



Asian Gospel Outreach

Spreading the Gospel in Southeast Asia

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Greetings to my beloved brothers and sisters in Christ!

The Lord Jesus has been so good to us; He blessed us through the year of 2022 with His grace. We are so grateful to your unceasing prayers and your faithful support of our ministry. We have been blessed so much with blessings upon blessings. You are very special and you are incredible blessing from God for us. We pray that God also pour His blessings upon each one of you and that His love and blessings overflow in you and that God will make the better 2023 for your family, your health, your finance, and your relationship with Him. We bring you greetings from our fellow evangelists, Churches leaders, and Houses of Hope.

My Trip to the Northern Myanmar was very successful. People walked for many days through the jungle to be there. Some travel by minibus on rough road, many by scooters, and many Christians around Putao area travelled in group bringing the whole family and loads by motorcycles. People gathered in a big temporary bamboo tent with plastic tarps for the roof and rice straws spread all over the dirt floor. It was very good for warming the floor, allowing several thousand people to sit down. We had two days for seminar at Mulashidi Church of Christ. People packed full in the building and many people sat outside. Then on the 23rd we moved to a 100 years anniversary convention center. With God's grace and the good reputation of Churches of Christ, they got the permit to have the convention. Then they had to find a location with enough room for 5000 people to stay together for four days. The committee want to do near the old Morse family compound but they were not allowed to do that. But with God's help there was a generous Christian brother who donated one acre and allowed us to use all of his land for the convention. His land is connected with Berea Bible School about a 1/2 mile from old Morse family Compound. As we traveled to the convention center, we saw the ruin of old Morse missionary compound. We are grateful we could get together to thank God that the Gospel grew from here to many parts of Asia and to many people groups.

I am one of the fruits of the Morse family. I heard the Gospel from the Morse family then I went to Bible School that LaVerne Morse's students started in Chiangmai, then in 1979 I met LaVerne Morse and traveled with him to spread the Gospel. In this convention heard the stories of old days and met the people who walked in the story. Some of the people and their children are still alive. The convention was like a Church Camp where people came to sing praises, listen to the preaching, pray together, have time of fellowship, time of discussion and visioning. I was so honored to be one of the main speakers for the event, and I got extra privilege to be a translator for Mark Morse (see picture at left), son of my beloved spiritual father, LaVerne Morse. For LaVerne I was like his Timothy, so to translate for Mark I felt like I was standing with his father again. On December 25th, the military Chief of Putao, who is the highest authority and oversees all the offices, came to visit the convention. He said he came from the part of Myanmar that had fighting every day but in his 6 months in Putao, he had not fire a single bullet. Putao is very different from other



cities and he was wondering why! Then he said, most of the people here are Lisu and Rawang, they were all Christians. The Missionaries that brought the Gospel to them were Morse family from America. Before the government came here, there were schools, medical clinics, roads to villages, and straight streets. This was because of missionaries. Then he said, "I have not seen any sin they did to this country." To God be the Glory! The weather was cold, but the fellowship and hospitality was very warm.

I want to share with you about Mr. Washaya Ngwapa, a jade dealer who I met in Thailand in early 90s. I was the only Lisu in Chiangmai that could speak Putao dialect and Thailand Lisu dialect as well as other languages, so many guests came to our house including Mr. Washaya. I lost contact with him, but later in 2019 he called me and said that he was in Chiangmai and needed help. His doctor told him that he had infected jaw and needed to go to better hospital, so he came to Thailand and wanted me to help him. I took him to see doctor and he learned that he got bone cancer. With my experience with the best hospital in Chiangmai, I called Doctor Hongsin for advice. We got help but that was not enough so we took him to Church and had all our Christian friends to pray for him. Finally God helped him to overcome his cancer and he went home. When he heard that I was coming to Putao, he flew back from Yangon to host me at his house. I was so surprised that he prepared a big banquet for us, about 15 people. He prepared traditional Lisu food on full table. After the meal, he said "I want to thank God for my life. I was like coming from dead to life. I first want to thank God and second I want to thank brother Ahtapa. I want to do this according to our old Lisu way of Za Tso; (rice and pork in the basket) to give to brother Ahtapa." He was saying this with tears. I told him "To God be the Glory." He gave me the head of the pig (photo, right). What would I do with this pig's head! But for Lisu this is real honor, but I do not deserve this. It was a big surprise for me. And everyone that went with me each receive a basket with chunks of cooked pork and rice, but mine was the heaviest. Brother Washaya invited me back to his private corner. In the far back of the property he has a simple bamboo building like Lisu people in the old time. We sat around the fireplace and fellowship, this just brought back the good old memories of my trip with Chuck Fordyce and LaVerne Morse around the fireplace like this. Gospel was shared, people repent, and people accepted Jesus Christ. At Washaya's little bamboo house I was able to minister and pray for many people who need God. People are hopeless. So that little fireplace was very warm place for men who need help from above. Thank God for using meeting place to be with men who need help.



