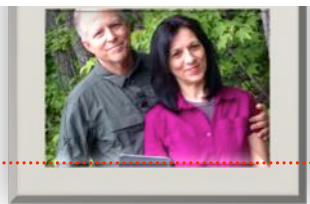




Banfe Family Newsletter

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2020



"Yea, so have I strived to preach the Gospel, not where Christ was named," (Romans 15:20)

WORSHIPPING IN THE FIELD

"These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them" (Rev. 7:14)

The question that this scripture is addressing is found in verse 13, "What are these". Earlier in verse 9 we learn that this is the great multitude of saints that stood before the throne and before the Lamb clothed in white robes, the number of which no man could reckon. They had palms in their hands, emblems of peace and celebration. They cried "salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb". And the angels, who stood around the throne and around the four beasts and elders, fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God. And they cried out "Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour and power and might be unto our God forever and ever, Amen". Oh that we would once again know how to worship the Holy and living God. We truncate our worship and deny God His due by satisfying ourselves with ritual and practice. The Greek word used for worship here is "proskuneo" implying complete submission in reverence and awe to God. It is joyous and not a labor, a pleasure of the heart and not a task to complete. And worship should not be and cannot be limited to what we do in church. Note that they "serve Him, day and night". Day and night. If you have to be dragged to go to church, or prodded to sing praises, cajoled to serve, or guilted into giving...be warned... this is not true worship. We worship not under the law, but with hearts and lives freely yielded to the KING! We serve, palms in our hands, jubilant, with voices raised and eager to publish His Word, which brings saving grace so others can don white robes and join in the worship before the throne of God and the Lamb.

So, with a grateful heart, knowing that serving Him is a gift to us, we labor in the fields, praying that He will let us continue, hopeful that as we labor He will abide with us, knowing that we are fulfilling our divine calling, worshipping the King with our lives. Oh how we love Him who satisfied God's justice and kissed us with mercy on the cross.

MTB Radio Update

We are so excited about MTB radio and the opportunity to be a voice of truth in a country of pagan lies, to edify saints, and to disciple converts in land where there are few churches. We are finishing up the final programming. We selected the music personally, going through 1000's of songs and obtaining rights. Preaching, Bible lessons, Gospel presentations, Godly music, courses on doctrine, cutting edge coverage of critical issues. We were reminded by a Burmese pastor that another station gave the Burmese what they wanted to hear. I told him, "That is what the contemporary churches do, give them the world." We told him we would not be a party to this. We preach Christ. Of course, without the Holy Spirit, the natural man doesn't receive the things of God. He can't. But there is power in the Word to change those hearts, to revolutionize lives. The greatest love we can demonstrate is to give them truth and let God do the rest. We are so honored that God allowed us to work on this project.



Bread and Fishes (actually Rice and Eggs)

We are really enjoying this project. Where Jesus provided them bread and fishes, we are helping poor immigrant Burmese families with rice and eggs. The mercy of God shining through us is bearing fruit. One Muslim family who was unreceptive to us now smiles and came to our Gospel presentation. We are gaining their trust and they can see God's love through us. The early Christians were known as "lovers of the poor". And one early emperor said that these Christian communities are growing because of their generosity and kindness. They were known to fast to save money for a poor child or family. We are aware of the warning of Jesus that many came not for Him but for the food. But it is not only heart warming for us, but along with our clothing distribution, we believe it is opening hearts to be receptive to the Gospel.

New -"Bring the Word to Burma"- Bible Project

We can't believe it but almost all of the 5,000 Bibles have been distributed in less than 6 months! These poor churches and believers hungry for the Word of God literally ravenously consumed them. As a result, we have set upon an ambitious new project to bring even more Bibles to Burma, this time 10-15,000. Imagine the impact this could have in Burma, where Christianity is under fire, a country where the word of men is being substituted for the Word of God. We have contacted a number of sources already and one has agreed to try to help. But we need to pray for funding. Although these dirt-poor churches enthusiastically helped pay for some of the shipping costs, most of these Christians could never afford the Word of God unless we help. Please pray about what God might have you do.



ESL Through The Bible: OUR NEW CLASSROOM AND FIRST STUDENT

We have opened our new Thru the Bible ESL program. It is 50 feet away from the border and Thai/Burmese immigration. No problems yet. Here you see us with our first Burmese student, "Nee La Win". She is such a good student, so enthusiastic. We have been developing this relationship for over a year. Each lesson she gets saturated with more Gospel. She loves us and we love her. Pray for her salvation and for her Thai husband. Sweet young couple. We love and pray for you all and are grateful for your prayers and support. Lord Bless.

Mission Agency: Macedonia World Baptist Missions

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