



October 2022 News

In Him

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Look for us:



“For in Him we live and move and have our being” ... Acts 17:28a NEV

I often get my inspiration for spiritual direction and understanding by looking into the ways the first generation church handled themselves in the early years of Christianity. After all, they had very little for them: no money, no place in society. They were mostly uneducated. They were born into a time in the earth where the vast majority of travel was on foot.

Believe it or not, Dan and I have been in places that had similar restrictions, particularly in the early years. Places that had no electricity in the village yet, or even running water in the homes. No media, no radio or television. But, when I read the stories of the apostles as they moved through their world, sharing the Good News wherever they went, I am moved, sometimes to tears, to read of the genuine interest of the crowds and their hunger to hear and understand about this “Unknown God.”

It strikes a cord of remembrance in me, because I can remember a time when we could take our tents and PA systems into a small Indian town, or simply gather around a fire in the glowing evening in the mountains of the Philippines, and the people would come walking....some from far away, just to hear what we had come to say.

They were hungry. They were filled with openness. They wanted to know more.

Many times we are pumped full of this idea that ‘The World’ doesn’t want to know anything about God, about His gift in Jesus. But I have never found that to be true. So long as our message was pure and simple and on point, the Spirit would back up our sharing with His holy Presence, and often many came to us for prayer, and some for commitment. After all, it was at His direction that we were even IN those places.

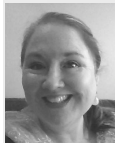
They were hungry. They WANTED to know about Him. And it was our great privilege to be the ones who got to be there, with them, and introduce them to the One who created them. Who loved them. Who knew them from their mother’s womb. Oh! Those moments, those times are probably the richest memories of my life.

It is IN HIM that we live. IN HIM that we move. IN HIM that have our beings. Seasons may change in our lives, but the empowerment by the Spirit to go and tell never changes.



WRITTEN BY,
DEBBIE ECKER

On A Personal Note ...



WRITTEN BY,
DEBBIE ECKER

Another fall season, another season for Dan to take his bow and arrow and head to the woods to fill our freezer with venison. This is such a happy time for him, something he and his father and brothers have done since their youths. There is such a bond between them all around the rituals of hunting. As for me, I enjoy planning the curries and stews that will keep us warm and fed in the upcoming winter!

Zoned Out!



WRITTEN BY,
DAN ECKER

In the modern day in which we live it is easy for us to lose focus. The distractions are endless.

Through a flood of information that demands our attention we either get drawn in or choose to “zone out”. In moments like these either way we are not at our best and it requires a greater sense of self awareness to break free.

The term to “zone out” is a phrase that is most commonly used in many of our social networks that describes the state of mind when your brain switches over to auto pilot where you stop paying attention to what is being said and become unaware of that is happening around us. If we are being honest we have all experienced times when we have “zoned out” to things either intentionally [because we had to] or by an internal coping default setting that we use to play it safe and live unchallenged.

The later can easily become a “comfort zone” that we need to be “zoned out” from to embrace the promise of preferred future in Him!

Towards a Brighter Future

One of our strategic objectives of Firstlight is to provide *Care For Kingdom Families*. This is being done each month in six locations across Thailand with projects like Families Without Fathers (FWF) and REAP *Regional Education Assistance Program* and more!

In partnerships with several Thai churches we are bringing Christ to fatherless homes by providing aid, connection and encouragement. Weekly visits are taking place in the homes and area schools. We are making a difference each month!



Online Classroom in Myanmar



Online classes are being taught regularly in the Emmanuel Theological Seminary (ETS) in Kalaymyo, Myanmar. The Online Classroom is proving to be an effective educational tool for this university.

This now opens the door for a wider range of guest teachers and trainers to have regular input into the lives of those who are being trained. Your partnership with Firstlight each month is bringing forth wonderful fruit.

Prayer Points

“But thanks be to **God**, who always leads us in triumph in **Christ**, and **through** us reveals the fragrance of the knowledge of Him in every place.”

II Corinthians 4:14 NASB

Trust the Process

1. Pray for our Global Training Platforms in Thailand, & Myanmar.
2. For our Care For Kingdom Families Projects: REAP: and the FWF in Thailand, during the 4th quarter of 2022.
3. Ministry plans to unfold for all of Firstlight to be strategically placed in 2023 and beyond! *projects, *people, *places, *increased funding!
4. For God to arise in all that we do!