For this convention I was able to bring pens for 200 people who came from very remote area to write and keep note of all the sermons. I also brought warm jackets for some of the people that came from villages that had snow in their home villages. I took one suitcase full with jackets to give out and one carryon to take my own clothes. I was able to buy blankets for the Children of the House of Hope for five places, 50 warm blankets (below, left). By giving away all the warm jacket, even the one I wore, I thought I would come home with one empty suitcase, but I got the surprise by God. One brother came from the mountain village knew that



Thailand did not have walnut and nut oil and spices, so he brought me walnuts, nut oil, and spices. So I have a full bag to take home. Brother Lalay and his wife came from China border to meet me. That was beyond my expectation. What a Christian love. We used to pray for him when the political conflict brought the war to the area and all the family fled to different way including his family. He could not find some of his family members. I sent prayer requests to some friends in America. About a month later all family members were found safe. Brother LaLay still active and preach boldly in the area.

We were blessed with the Convention but as there was a saying, “the party has an end.” We had one last service on December 26th. People were still hungry for the Word. I was very blessed to be a translator for brother Mark Morse. I was so blessed because the message went through my head to my heart and then to my mouth before everybody else could hear in their own tongue. We knew the message was very powerful because it took a long, long time in a long, long line to shake hand after the service. In their long line of farewell there were tears, and people kissing our hands (not normal that Lisu will kiss anyone’s hands). People said please come back again!!! We all agreed from this Convention there will be 100 new evangelists going out with the Gospel.



People leaving from the convention slowly, they waved their hands to each other. Some travel over 1,000 miles to get back to their home. Some not that far but take many days to walk back to their home villages on the snow cover mountains. I thank God that I made this trip and that you all prayed and made this trip possible. **Good reports after the convention:** (1) there was man who live near Mr. Washaya who asked for Bibles and someone to teach him; (2) there was a baptism among Longwo tribe; (3) Joseph Lee baptized young Daolum into Christ; and (4) Brother Mark from Tanai House of Hope reported that 14 people have turn to the Lord Jesus Christ and were baptized. Praise the Lord for new names being added to the book of life. Please keep them in your prayers for their growth in the Lord.

Our house construction has come to the end and it is very difficult part, a lot of detail work and correction. When I have wisdom from God to explain to the contractor. He is a father of my former students, a very hard working man and good at his job, but he cannot read or write. So a lot of time he needs to be told more than one time. Leah and I know that he put in a lot of working labor. And we think of adding more money for him and his crew. All the main works are done but now they need to install the toilet, septic pipes, curtains, and finishing cement work around the house. We hope that everything will be done by the end of January. Leah and I have been married for 39 years, April 21, 1984. We have not had anything to call couch or sofa in our house. We live in a house without furniture. We have a wooden bench and plastic seat. I really like to get something to be the gift for her.



Please pray for my trip to Northeast India in March. As soon as I am done with teaching for this semester, I will be going to Northeast India to visit old friends, teaching short term seminar, and making contact with new people group in the area. There are 112 tribes in the State of Arunnachal. My last visit was 2015 where I attended the combined Christmas. I planned to go back there again, but we went through many things that delay the plan.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers. Pray for our children in all the Houses of Hope and all of us here at Still Water. Mai and Paul are very big help to Leah and me. As our age is getting beyond sixty line we appreciate the younger people more and more. Shimale is growing up to be a good help to Leah. Shimale came to live with us since she was about five. She stayed home to do homeschool for one year and then she spent another year in kindergarten for another year because her Thai was not good enough. But now she is outstanding in the school. She brings the good reputation of Still Water. She is so dear to us. She is in her grade 8 this year.

May the Lord Jesus continue to bless you and give you happy and blessed New Year.

Ahtapa, Leah, and Family

(Photo at Left: Ahtapa with students at Chiangdao Lisu Bible Institute)



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Pray for:

1. New Christians from Convention
2. Trip to Northeast India in March (\$2,000)
3. Children in Houses of Hope and those at Still Water
4. Final construction of house (\$1,500) and furniture (refrigerator, couch, washing machine \$2,000)