

Chrestos Mission Update 6: October 2004

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:1-2

The Chrestos Bible School:

The Bible School opened on July 4th, with fourteen students, seven men and seven women. They have bonded together as a family and are eager to study the Word of God. So far this term, they have studied Genesis, Esther, Nehemiah, Hosea, Micah, Matthew, Romans, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 & 2 Timothy and Revelation with local and visiting teachers. At their own suggestion, we meet together early in the morning to study the Psalms during the week and Proverbs on Saturday, with a time of praise and worship. Among them are gifted musicians and they sing beautifully in harmony. They are refreshingly honest and sincere in their testimonies as they share about past experiences. Several of them have been in life-threatening situations and so thankful that God has brought them to the Bible School, to prepare them for a life of service in the days ahead. Some came with reticence, but now are eager to study for as long as they can. At their request, we have increased the course from one to two years. One Sunday a month, we worship as a group at the local Karen Church in Mae Sariang, but the other weeks we visit Karen churches in the outlying villages. They are greatly encouraged by these visits and the love and enthusiasm of the students. In November the students return to their villages to help with the harvest, and then return in December for outreach in the mountain villages, before studies start again in January. We have two requests for prayer:

We have heard that many young people are interested in joining us next year, but our present facilities would only be able to accommodate a possible fifteen more and the estimates of numbers wanting to come are two to three times that number. We need the Lord's guidance to either hold down the numbers or find a bigger building for the future

News about the Karen in Burma & Thailand:

We continue to send rice and other supplies to the small Chrestos School/Orphanage in Burma and financial support to three medical clinics. The weather is now colder and this is not easy for those who are poor without sufficient clothing. In the next few weeks, we will take clothes to the Karen refugee camps on the border, as well as the other food supplies such as tins of fish and beans.

We appreciate so much your prayers, love and support for the work here.

Jesus said, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me'.
Matthew 25:40



**Chrestos Bible School Students
2004-2005**

With our loving greetings, Geoffrey and Pat