



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Dear Friends and Fellow-Workers,

Gloria and I have just returned to Chiang Mai after a tiring – but very successful and rewarding 3-week trip to Burma (Myanmar). Why so long? Because absolutely nothing in Burma is sure! We must go early to make sure we get to where we are going and be there when we need to be there. It is normal for flights to be cancelled or even commandeered by the military rulers. This actually happened to us on this trip! Trains can be 9-10 hours late or tracks can be washed out, etc. Also, the Passover almost always falls about the time of the annual “water festival”. For one week the country almost shuts down completely and the Burmese people spend their time reveling and throwing water on each other. Sometimes this gets very annoying when people throw buckets of dirty and smelly water into the trains and taxis.

This year we split our time between 2 congregations of Myanmar Church of God brethren. We first spent Passover and 1st Day of Unleavened Bread with Evangelist Lazum Brang and a new congregation of God’s people in Taungoo, Central Burma. While there, we baptized 5. Then we traveled to Kalaymyo at the foot of the Chin Hills for the Last Day of UB. What an encouraging experience to see the growth; not only in numbers of the newly converted, but also the obvious SPIRITUAL growth of our brethren.

Remember, three years ago, there were NO congregations in either Kalaymyo or Taungoo! Now there is a small, but growing congregation of about 20 persons in Taungoo and over 120 persons in Kalaymyo! What miracles our God performs through the power of the Holy Spirit. I have said in previous letters that the Holy Spirit is VERY active in Burma right now. What we saw on this trip only serves to reinforce this fact.

I will now give all of you an account of our journey. I will use excerpts from my “journal”.

March 30 Left Chiang Mai for Rangoon (Yangon). We were met at the hotel by Pastors Lazum Brang and David Ye Gyan. Later we enjoyed a delicious Burmese meal prepared by our Rangoon brethren, who updated us on the latest news.

Just before we left Chiang Mai, my son Bronson and I took 4 of our Legacy students to the northern border town of Mae Sai so that they could cross into Burma. Two of these students, Seng Htun and Nu Tawng are both graduates and will be starting their 10-month field service duty teaching in Na Mawn, Kachinland. The other 2, Latt Aung and Kaw Mai, were both returning to Burma to visit family. All needed to enter Burma by land and then travel by bus, plane and train to meet us in Rangoon. So we needed to wait in Rangoon until they arrived, and then, together, journey north to Taungoo.

Burma is a very poor country with a military government. Everything is strictly controlled. Communications with the outside world is difficult. Calling to Thailand costs 5 US dollars per minute! There is no internet, but now email can be sent and received in major cities at about 1 US dollar per page. The Burmese money, called the “kyat” (pronounced “jat”) is basically worthless and no one will accept it outside of Burma. So, US dollars are widely traded on the black market. Only US dollars are accepted for hotels, airlines and government trains. Inflation is rampant. Domestic airline tickets have almost doubled since last Passover.

Banks are closed and there are no ATMs. We must take all cash with us and be very, very careful to make it last until the end of the trip. Airline and train schedules are posted – but that doesn’t mean much. It is not unusual to arrive 3 hours early and have delays for another 3 or 4 hours – or even cancelled! Trains are antiquated and in poor repair. It is common to see families waiting at the station with all their bags, mats to sleep on, and sharing “sack” lunches or dinners. Everything smells bad since each train’s toilet waste is dumped directly onto the tracks.

Anyway, back to my journal!

March 31 The Legacy students arrived this afternoon. They had a lot of trouble getting to Rangoon. Tickets on most buses, planes and trains were sold out because of the upcoming water festival. But God saw to it that they made it OK.

April 1 We went down to the train station to try to get tickets to Taungoo. Again, this was very difficult because of the increase of travel for the Water Festival. What is the “Water Festival”? The Buddhist New Year falls about the same time every year – around Passover. It is customary in Thailand, Burma, Laos and other S.E Asian countries to celebrate the New Year by closing down businesses and government offices for a week – and throwing water and white talcum powder all over one another! This is always accompanied by over consumption of alcohol and reveling in the streets. This makes travel or trying to do anything in Burma during the Water Festival time an ordeal. And it happens almost every year around Passover. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that Satan is behind this timing of the Water Festival.

