

Leadership training in Myanmar

“Hear their cry oh God” ...



June 2015 News

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Apply Now

“You must faithfully keep all my commands by putting them into practice, for I am the Lord.” Leviticus 22:31 NLT

One of the keys to our success as a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is to live our lives in accordance with the Word of God. The book of James teaches us that it's the person who does the Word who is blessed, not the forgetful hearer. (James 1:23-25) It's the doer of the Word who is blessed.

In fact, there is a central theme throughout the scriptures that teach us the same thing, with countless numbers of examples of those who did. Here are just a few.

By faith, Abraham when he was called, he obeyed. (Heb.11:8) He believed that he would become the Father of many nations, according that which was spoken: So shall your descendants be. (Rom 4:18). In hope against hope, he believed and he became just that.

Noah being blameless in his generation, when he was instructed to build an ark, the bible says that out of reverence, for God, he did! (Heb.11:7). And because of that, he and his family a long with all the animals that were in the ark were spared from the flood that destroyed the whole known world at that time. And it was from the three sons of Noah: Hem, Shem and Japheth, the Lord populated the whole earth. (Gen.10:1). Noah obeyed!

Moses, too, when he received the Word of the Lord to build the

Tabernacle, he was to build it according the pattern that was shown to him on the mountain. (Ex. 25:9) And the scripture says that Moses built the Tabernacle according the commandment of the Lord. (Ex. 40:16). Even when the work was done, it says that Moses inspected the work to see that it had built it properly, according to God's instructions - God's Word. (Ex.39:43) And it was!

These are just a few examples that teach us that there is no substitute for not following through or obeying the Word of God. Every form prolonged obedience hinders God's blessing from coming into our lives. I have heard it said this way: Delayed obedience is disobedience. Period!

Every word of God is indwelt by God's power. It has the ability to bring it self to pass all by it's self with no help from us. Our job - believe and obey! The Word when acted upon has the power to change your life!

Let us apply now *by putting into practice* the Word of God like never before! His blessing follows our obedience.

Do it now!



DAN ECKER
President
Firstlight International

Use His Words

Those of us who call ourselves followers of Jesus here in the US live in a very unique time. We are able to find scripture and understanding in many different bible translations. In fact, even the airwaves have quite a variety of christian radio stations with both music and teaching. New Christian churches are springing to life and are available for all to worship at, most days of the week. And as we leave our home churches on Sunday, and head out to start the work week refreshed with a better understanding of Gods word to carry us through the week. I know for me, it is a lifeline that helps me with my day to day routines.

I have been blessed to own my own auto repair business (*Roth Automotive in Verona, Pa.*) my start to the day is a morning prayer that includes the opportunity to serve the Lord by serving others in the daily operation repairing vehicles of what is today a necessity for most people. Even though I have my office filled with mission photos, and items from serving the Lord around the world, a long with copies of the newsletters and updates from other ministries that I pray for, and financially support, because I naturally charge for my skills, to many serving the Lord by servicing their vehicles is unclear. Having these types of items around helps me to understand the 'why' of what I do.

Quite a few years ago I heard a quote from St Francis of Assisi " Where ever you go, preach the Gospel, sometimes use words" and have used that many times as I speak to people about my reason behind my good service.

One day while meditating, the Lord spoke to me about the quote, and He added "....but use My words" to give an understanding to your passion to serve. Be sure that even though it may be clear to you why you do what you do, ask the Lord to give you the time to humbly explain the motive behind your actions. When we are true to the 'why' we do what we do, the 'how' and the 'what' comes much more natural. Using His words helps the 'how' and 'what' of our service much more understandable to those around us. I am blessed to be at His Service daily. Ready to use His Words!



BOB ROTH
Board Member
Firstlight International



Having Church in the dirt!

We're excited about what the Lord is doing through the Firstlight Fellowship Church Network - Thailand. This is one of the newest churches of the network in Nakhon Phanom, in the northeast region. Two house churches have opened up with close to 50 believers. I (Dan) love going there! It's a 200 kilometer drive one way! It's normally a good part of the days drive there - teach when we arrive, one over night, and teach all the next day. The fellowship with these believers is priceless! We are blessed to have a team of solid leaders like Pastor Nalong and his wife Pastor Ruepaw who are pioneering many of these house churches in the region. Together we are holding regular trainings for new believers in each location. Salvations are taking place. Water baptisms are happening! Reports of healing, signs, wonders and miracles among the saved, and unsaved. Praise God!

In July, we will hold a series of trainings geared towards local church leaders. We will launch a School of Leaders (*advance leadership training*) to a core of emerging leaders in the network. **Our goal is to train 30 from four locations.** Please pray for these groups of churches that are emerging out of the dirt in this region of Thailand. Let's pray over these churches Isaiah 53:2 of Jesus it says that He would grow up as a tender shoot out of a parched ground. Let's believe God for this to happen here, too!



Praying for the sick

“In My name they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” Mark 16:17d NAS

Praying for the sick is part of the Great Commission of Jesus. In fact, its one of the very last things that Jesus told His disciples to do as He commissioned them. The scriptures says that they went out and preached everywhere! And as they did, an exciting thing happened: **“And the Lord worked with them confirming the Word with the signed that followed.” Mark 16:20 NAS**

Therefore, praying for the sick is something that we do often in the work of Firstlight, in Thailand. It seems as if when a person has been prayed for, something happens! Often an instant healing takes place. Or shortly after the person returns home, they noticed they’ve been healed and they return to tell us what had happen. The fact that they’ve been healed becomes their testimony. And they use it a lot to tell others about Jesus.

