

RON & CHERYL MYERS



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



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GOD'S WORD FOR ISAN NEWSLETTER

September 2020

A Faith-based Ministry Sustained Through the Prayers and Partnership of God's People

## Circumstances May Change Yet God Remains the Same!

*"Do Not Fear - The Lord is Near - Rest in His Love"*

By Ron Myers

Dear Friends in Christ,

Many have been negatively affected by the *Pandemic*; but some positively. I have a friend who was serving in China with *English Language Services*, but was forced out due to restrictions. He couldn't fly home, so he crossed the border into Mongolia to wait it out. The future looked dim; but not for God, who opened a new door of service among the Mongolians where he was well accepted, has made many new friends and now enjoys an expanded outreach, which wouldn't have occurred otherwise.

I was returning to Thailand earlier in the year, just before the pandemic overtook everyone. Somehow, I sensed I needed to hold off. Travel restrictions were soon implemented and all air travel came to a standstill. Otherwise, I'd be in Thailand now, ministering alongside Bao-Ter, my Isan coworker at our headquarters in Nakhon Phanom. I have many close friends there, including Bao-Ter, so I wouldn't have had to camp out in a hotel, consuming needed finances.

Also, I would've had to eat all that delicious Thai food. Yummy! 😊 I'd likely have gained unneeded weight—being forced to take extra helpings if I cleaned up my plate, signaling that I was still hungry according to Thai etiquette. The secret is to leave a bit on one's plate. Here, I've been able to lose many pounds of extra weight, something I'd been hoping to do for a long time.

A very positive cause for praise has just occurred because of your prayers. After many exhausting 500-mile round trips to appear before Bangkok's Appellate Court, Bao-Ter reported some splendid news for which he's praising God. During his last appearance—to hear a final decision concerning his fate—the judge favored him by dropping all charges, freeing him to return home to serve the Lord. The court's decision not only bolstered his confidence in Christ but also improved his health; his blood pressure having been dangerously high has now returned to normal. As faithful prayer warriors, you have had an integral part in this, moving God's Hand to change things by prayer. God answers our prayers, despite overwhelmingly contrary circumstances!

Paul wrote; *"But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me... turned out for the furtherance of the Gospel."* (Philippians 1:12) Enemies of the Gospel had him jailed. Although Paul was wrongfully imprisoned and chained between two Roman soldiers, he did not neglect to give them the Gospel. The soldiers who received Christ went out and delivered the Gospel message in their following assignments—places where Paul could not go, yet increasing his ministry through proxy.

I share the following account, hoping you'll draw encouragement from it. While translating the Isan New Testament, I was *burned*; two different times, the recipient of unsubstantiated accusations for which no one bothered to seek the facts. Instead, I was abruptly asked to resign. And yet, God had allowed it for His purposes. It hurt deeply; a crushing blow that nearly destroyed me. Returning home, I sought wise counsel as the Lord held me close and healed my wounded heart—putting me back together stronger and more committed than ever. Once again, an enraged Satan attempted to destroy the advance of the Gospel, but was defeated by God's intervention.

Chuck Swindoll once said: *Before God can truly use a man, He must allow him to be crushed like flower petals, that the sweet essence of Christ might be released.* That thought comforted me amid uncertainty and pain. Years later, I received two letters of apology, asking for forgiveness, which I gave. Satan is the ultimate perpetrator, not people, the accuser of the Brethren who seeks to stop God's work.

Not one to give up, I pressed on—envisioning the Isan New Testament finished and published continually before me. The Lord opened new and greater doors of opportunity than I had before. I have been able to accomplish way more than I could have if what happened hadn't occurred. *"All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."* (Romans 8:28) *Circumstances May Change Yet God Remains Near, Unchanged*—like in Steve Green's beautiful song: *Rest!*

Previously with no Scriptures in their language, the Isan New Testament is now published and in the hands of the Isan people; a surreal experience after all those years. Presently, I confer with Bao-Ter via the internet. We are putting the finishing touches on the audio version of the Isan scriptures; also useable in Laos. Yet, the work is not done; millions of Isan people are without the Gospel. Or, weak in their faith, lacking foundational teaching to strengthen them (my favorite ministry). Pray that I'll be able to return soon; also, for Bao-Ter's diminished income, having lost his radio talk-show program.

Ron Myers  
God's Word for Isan

➤ In conclusion, Cheryl and I praise God for each of you; your friendship, your prayers, and your partnership.