

Dear Prayer Partners;

November 12, 2011



Over this past year I have spoken to many Hmong pastors and leaders in Thailand and Laos and have found that most are quite frustrated in their ministry. Although equipped to preach and teach, they feel that they are not really connecting with their church members and interpret this to mean that the members don't really want to grow. Yet, in talking with many of the church members I find that they really do have a heart for the Lord. Consequently the disconnect between the pastor/teacher and the ordinary church members perplexed me.

After observing this dilemma, this last February, Rosemary and I attended a training called "Simply the Story" in Chiang Mai and the Lord clearly showed me why these pastors were not connecting with their village believers. By tradition the Hmong culture is an oral culture, and a majority of the Hmong in Asia are illiterate. All these years teaching and preaching has been done using literate methods for an oral people. When I saw the "Simply the Story" method modeled I knew this would go a long way in helping the pastors and church members to connect. <http://www.simplythestory.org/oralbiblestories/>

Consequently we are focusing our efforts on providing training in oral storying to Hmong pastors and lay leaders in Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam.

We did Oral Story training with 9 Hmong Lao lay leaders in March, and to the pastors teaching in Vietnam twice in June. We had another training November 4-5 with Hmong pastors who will then train leaders in Laos. Please pray that the Lord will equip and empower us to be effective trainers of trainers so that the Gospel might more effectively and powerfully the Hmong communities all through Asia and beyond.

On another note, as live worship music radiated from at the Living Water Training Center (where we live) several times a day last month, we were blessed and encouraged to see how the Lord was working in the lives of over 200 young people who came for youth camp last week. Pray that what the Lord spoke into their hearts last month will continue to grow within them as they return to their various university campuses.



While the Hmong are blessed to be able to worship and learn freely here in Thailand, persecution continues to press in on Hmong who are living in neighboring countries. Those who fled to Myanmar over the past several years are now being forced to disperse again as instability continues to impact that region. Pray for protection and boldness in their stand for Christ for those who reside in several districts in Laos where Christians are restricted and regulated heavily.

We are seeking to expand our Hmong Vietnam Project *as opportunities to train are increasing and the need is very great* as there are thousands of Churches without trained leaders.

We were recently encouraged as two Hmong staff couples who have had Mastering the Mysteries of Love training have said it has made such a difference in their marriages that they have requested we help bring this training to their respective church communities. Please pray for the Lord to bring this about and especially that more trainers will become equipped to train others.

In His Service

John, Rosemary, and Bobby Kane



Sarah brought a great team from VCC in August. One of the long-term results of their prayer visits is that 'Thomas', an 18 year old who was injured in a motorcycle accident 2 years ago, has been accepted at a place that will provide both physical therapy and educational and occupational training, and has been given a chance for new hope in his life.

