

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



**Ron & Cheryl Myers**

**GOD'S LIVING WORD FOR ALL PEOPLE**

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*A Faith-based Ministry to Unreached Peoples, Sustained Through the Partnership of God's People*

## **A Thai Police Officer's Salvation Story**

***"I've done some very bad things; what can I do?"***

by Ron Myers

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Pastor Pitak and I had just spent all morning fine-tuning the Isan New Testament for accuracy when I looked up and saw that it was noontime. I decided to visit the local Thai Immigration Office to check on my 90-day Thai visa, knowing I had a few days before my return flight home. Finding the Thai Immigration Office closed for lunch, I decided to wait until it opened, saving myself a return trip to my translation office on the other side of town. The Immigration building had a roofed alcove on the back side, facing the Mekong River, one mile wide at that point. The alcove had a few concrete benches, which made my wait a bit more comfortable.

### **Introducing Mr. Detch, the local Immigration Officer:**

Upon entering the alcove, I noticed an immigration officer waiting out the noon hour. He sat there comfortably in his T-shirt as he enjoyed a smoke, his official shirt laying by his side. We exchanged a quick nod as I sat down. Upon chatting briefly, he commented on my Thai pronunciation ability. I thanked him, saying I always tried to speak correctly, making communication better. Upon introducing himself, Officer Detch (pronounced *debt*) asked what I did. I told him that I did rural development among the local peasant villages. This was partially true, yet it dispensed with the "all religions are good" response if I'd introduced myself as a missionary.

I added later that I was actually a missionary doing rural development work among local peasant farmer communities. My admission was hardly out of my mouth when Officer Detch blurted out, "A missionary? Really? Can you tell me more about Jesus? I really need to know." I assured him that I could, suggesting we meet for lunch the following day at a nearby restaurant where we could talk freely.

The following day, Pastor Pitak (who came along) and I sipped on iced teas as we waited for Officer Detch. Upon arrival, he forewent all formalities, turned to me, and began pouring out his burdened heart. He spared no details as he named every unrighteous thing he had done or had partaken in as a corrupt Police Officer. Laden with guilt, he then pleaded with me, "I've done some very bad things; what can I do?" I simply replied, "Tell God just what you told me and ask Him for mercy. God will forgive you for everything, just as He has promised in His Word. He'll also give you the free gift of eternal life and make you His own child." Which he did as I led him in prayer.

We continued to talk before he returned to work—this time as a newborn child of God. We spent time together on occasion. Later, Officer Detch was relocated to another Immigration Office in a distant province. We've kept in touch on occasion over the years whereupon I'd take opportunity to fellowship with him. Officer Detch also joined the *Thai Christian Police Officers Association*, giving him an opportunity for like-minded fellowship. We've lost touch now, apart from an occasional email. Yet I know we'll meet again in glory one day. As I reflect, I realize God had arranged everything down to the smallest detail. Upon hearing Officer Detch's heart-felt plea for deliverance, God decided to use me to lead him to faith in Christ, for which I was grateful to have played a small part.

Officer Detch's conviction of sin is not typical, since Thai believe that doing good outweighs one's bad. Telling a Thai Buddhist (*who has no knowledge of God*) that Jesus died for their sins does not register in their worldview. Thai Buddhists believe that Jesus' wretched death on the Cross was retribution for His *own* sin, not yours or mine, supposedly committed by Christ in a former reincarnation. They first need to understand about Nature's Creator and their broken relationship.

**Pray** that the Spirit of God will do a mighty work in hearts and minds throughout Thailand and Asia in general.

By God's Grace and For His Glory,

Ron (and Cheryl) Myers

Your Missionaries to Thailand