

God's Word For Isan

"God's Word, Accurately Replicated In the Heart
Language of Any People, Is Truly Powerful!"



Church Planting • Bible Translation • Evangelism • Teaching Materials • Rural Development



Going Into All the World
With the Gospel
of Jesus Christ

Ron & Cheryl Myers **GOD'S WORD FOR ISAN NEWSLETTER** **Christmas 2020**
A Faith-based Ministry Sustained Through the Prayers and Partnership of God's People

"In the Fullness of Time God Sent Forth His Son" (Galatians 4:4)
His Name is Jesus!

Christmastime Blessings from Ron and Cheryl Myers

Yuletide Greetings from Our Home to Yours,

I don't usually write *newsy* family letters but felt it would be good as a year-end wrap up. We praise God for you, hope all is well, and trust you are finding God's grace sufficient in all things during these uncertain times. Cheryl and I are doing well, as are our four grown children. We remain healthy and get occasional physical check-ups. Cheryl retired in 2016 after teaching English at San Diego Christian College and Southern California Seminary. She now enjoys leading a weekly *Precepts Bible Study Class* for ladies at our home church: Shadow Mountain Community Church, Pastor David Jeremiah. She does a great job and has many in attendance. No on-site meetings allowed in California yet. Hence, her sessions are presently done over *Zoom* due to Covid-19. It has negatively affected countless persons with untold numbers of businesses closed or hurting. We've started Sunday services again, where Cheryl enjoys helping with the younger children.

I continue to work on Thai and Isan ministry projects while stuck here during the Covid-19 lockdown. I'm anxious to return to Thailand as soon as possible. However, I'm not able to do so at present due to air travel restrictions. There's also a Thai government mandated two-week quarantine in a Bangkok hotel room upon arrival (*on my dime*). Thailand is also limiting entry visas. On a brighter side, I presently communicate with my Thai-Isan co-worker, *Bao-Ter*, over the Internet. I'm able to mentor and encourage him through live on-line video chats. I also provide teaching materials by email, along with assisting him by overseeing the Isan audio edition, a long process which he is finalizing.

I'm presently updating and restructuring various passages in the Isan New Testament in preparation for a second edition printing. These are done in unison with Pastor Pitak's input—my faithful Isan translation assistant. Pitak received Christ while I was serving as interim pastor-teacher at the Nakhon Phanom city church, whom I later baptized in the Mekong River. We sponsored Pitak and his dear sweet wife, Sri, in attending the Bangkok Bible College and Seminary's online courses, both receiving their degrees. We will be doing the same for Bao-Ter as partial payment for the tedious job of recording the Isan New Testament.

I recently learned that my dear friend Samer is now in Glory with his Creator and Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. It's a loss for the local church body there, but great gain for Samer (Philippians 1:20-24). He was a faithful elder, a leader and a godly example in the *Pone Boke* village church since its inception. Samer received Christ one joyous day at our village home of *Naa-Nai* in 1977, the day after his mom and dad. They were the first believers and founding members of that church.

During the pandemic lockdown I decided to improve my effectiveness by pursuing a Master's Degree in Biblical Studies at our local seminary. I withdrew after the first module since it was taking time away from my work on the Isan New Testament and related ministries. Online Zoom sessions are *not* an ideal learning environment. I may continue later after I complete the Isan New Testament update. I might forego it, since I need to return to Thailand for the work's sake.

On a personal health note, I've been able to get my weight down from over 200 to 165 pounds (*my ideal weight*). No fad diets, just restricting meals to single helpings with one main meal daily. Both Cheryl and I are doing this, along with cutting out between-meal snacks. Cutting out evening snacks is the hardest.

Both Cheryl and I want to express our gratitude for each of you who partner with us. We count you as dear friends and co-workers for the cause of Christ as we take the Word of God and the life-changing Gospel message to the unreached peoples of Thailand. Your role is equally vital in helping reach lost Thai souls—a religious stronghold of which 94% are superstitious Buddhists. They are more open once they understand Creation and Christ's real identity. The Isan region is especially needy, being more spiritually parched than the rest of Thailand. The actual Christian population of Thailand is around 1.0%. The Isan region is fewer at about .01%. We are making a difference by God's Grace as we befriend and witness to the lost there.

May God's richest blessings be your daily portion during this Christmas season, throughout the coming year and onward as we look forward to Christ's soon return.

By God's Grace and For His Glory,



Ron and Cheryl Myers
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