

Chrestos Mission Update 1: June 2003

No man can do a great and enduring work for God who is not a man of prayer, and no man can be a man of prayer who does not give much time to praying. E.M.Bounds

Laos:

Please continue to pray for those in prison for their faith in Laos; their witness to the guards and other prisoners, and for their families waiting for their release. Over 50 Khmu Christians came for the border seminar held from June 9-11. Every time we meet with them we are challenged by the simplicity of their lives; the sincerity of their faith and their sense of enjoyment and celebration for all that God is doing for them.

Maesot on the Burmese border:

During our last visit to Maesot, we met an Indian pastor who is seeking to help the many migrant children that are begging on the streets of Maesot. He feeds and gives them some lessons daily, as well as giving them the opportunity to earn a little by collecting recyclable materials. Some of these children come across the border every day and others are living in the camps or the migrant communities

The following is a quote from the book: 'Small Dreams Beyond Reach' highlighting the needs of migrant youth along the borders of China, Burma and Thailand.

'I started that line of work in Thailand. It was full of hardship. There were all kinds of customers, including real bad ones. There was no escape. All of those who surrounded me worked for the brothel owners. Then they made me go to the 'waiting room'. They sold me and separated me from the other two girls who had come with me. I don't know what became of them after that.' This 21 year old Shan girl was rescued from the situation.

The Karen Baptist Hospital at Mae Sariang has now officially closed as a hospital as the Thai government requirements could not be met. The Karen Baptist Convention of Thailand has asked Chrestos Mission to come up with a project for the use of the building. We are praying concerning this that the Lord would give us clear direction, and also supply workers for this needy area of north Thailand.

We have recently had contact with ten Buddhist monks from a temple in Hod, a city on the way to Mae Sariang. They have requested copies of the Scriptures and these were delivered to them a few weeks ago.

Thai Outreach:

The Genesis Bible Study will be starting this month in our home. We did not know how to go about contacting students and were delighted to meet two young men from Indonesia at the English Church, studying Environmental Science at Chiang Mai University. They plan to join us at the studies.

July 20-27 Geoffrey and Pat will be speaking at a conference for missionaries from Tajikistan.

With our sincere thanks and loving greetings, Geoffrey and Pat