There were no train tickets available, so we rented a van to take the 7 of us to Taungoo for Passover.

April 2 The 6-hour van ride was fine. But the roads in Burma are in a constant state of disrepair. Many sections of the highway are reduced to only one lane while the other one is being repaired. Numerous times our driver played a game of “chicken” with other vehicles on the one-lane sections! The big trucks always won and we went off the road. This didn’t seem to faze Lazum Brang at all. He even appeared serene through it all. Maybe he was just silently praying – like me!

We arrived in one piece and checked in at “Mother’s Place”, a small hotel with air conditioners in the rooms – but no electricity! Lazum Brang went ahead with the students to the nearby village of Kyauk Taing, where the brethren live.

April 3 Sabbath: Lazum Brang came early to our hotel. He explained we foreigners must get permission to travel to Kyauk Taing village, which is across the local river. The Burmese police told us

we must get permission from the Burmese army since Kyauk Taing is in an army administered area. Later, we found out that we would not be given permission since an insurgent army position was located only about a mile from Kyauk Taing. Our brethren live in a war zone! We then went to check out a place to hold Passover and 1st Day of UB in Taungoo instead of in Kyauk Taing. We found a “resort” hotel off the main highway called the Myanmar Beauty, run by a Chinese couple – both medical doctors. They had adequate facilities for our meetings and even a water tank to use for baptisms (after it was cleaned out). Lazum Brang returned to the village and conducted services while we rested and prepared for the Passover.

April 4 Passover: During the Water Festival time, it is customary for temples to play very loud music and ask for donations over loudspeakers. There were 2 temples located across some rice fields from our room. They began their program at 5 AM and continued throughout the day! At times, it seemed as if these temples were holding a contest to see who could blast the loudest over their speaker systems! Satan loves to do anything he can to disrupt God’s Annual Festivals. The Burmese have a kind of Buddhism that is more superstitious than the Thais. They even worship demons and the spirits of long-dead wizards which they call “Nats”. The discordant noise coming from the temples across the rice fields was a constant reminder that we are sojourners in a world that does not know the True God.

Even under these less-than-ideal circumstances, our Passover program continued as planned. After the brethren (including Pu Mu Htoo, Pastor Brang’s wife and their 4 daughters) arrived from their village, we held services. I spoke about baptism and the commitment we make to God. Lazum Brang translated my sermon into Burmese. Pastor Brang and I then counseled and baptized 5 persons in the water tank. One of these newly baptized was the widow (Naw June Hai) of Saw Htoo Saw (lay *un-ordained* pastor) of the Church of God in Taungoo. He died only recently due to complications after a fall from a tree. Due to his evangelizing in this village of mostly Karen tribal people, over 20 are now gathering together every Sabbath. It is a great tragedy that they now have no Pastor to take care of them. Lazum Brang has decided to relocate for part of the year to give concentrated care to this area where God is obviously active through the power of His Holy Spirit. Kyauk Taing is the home village of Pu Mu Htoo, Pastor Brang’s wife.

People are being called in Burma. Pastor Brang now actively pastors at least 7 small, growing congregations in Kachinland, 4 small groups in Upper Shan States, and the Kyauk Taing (Taungoo) congregation which now numbers over 20. This does not include the many COG members and prospective members scattered all over Burma that he corresponds with and visits as time permits. This growing work is obviously too much for one man. The main reason we founded the Legacy Institute Leadership Training Center in Chiang Mai is to train young men and women to help men like Lazum Brang accomplish the Work of God. The harvest is truly plenteous. We all must pray that God will send the needed laborers!

After the baptisms, we gathered to take the Passover. Under a clear sky and a full moon, 14 baptized members of the Body of Christ participated together in the greatest ceremony ever. By washing each others feet and by taking the symbols of bread and wine on the 14th of Nisan, we symbolically share fellowship and brotherhood with others around the globe who are *ALSO* members of the same Spiritual Body. The growth over the past 2 years in Burma has been phenomenal. More and more are coming to a full and rich relationship with Jesus Christ. And, as usual, God is calling the “weak of the world”. All

the people who came to Passover at Taungoo are poor farmers. One lady came with 5 of her children – none of whom had shoes to wear! This year, shoes were a special U.B. Feast gift for their family.

