



August 2023 News

In This Issue:

* Ministry News:

Top Stories pg.2

* Features:

Article - Truth Matters.....pg.1

Article - Teaching pg.2

Article - Family News pg.2

Item - Prayer Points pg.2

Donations:

Online via PayPal

www.firstlightinternational.net

By Mail, payable to:

Firstlight International
P.O. Box 252
Springdale, PA 15144-0252

As a registered public charity 501 (c) 3 nonprofit corporation, all financial contributions are U.S. tax deductible by making checks payable to Firstlight International.

Contact:

www.firstlightinternational.net

Tel: 724.254.6145

E-mail: helloeckers@gmail.com

Look for us:



Truth Matters

... “and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” John 8:32 NASB

In the gospels are recorded life changing encounters that Jesus had with individuals. Within a few words, He revealed to them that He knew them completely. In John 1, Nathanael, asked Jesus at their first encounter, “How do You know me?” Jesus answered, ‘I saw you under the fig tree, before Philip called you to come.’ Wow. His eyes. All seeing. His heart. All knowing. There is nothing about us that He does not know already completely.

So, why is it that we hide our truths from Him? Our sorrows, our disappointments. Our failures. Our shame? Are we afraid that the mess we find ourselves in will disappoint Him? Cause Him to stop caring about us?

We shun prayer, and even the Word of God, lest that which is sharper than a two edged sword cut asunder those things twisted up inside our hearts and expose us to our truths. We forget that when Jesus is with us, we can face anything. He, by the Holy Spirit, has promised to be our Helper.

A beautiful passage of Scripture is where Jesus looked upon the multitudes, and His heart was moved with compassion. Not anger or disgust. Not judgement or condemnation. Compassion, which has been described as an emotion that produces action. And that compassion led Him into those

crowds to help them. Feed them. Heal them. Deliver them.

Ultimately that compassion would send Him to the cross, to die for their/and our/yet unconfessed sins. For Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the WORLD. Such thoughts are beyond our comprehension. Such love is worth our everything.

In another encounter with a woman at a well, who had 5 husbands and the one she was living with was NOT her husband, Jesus decides to share with her amazing revelation. She asks, ‘Are you the Messiah?’ Of all the great men and leaders, in His life, it was to this dear and lowly woman, whose life was in shambles, He answered freely. “I who am speaking to you, AM HE.”

Jesus also tells her: “A time is coming, and NOW IS, when true worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth. They are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. God is Spirit, and they who worship Him must worship in Spirit and in truth.” Jn 4:23-24.

Let us come to His wonderful Throne of Grace, and behold His truth, let Him heal and touch all that is broken in us. And there, worship Him in Spirit and in truth.



WRITTEN BY,
DEBBIE ECKER

On A Personal Note ...



WRITTEN BY,
DEBBIE ECKER

August has always been special for me. My birthday and my fathers only days apart. The end of summer and the cusp of something new. I always thought of it as the end of a year. This wonderful August our sweet boy came to stay with us for 10 WHOLE DAYS and took a trip to Lake Erie with us. Our first family vacation since before he left Thailand in 2010. God is faithful. We are blessed!

Leading the Way



WRITTEN BY,
DAN ECKER

One of the many challenges we face on a daily basis is the influence that we have in the lives of those around us. You may not know it but we are all leaders in someway or another whether we realize it or not. When the apostle Paul wrote “walk in a manner worthy of the calling by which you have been called” [Eph 4:1-2] encompasses the totality of who you are “inside the four walls of the church” and even more so “outside the church” in the world, where it matters most. The truth is you are a leader whether you know it or not.

You see, in life there are leadership life roles (*mother, father, after school sport coach, etc.*) and there are professional leadership life roles (*school teacher, Janitor, principal, supervisor, department manager, business owner, sales person, or entrepreneur etc.,*) all of which implies that we influence the thoughts, beliefs, and behaviors of others - you are a leader. Jesus gave us an example of how to follow in His footsteps. Follow the Way to the least, the last and the lost.

Thai Church Rising! ..

One of the many blessings of having served the Lord in Thailand, for close to three decades now is to have witnessed the different movements that have occurred and the changes that have come about as a result.

All over the country Thai churches are sensing that God is up to something fresh! From larger metropolitan cities to rural suburbs and districts to mountain villages there is a stirring for more of the Spirit of God and He is coming!

Keep standing with us to see this nation come to Christ!



It Takes a TEAM! ..

Nothing of any great significance happens on its own nor can you do any of it by yourself. It requires a "letting go" and a "letting God" do it through you and with the "many others" that He has called you to serve and together the Kingdom advances in remarkable ways. It takes a Team.

These two - *John Paul (JP) and Pastor Daniel (Sup)* are a mighty force for God in many parts of Thailand. Everything in the Kingdom begins and ends in relationship. I (Dan) am glad to be on this TEAM!



Prayer Points

“Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.” Colo 3:17 NASB

Its a Game Changer!

1. Pray for our Global Training Platforms in Thailand, & Myanmar this year!
2. For our Care For Kingdom Families Projects: REAP: and the FWF in Thailand, during the 3rd quarter of 2023.
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!