



## March 2021 News

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Look for us:



## Saturate!

... “ behold water came from the direction of Edom, and the country was filled with water.” I Kings 3:20c NASB

In Thailand we came to understand that there were 3 seasons: the Hot Season, the Rainy Season, and the Cold Season (Dry Season). The Hot Season began in March, carried on, unremittingly, temperatures soaring above 100 F, and humidity increasing until around late May, when, finally, in the afternoons and evenings, it would rain. The winds would blow. The ground would soften and become saturated. And we all relaxed. The Rainy Season at last!

There are times in our lives when we have wandered into a dry and rocky hard place. We were enjoying verdant green pastures and streams of rejoicing. Suddenly, we notice the foliage around us failing. There are more and more rocks on our path, stumbling blocks that hinder our way. Before long, we are far past those refreshing streams and find ourselves in a parched, dry place. Our Dry Season.

Most of us have had more than one dry season in our lives. But, still, when that dryness comes again, it is a shock. With great dismay we realize that we are in trouble. Our prayers and time in the word can feel murky and dusty. We are parched but refuse to drink from His presence. To do so will mean coming face to face with the very reason we are in the Dry Season.

Is this season a punishment? Is it a time of testing? Is it a result of not attending more carefully to our relationship with Jesus, and finding ourselves isolated from others? Maybe yes, maybe no. Maybe all, maybe none. To dwell on the ‘why’ is to miss the most important thing to remember about the Dry Season.

#1. It. Will. End. There is no Dry Season that has ever happened in my life that has stayed. Inevitably, the rains do come; the streams of rejoicing return.

#2 The only way out is face time with Jesus. Whatever got us here, sin, anger, loneliness, a lack of word or fellowship, or disappointment in others, ALL these things become small in the presence of He who loves us most, and best.

#3 When God does send the rains again, we must prepare our hearts to meet that outpouring so that we can be FILLED to overflowing and soak up every. Single. Drop. We want to... we NEED to be saturated with all that God wants to give us.

In order to become saturated, we must prepare. We must, as they did in times of old, ‘make these valleys full of trenches.’ (II Kings 3:16-17) The

Rain is coming!



WRITTEN BY,  
DEBBIE ECKER

## On A Personal Note ...



WRITTEN BY,  
DEBBIE ECKER

Here it is spring, supposedly, but no signs of the cold letting us go just yet. Shocking to realize it was one year ago that the country went on 'lock down' due to the pandemic that we all thought for sure would have been gone by now! Praying for all who were and are still are being affected, and looking forward to a warmer, happier spring/summer full of hugs and reunions.

Featured Article  
TEACHING

## Lessons Learned Along the Way!



WRITTEN BY,  
DAN ECKER

I have always enjoyed reading portions of the gospels that reflect the nature of lessons learned along the way that Jesus had with his disciples in the context of life and ministry. Little did they know [the disciples] that immediately after Jesus's departure they would be the very ones that would carry on the mission for which He was sent! Eventually, they did know, but only after remembering that He told them things in advance [before it happen] so that when it did happen, "they remembered His words." (See Luke 24:8) Being able to "connect the dots" of our journey as followers of Christ requires that we pay attention to *when* He speaks even though we might not [at that time] have all the details. "What" and "when" do connect!

## Eye Care Follow Ups, Thailand...



We are happy to report that the each of those who were promised eye glasses in Kalasin, Thailand received their prescription lens! After patiently waiting for the shipment to arrive in Thailand, and to finally clear customs the glasses have arrived and have been distributed.

Thank you once again Dr. Rooney, and His Servants Ministries (HSM) for the impact your are making in Thailand.

Featured Article  
Board Member



WRITTEN BY  
ELLIE  
GEPPERT

## Your Financial Gift Can Help! ..

One sunny morning in Virginia Beach when Mark and I

were on our honeymoon 50 years ago - I had the TV on in our hotel room and was getting ready for our day of travel when a simple commercial came on asking people to give the Word of God into all the nations by simply giving to their ministry.

The Lord captured my heart for this so powerfully and I went straight to Mark and asked if we could start supporting them. Yes, I had been a Christian since I was 16 (6 years) and yes, I went to church every Sunday even through college. I was about to start my first year as an elementary school teacher and was newly married. Mark and I began to support

them at \$25 a month for many years in fact until we became a ministry ourselves to the world. Now our ministry is in 120 countries and our son is the head of it.

We have helped other ministries get started and many people to serve the Lord and help others as well through health, education, building, and literature projects that come out of prayer and loving other people to the Lord.

Firstlight International is a ministry that my husband and I have invested in over the years and we believe in their work. We have, one or the other of us, served on their board of directors since it's beginning. Dan and Debbie are such magnets for Christ and they teach the word of God with amazing results. A monthly financial gift to Firstlight can help make a difference so others can hear.

Featured Item  
PRAYER

## Prayer Points

**"I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living." Psalm 27:13 NKJ**

**Mark your declaration today!**

1. Care For Kingdom Families: Project REAP: and the FWF project in 2nd quarter of 2021.
2. Our Global Training Platforms: Myanmar: \*virtual equipping with staff & students, \*course development, \*2021 training plans
3. For all of Firstlight to be strategically placed in 2021 and beyond! \*projects, \*people, \* places, \*increased funding!
4. Our Family in 2021 For \*Dan, \*Debbie, & \*Josiah