April 5 This morning I went out with Seng Htun and Latt Aung, 2 of our Legacy students, to the local open market and bought what seemed like a lot of meat and vegetables so that the brethren would have plenty of food for special meals over the next 2 days. What would fill 15 of our regular paper shopping bags costs 6 US Dollars. That is approximately a months' wages here!

April 6 1st Holy Day of Unleavened Bread: I gave the sermon today and took up the offering. I talked about "*Christian Parallels in the Story of the Exodus*". Lazum Brang translated. Seng Htun gave a sermonette on the "*Meaning of Signs and Seasons in Genesis 1*". Our Legacy students sang and played guitar for special music. Seng Htun, one of our first Legacy grads, is turning out to be a big help to us all. His English has improved leaps and bounds and he can now interpret my sermons from English into Burmese or Kachin. He is a good speaker and since his baptism last year, we have seen a lot spiritual growth take place. Please pray that God will call him to His Service (as He Wills). This day we also performed the "*Blessing of the Children*" ceremony. I blessed 9 children from this congregation this year. We all then enjoyed a wonderful Karen style meal prepared by the Karen brethren and our Legacy students.

That evening before sunset, our brethren had to leave to return to their village as their rented Land Rover had no headlights. As usual, it was a sad departure with wet eyes all around. Saw Htoo Saw's widow had a hard time letting go of Gloria. They want us to come back next year and hopefully by then we will be able to get government permission to visit them at their village.

April 7 Lazum Brang has decided to stay at Kyawk Taing and continue teaching the Bible Truth to the members and others who have become interested in the True Message of the Gospel. Gloria, the 4 Legacy students, Pastor Brang and I went down to the railroad station to get train tickets to Mandalay. Pastor Brang was able to get tickets for all except one of our students who could only get a "no seating" ticket. This means that throughout the entire 12 hour train journey, she would technically have no seat. In Burma they sell all the seats first. Then they sell "no seat" tickets to the remaining passengers who want to travel anyway. This means that before long, there are hot, sweaty bodies standing up and lying down in the center aisles and sitting or standing in every free space, even between the cars. Add to that the nasty habit of chewing and spitting betel nut and you can imagine how uncomfortable a Burmese train can get. They do have ceiling fans in some cars, but of course, they don't work!! There was a 4 and ½ hour delay, so we all had to wait. While waiting a fight broke out around us between several obviously drunk persons. They chased each other around and threw rocks.

April 8 After a 12 and ½ hour train ride, we arrived at Mandalay station at 5 AM. Here we split. Three of our students continued North by train to Myitkyina (pronounced MeeCheeNa), the capital of Kachinland, to see their parents. Seng Htun would stay with us and travel to Kalaymyo to the West. We checked into a small hotel and waited for the airline office to open at 9 AM. Mandalay is an ancient city that used to be the capital of Burma. In the center of the city is a palace built in the traditional Burmese style with a beautiful moat all around it. Westerners are forbidden to enter there. I do not know why.

We found out we could get airline tickets for Kalaymyo, but would have to wait until tomorrow to purchase them.

April 9 Purchased tickets to Kalaymyo for tomorrow morning. We are looking forward to spending the Sabbath with our Kalaymyo brethren.

April 10 Sabbath: The plane we were supposed to take to Kalaymyo this morning was commandeered by a Burmese general for his own use. It never arrived. So we will have to leave tomorrow instead.

This afternoon, we found out that Seng Htun was bumped off tomorrow's flight. We went to the station manager and explained that he was accompanying us and acted as our interpreter. Our arguments were to no avail. Some other, "more important" people came and needed tickets, so he got bumped off.

Seng Htun then left immediately to find a bus to the boat dock to arrange for passage upriver to Kalaymyo. We would have opted to go along with him, but foreigners are not allowed to travel overland to Kalaymyo. Travel by foreign nationals is strictly controlled. There are things in Burma that the rulers just do not want you to see.

