipped on a short flight of cement stairs, couldn't catch myself, and fell about five feet off to the side. I landed on a sharp edge of some equipment, putting a two inch gash in my scalp and fractured two ribs. Had a little blood seepage in my scalp last night and some sharp rib pain from time to time. Nothing big.