



Ron & Cheryl Myers

GOD'S WORD FOR ISAN NEWSLETTER

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## Addendum to Great Opportunities...

"I Being in The Way the Lord Led Me..." (Genesis 24:27)

By Ron Myers

Greetings again in Jesus' Name,

Quoting from my last newsletter, "Baaw Ter's Buddhist wife, Ju', left him and their 15-year-old saved son shortly after their conversion. Please join us as we continue to pray for her salvation, even though she is adamant and seemingly impervious to the Gospel," I would like to bring you up to date concerning some of her most-recent actions. Baaw Ter took a short trip into neighboring Laos last week with close friends and Ju' said she was going with him. However, at the last minute she declined and instead she traveled to another Thai province with a lady friend where she did two things.

First, she made offerings and prayed to a powerful spirit entity (*demonic forces or fallen angels*) at a large spirit shrine. These shrines, unlike the typical smaller spirit shrines located at every household throughout the land, are usually located one per major city. The more powerful territorial owner spirits are said to abide there. They are given names, printed on placards, often starting with the prefix "Grandfather so-and-so." This is *not* a part of textbook Buddhism, but is purely occultic in nature, interwoven as part of their syncretistic belief system. It's where adherents go to pray for special requests. Surprisingly, these mouthed prayers are not unlike how we bring requests to our Heavenly Father! I'm not privy to Ju's requests, but I'm quite sure it had something to do with bringing her husband Baaw Ter and their Christian son back into the Buddhist fold.



Second, Ju' visited a huge serpent sculpture park (*see photo she sent to Baaw Ter*). These ornate serpent sculptures have recently become quite popular, usually erected in or around Buddhist temple grounds. It's a little *spooky* because the serpent is a part of Buddhist history, as follows: When the Nepali Prince Gautama—who became the Lord Buddha—was sitting in the forest meditating under a Po tree, he was surrounded by various forest animals. A large, seven-headed serpent was also present. It began to rain, so the serpent fanned its heads over the Buddha to protect him from the elements—often depicted in Buddhist art forms.

When the rain subsided, the serpent asked the Buddha, "May my name be associated with your religion?" So, the Buddha agreed. Today, anyone who is ordained into Buddhist monkhood, must first go through a ceremony called "Enter the Serpent." Think what that means in light of scripture. As you can imagine, Ju' has no clue of the grave danger and demonic influence she is under. **PRAY EARNESTLY** that she will respond to the Holy Spirit's conviction of her lost condition, God's judgement, and His Love for her. And, that she will truly repent and receive Christ, thus restoring their family nucleus and making it a tremendous example of God's Redeeming Grace.

Meanwhile, Baaw Ter is "growing in grace, and in the knowledge of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 3:18) Thursday evening, I taught at the new and growing *Good News* fellowship group, which meets in his home. We had a great time as I clarified some of the great truths concerning the position of all believers as being secure "In Christ," which are unclear in the typical Thai Bible. Baaw Ter's persistent cough and hoarseness appears to be lessening a bit. Last evening, he was able to record and edit John chapter 15 in the sound studio in his home property that was ruined by a lightning strike, but that we had helped to restore. (*Photo at Right*) I was also encouraged that he told a friend he is fully committed to see the audio narration of the Isan New Testament through to completion.



**Wonderful news.** Yesterday, I went to the local Immigration Office to inquire about my 30-day Visa, which expires the evening before my flight home, Thur, May 24. It was noontime, so the office was closed for lunch. However, there was an immigration officer named Det (*debt*) sitting outside; so I explained my situation to him. Since my Thai was fairly good, he asked how long I had been there. To avoid the typical "religion" response, I usually say that I'm involved in rural development, adding that I do that as a missionary, having initially come here with my wife and family.

Upon learning that I was a missionary, Det brightened up and blurted out that he was searching and wanted to learn more about Jesus. He then showed me a video of a Thai church service he had put on his cell phone. I interjected that I did not hold to a religion, but instead believed in the One true God, maker of heaven and earth, sweeping my arm across the landscape. I said that I had a little booklet he could read to learn more: *Considering Creation*. I added that it was now available in audio format, whereupon he immediately sent someone out to buy a flash drive to receive a copy.

I went back to Baaw Ter's home, copied it to the flash drive, grabbed a Thai Gideon and an Isan New Testament and returned. Det was working in the office by then. Looking up, he smiled and welcomed me inside to sit. I took out the flash drive and the New Testaments. I explained that he needed to start reading the Gospel of John first and folded the page corners over. He then asked if Nirvana was a real place, to which I said it was a concept in both Hinduism and Buddhism, but that God's Word says we have only one life to live, then each must appear before Him. I added that it was covered in the Creation booklet. We exchanged phone numbers and as I was leaving he said that this was a very auspicious day for him. I agreed. **PLEASE PRAY FOR DET!**

By God's Grace and for His Glory,

Ron & Cheryl Myers  
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