April 11 We are up at 3 AM to go to the airport. We were told to be ready to leave for airport at 4:30 AM to arrive there by 5:30. The Mandalay airport is very new, but located very far from the city in an almost deserted area. All the facilities are new, but few planes fly there. The plane was 2 hours late. We left at 9 AM to Kalaymyo, a 40 minute journey by air. Pastor Peter Za Hmung and about 20 other brethren had been standing 2 hours outside the airport in the rain waiting for our arrival. We all went to the church compound where they had set up a small room of curtain sheets and a bed with a mosquito net for us. We had a wonderful meal of mostly vegetables and talked with many of the brethren and got caught up on news. That night at evening services I spoke about the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Seng Htun showed up about 8 PM.

April 12 Last Holy Day of UB: We had two services today. I spoke at both and took up an offering in the morning. In the morning I preached about *The Meaning of "Being Saved"*. Many profess to be "saved", but few understand what salvation really means. In the afternoon, I spoke about *Israel Coming Out of Egypt* and what that means to a modern day Christian. Attendance on this day was at least 150 persons.

We had originally planned to leave tomorrow, but a delegation of COG elders asked me if we could stay 2 days longer and leave on Thursday instead. They wanted me to give a series of lectures teaching them more about the Bible. So I said if they could get us all out on the Thursday flight to Mandalay, I would agree. Gloria was also asked to give lectures to the women while the men were being lectured upstairs.

April 13 Today I gave a lecture on Genesis 1 and 2 and the Plan of God. We went into a very thorough study of Genesis 1 and 2, including what happened during the period between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. For some of these elders, it was the first time they had heard of the "gap" between the 2 verses and the scriptures explaining Lucifer's war of rebellion in heaven. Every night services were held and I was asked to speak. This night I spoke on the topic, "*What Does Holy Mean?*"

April 14 Today I lectured on Daniel 2 and 7, Matthew 24 and parts of Revelation to show that the Kingdom of God is a LITERAL, physical Kingdom that will replace the Satan-led kingdoms of this world. In the afternoon Gloria and I interviewed potential students for Legacy School. One of the young men, a Mizo Chin named Lal Lian Hngaka is the son of a COG7th Day elder. His grandfather was also a COG7th Day elder who served the church in Mizoram, India right up until his death at 93. Now this young man wants to come to Legacy Institute to learn the Bible and leadership skills so that he can return and serve the Church of God in his own country. We are also accepting 2 persons from Pastor Peter Za Hmung's congregation and 2 others who are from other Church of God congregations.

At evening services, I gave a sermon entitled, "What is the Church?" Chin services are quite lively. All hymns are accompanied by the beating of a very large drum. All the children enthusiastically join in and enjoy participating in special music and the singing of hymns in the Falam Chin language. This evening the Church of God elders once again approached me with a request. They asked me to chair this year's *Conference of Elders of the Myanmar Churches of God* that will be held in Kalaymyo at Pentecost next month.

The various, small COG congregations in Myanmar (Burma) are organizing together in order to better serve God and accomplish His Work. They will be discussing doctrinal issues, evangelizing and the education of the ministry among other topics. This is a very important meeting. I was honored that they asked me to come. I will now have to readjust my schedule in order to be here again next month.

Insert: This is Gloria Writing in the Logbook

13th and 14th of April I was asked to teach the women for a couple of mornings. This town has no electricity and/or modern conveniences as we know them. Pastor Peter's wife (Htian ZaMawy) keeps a garden, and prepares her vegetables for sale the evening before. Then she is already up at 2am – goes to the market by 4:am – and is back by about 6:am or so – when the rooster crows – and when I get up. Then her sister-in-law (Bawy Cer) and others help her with the daily kitchen work of starting the fires for cooking to prepare the very delicious and wonderful food and rice!!!

