



Going Into All the World
With the Gospel
of Jesus Christ

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



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 attendees. 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 restructuring various passages in the Isan New Testament in preparation for a second edition printing. This is being done with Pastor Pitak's input—my faithful Isan translation assistant. Pitak received Christ while I was serving as interim teaching pastor at the Nakhon Phanom city church, whom I baptized in the Mekong River. Pitak pastors a growing, vibrant church a few Kilos south of our Nakhon Phanom city headquarters. Cheryl and I sponsored both him and his sweet wife Sri in the Bangkok Bible Seminary's extension program, both receiving their Bible degrees. We'll also sponsor my co-worker Bao-Ter as a gift for the good job he is doing in recording the Isan New Testament.

During the pandemic lockdown I thought it good to improve my effectiveness by pursuing a Master's Degree in Biblical Studies at our local seminary. However, it took time away from my work on the Isan New Testament and related ministries, so I withdrew after the first module. Also, Zoom sessions are *not* an ideal learning environment. I may continue later after completion of the Isan New Testament update, or forego it altogether for the work's sake, needing to focus on my ministry.

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 did. They were the first believers and founding members of that church.

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. The hardest part is relinquishing evening meals and "comfort" snacks.

Cheryl and I want to express our gratitude for each of you who pray and 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 as vital as ours in reaching lost Thai souls in a religious stronghold, 94% of whom are superstitious Buddhists. They are more open once they understand Christ's identity as their Creator. The Christian population of Thailand is around 1.0%. The Isan area is even needier at about .01%, being more resistant and less-reached than the rest of Thailand. Yet 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
God's Word for Isan – www.IsanBible.org



Our Home Nativity Scene