These types of healing can be anything from a headache, sore back, leg pain and even terminal illnesses like: Cancer, HIV and Aids. Please pray for our Firstlight Area Teams and Area Churches as we confront the culture daily with the Gospel. The Lord is confirming His Word!

A Support & Care Ministry Project of Firstlight International

FWF

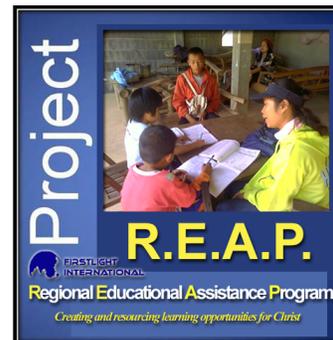


Families Without Fathers

The need to reach the orphan and widow in Thailand is great. Our goal in 2015 is to reach 100 kids.

Through our Families Without Fathers (FWF) project, Firstlight International is committed to reaching children and families for Christ. We are coming into our seventh year of FWF in Thailand and with the Lord’s help, we are reaching into fatherless homes of 80 plus children in seven locations across Thailand this year. We believe that FWF is fulfilling the Lord purpose in reaching them.

Through your prayers and financial giving, we are extending the Fathers love to those who are being reached. The numbers are still coming in as the a new Thai school term begins. Pray! More news to follow soon!



**REAP:
Regional
Education
Assistance
Program**

Project REAP: The Regional Educational Assistance Program is providing educational scholarships to young Thai collage age students to help further their education.

These students are from under privileged families several have moved out of the FWF project and they have transitioned into Project REAP. We now have the opportunity to walk with these young people through their collage education with financial assistance, life skills mentoring, and in some cases parenting. Others are young adults that we believe in and want to help.

This year there are 10 Thai students that are being helped through Project REAP. Each student has gone through a personal interview with one of our Thai project staff, have gone through the application process and some have reached approval. Project REAP needs our prayers!

The E5 Project is answering the call

From April 6 – 12 I lead a team of nine college students from Bethany College in Baton Rouge, LA to Boklua Thailand, in the province of Nan. The week was highlighted with children's outreach, village outreach and nightly meetings to encourage and strengthen the new believers. Amazing things are happening.

Each time we go, we work along side my dear friend and apostolic leader Nott Chankhan. Nott is now a part of the Firstlight Fellowship Church Network - Thailand. The team witnessed 17 young minority Thai people come to Christ in two villages. Prayed for the sick and lead a couple to Christ who immediately went

home and return to burn their idols. They witnessed a man who was lame walk home perfectly healed. They heard stories of the power of persistent prayer. Praise God!

In the village of Ban Pua lives Mee. She is 79 years old. Her Bible is a children's Bible picture book because she cannot read. But her greatest ability is persistent prayer. For seven years Mee has beseeched the Lord to move in her family and in her village. After seven years of prayer God has begun to move. Two miraculous healing has happened. Fourteen people have come to Christ. Eleven children gave their hearts to Christ while our team was there.

Our team went on from there to encourage her, but they left that village with a passion for prayer.

Persistent prayer is the fuel for all ministry. E.M. Bounds is credited with this saying: God does not anoint machinery, he anoints men and women. God looks for those whose heart is desperate for Him. God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Thank you for helping us to answer the call.



TONY FOSTER
Church Planter, Bible Trainer
Owner - E5 Project

On A Personal Note



Debbie and I are enjoying spring time here in Western Pennsylvania. It seems like ages for winter to be over. And I am so glad it is! I have been enjoying some Trout fishing in several streams north of Pittsburgh. I can never get enough time fishing! I've been able to use all of my fly tying instruments, feathers, hooks etc, and it has been quite enjoyable. This time, too, is spring gobble here in Pennsylvania. I've been out a few times - I've come close but no Turkey, yet! I still have time and I am hopefully. Debbie and I will be heading out to visit Josiah June 8-15th. His graduation ceremony from Seattle Pacific University is on Saturday June 13th. He will graduate with a Bachelor Degree in psychology. Well done Josiah, we are proud of you! Debbie, too, has had a couple trips out to South Bend Indiana to visit her family. Mostly her Mom and Dad, both in their 80's are doing well and they always enjoy having her for a visit. These summer months will take us to: Seattle, South Bend Ind, (*again I'm sure*), Myanmar and Thailand next month. I head back out on June 29th thru July 17th. On May 29th, Debbie and I celebrated our 28th wedding anniversary. Thankful for moments like these to share these seasons of our life with.

Blessings to you, each and everyone!



DAN ECKER
President
Firstlight International

Prayer Points

“Now, O my God, I pray, let Your eyes be open and Your ears attentive to the prayer offered in this place.”

II Chron. 6:40 NAS

Please pray for:

1. For our FWF project as a new Thai school term starts - children & families.
2. Ask the Lord to release: Divine Favor, Abundant Finance & Lasting Fruit for all Firstlight projects, - Area Teams, Churches - all members and leaders.
3. For the Lord's abundant provision during the 2nd quarter of 2015.