I prayed very hard for God to give me what He wanted them to hear out of His Word. One question that came to my mind is: "Should we really compare ourselves?" The Bible says no! But, as humans we do this all the time! We have running water right into our homes and electricity with all the modern conveniences – they don't. We have washing machines and all the cleaning chemicals – they wash their clothes by the well. We have modern kitchens – they have outside kitchens with dirt floor and 1-foot high cement tri-stands under which wood must keep burning to keep on cooking. Water is carried in from the well. We have modern bathrooms with hot-water showers and sinks and flushing toilets – they have big containers of cold water to do both (Htian ZaMawy carried it every day to keep them full). In the evenings the church compound has a generator for lighting – especially for evening services twice a week. We have cars and smoggy air – they have bicycles, and on the main road there are a few vehicles – motor bikes, and teak-log trucks, but mostly bicycles, side-cars (a type of pedal rickshaw) and horse and buggy. We have TV's and computers – they don't. Of course these "high" standards are much desired. We foreigners would even like to give it to them. Does our life in the western countries REALLY make for an easy and uncomplicated life?

In the past some of their guests made a big fuss about their low standard and complained (or maybe “freaked out” about all the flies and other difficulties)... – and that their government does not allow the foreigners to move about freely – naturally they feel ashamed and embarrassed.

IS all the above really IMPORTANT?

This year by the grace of God we were allowed, by the government, to stay at the church compound with Pastor Peter’s family (It was the cleanest place we had yet stayed in Burma!). Foreigners are not even allowed outside the city for an eight mile radius. We can’t freely take a car or van from any town. We have to fly! Or just maybe we will see what Burma is really like outside of the 8-mile radius.

So, what do I speak to the women about? Women around the world are still women. And, no matter what our difficulties are, OR, as different as our difficulties may be – we women are still very much the same! By nature we still have our strengths and weaknesses.

I did not take count – but maybe we were between 20 and 30, with about 5 being teen girls. I asked them if anyone had ever gone hungry. Answer – NO. Did anyone ever not have a bed to sleep in? Answer – NO. I also asked them the following questions: How many of you ladies are divorced or separated from your husbands? Answer – NONE. How many of you have husbands who are alcoholics? Answer – NONE. How many of you have children on drugs? Answer – NONE. How many of you have a child that is homosexual? Answer – NONE.

God’s blessings are on them and I was learning who my audience really was.

The hardest thing for the Chin ladies to deal with in regards to the part their husbands play in the family, was the ability of their husbands to provide. The hardest thing for the Chin woman herself was to be pregnant (which is about every 2 years after she isn’t nursing anymore). They are blessed with many children and in the resurrection many, many more from Asia will be resurrected. But, to rely on the daily bread for their large families is to rely on daily Faith in God. God says children are a blessing!

They have different diseases than we do. They are just as lethal. TB, Malaria, Typhoid and other Asian norms are mostly unknown to us in the West. Lice are an every day common problem. High blood pressure and strokes are also very common due to too much oil, fried foods and only white rice diets. It’s not that they don’t have the healthy foods – it is just a lack of understanding or like we in the U.S. – doing the quick and fast thing. The only milk I saw was sweet condensed milk. Tea is: 1 inch “milk” on the bottom and then tea. More sugar if you like.

The responses of women in the U.S. or Western countries would be quite different. Divorce and children pulled in all directions; alcohol and all that goes with it; having a homosexual child; child abuse; etc... are just a few and becoming more and more the subjects in our Western church-counseling.

On Tuesday, the 13th, I discussed the most important things to do for a Godly woman: FIRST, God talking to us through our personal Bible Study. It is not enough to just listen to your pastor a couple of times a week. I encouraged them to prove everything in their Bibles! SECONDLY, I discussed prayer in which we women talk to God. How can our day possibly begin properly if we don’t ask our Great God to guide and lead us throughout the whole day! We must ask God daily to give us His obedience,

wisdom, knowledge and understanding – which are to God more precious than rubies and gold. We women of God need this everywhere!

On the following day we studied the duties of the “older women” in the Church. Some day we will all be “older” – and what kind of woman do we want to become? I asked the ladies and young girls if they had any favorite older woman-lady friends. Why were they their favorite? The answers were always one of the good traits in Titus. I also asked them if they knew any older “mean and grouchy” ladies. So I listened to some of their good and bad examples and they listened to mine! We all know what we love about each other – already as girls in school. We all know the tattlers and blabbers and/or the ones we can trust and go to with our personal private matters. After everyone was pretty much involved – I continued in Titus point by point what the older women should be like and point-by-point what the older woman is to teach the younger. We must be these lights to our younger generations! We need the Godly older woman more now than ever.

During our question and answer time together a Biblical issue came up that was very difficult for them to understand. They thought that they would never again see their small children or babies that died! Was this really true? They believed in Heaven or Hell. Leon had taught about the lie of “Going to Heaven” the previous day and that was still on their minds. But, what if their baby never had the chance to be called and baptized? And why would God allow all the babies from the beginning of time to be dead forever? Well, I explained the TRUTH about all that!!! It was really an uplifting moment for ALL of us!!!

Being a Godly woman is NOT easier if one is powerful or rich. With power and wealth come very great responsibilities. Sometimes I believe this is truly easier when one is poor and life is simple. Why does God call the poor of this world in the first place? These Chin ladies are Godly ladies. They will be leaders in the World Tomorrow! We just have different trials in different parts of the world, and God understands them all! We women must pray for each other around the world!

Continuation of Leon’s Journal

April 15 Once again we experience a sad departure. Pastor Peter Za Hmung, his wife and other brethren saw us off at the airport. But I plan to be back next month for the conference. This time we flew in a Fokker F-28 jet to Mandalay. This was Seng Htun’s first ever flight in a jet. He was very impressed at the smoothness of the ride. It actually took us much longer to ride from the airport into the town than the flight did from Kalaymyo. The water festival was in full swing and several of the windows on the bus were broken (of course!), so we all got a drenching! Immediately after arriving at the Myanmar Airways office Seng Htun headed for the train station to try to get a ticket to Myitkyina, the Kachin capital.

April 16 Our flight to Myitkyina took about an hour. We were hoping that the water festival would not be celebrated in Myitkyina because many of the Kachin are Christian. But, the water festival was alive and well in Myitkyina! Satan is busy corrupting the minds of our youth – everywhere – even in remote Myitkyina. We checked in at the YMCA and one of our Legacy students, Latt Aung, arrived soon after to greet us. That evening we went to visit Latt Aung’s parents. Also, one of our other girl students, Nu Tawng, came to Latt Aung’s house to visit with us. Both sets of parents presented me with a traditional Kachin sword and Kachin embroidered bag. These are the traditional Kachin symbols of

leadership. The bag is symbolic of providing for your people and the sword is to defend them. Gloria was given a traditional Kachin shawl since it was cold and rainy outside.

April 17 Sabbath: Seng Htun arrived and took us to visit his father in the hospital recuperating from a stroke. There we met his mother and other family members. I was asked to anoint him and pray. Then we went to visit Seng Htun's grandfather and grandmother. Seng Htun's grandfather was a veteran of the Unit 101 Kachin Rangers who fought with Merrell's Marauders and other American units against the Japanese in Kachinland. He showed me his citation from the U.S. Army and also his photo in uniform. Seng Htun's grandparents served us a very wonderful lunch of traditional Kachin food.

April 18 Seng Htun and I went to the ticket office to book tickets for Gloria and me back to Rangoon. Both of us got caught in a tropical downpour. Later, we visited the SDA school where Lazum Brang's nieces, Seng Mai and Adja Shan go to school. We hadn't seen them in a few years and they have grown quite a bit. We learned that unless a young person attends a government school, they cannot take the graduation examination called the "Metric". Without having passed the Metric, it is nearly impossible to get any kind of job in Burma. But, going to a government school means going to school on the Sabbath, as they have school 6 days per week. This means that, although Seng Mai and Adja can keep the Sabbath at the SDA high school, they will not be permitted to sit for the Metric exam. Even in a Buddhist country, Sabbath keepers face persecution.

This evening Gloria and I interviewed 7 potential Kachin students for the Legacy School. Some are from Myitkyina and others come from the China border area.

April 19 This morning we interviewed 4 more possible students for Legacy. It is going to be a tough decision. It is made even tougher by the knowledge that these young people have little or no chance for a future without an education. Gloria and I would ask the question, "What do you want to do with your life?" or "What do you aspire to?" -- but most would answer, "I don't know" or "I will do whatever I can do." At first we thought these young people just had no ambition. But we learned later that this is the standard answer because there are so few opportunities in Burma. An entire generation of young Kachin people is resigned to taking whatever job they can get in order to earn their daily food.

At 10:30 AM, we went to the airport to catch our plane to Rangoon. The plane was 4 hours late in arriving so we spent our time talking with Latt Aung, Seng Htun and Seng Htun's older brother who is a teacher in a Christian seminary in Rangoon. Finally, our plane arrived and we said goodbye to our Legacy students. Seng Htun will help Lazum Brang for the next 10 months. Latt Aung will return to Legacy Institute for his second year. We also learned that Kaw Mai, another of our students, came home to find her house burnt down and her father in jail. It seems that both he and his wife were away working in another town. Somehow (they suspect arson) their house burned down. Her father was arrested and thrown in prison for negligence. Please pray for Kaw Mai. She is able to stay with her grandmother, but all their family possessions burned with the house.

Gloria and I arrived in Rangoon about 6 PM. Pastors Lazum Brang and David Ye Gyan were waiting for us to discuss several things before we leave to go to Chiang Mai tomorrow. First of all we met a Shan lady who is interested in the Church. She is already a traditional Christian and a descendant of the princely family that ruled Chiang Tung in the Shan States of Burma. Her English was quite good and we discussed her desire to serve God. We will see how serious she is as time goes on. We then

interviewed and accepted David Ye Gyan's nephew for Legacy School. This will make 6 new students who come from Church of God families attending Legacy this year.

April 20 Today we left Burma and flew back to Chiang Mai. We miss our brethren in Burma and Kachinland already. There has obviously been a lot of growth and God's Work in Burma continues to grow and grow. Burma is one of the poorest countries on earth. There are very few opportunities and people have little hope to better their lives. Yet, God has decided to do His Work there in a very powerful way. We at Legacy Institute are humbled and very grateful to be a part of what God is doing in this part of the world. Please pray for us. We need all your prayers to sustain the effort until we have done all God's Will.

And please pray for our new students. Pray that they will be able to travel safely to Thailand to start attending Legacy School.

Feasts in India and Thailand

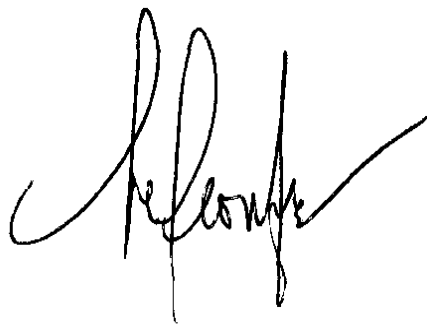
Legacy Institute will be sponsoring 2 Feast sites in Thailand and one in India. We will have our regular site in Chiang Mai near the school and another, smaller one in Mae Sot on the border. In India we will sponsor our usual Feast site in Madras, southern India. If you are interested in attending and need more information, please contact us at 330-852-2709, 626.357.2588 or email us at the address on our letterhead.

REGRETS

I regret that I must cancel my trip to the U.S. in May. There is just too much that demands my attention over here. Perhaps I can reschedule a trip later this Summer. I will keep you all informed. If you want me to come speak in your area, please inform my sister Anita Showers at 330.852.2709 or Herb Vierra at 626.357.2588.

God be with all of you. Keep praying for our brethren in Burma and all parts of the world.

In Jesus' Service,



WHAT IS LEGACY INSTITUTE?

LEGACY INSTITUTE is a private, non-profit, charitable foundation and is not affiliated with any human church organization. Legacy Institute seeks to serve and help mankind in the spirit and example of our Lord Jesus Christ. His instructions were to freely give. This means without discrimination and without prejudice. Your donations to Legacy Institute are tax deductible in the USA.

Leon Sexton