



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Dear Fellow-workers in God's fields,

We need your constant and incessant prayers. And at the cost of sounding redundant – *we need them all the time!!* Satan never sleeps! He is powerful and he is relentless. And he never ceases in his devious attempts to thwart the Work of the Living God! Since we at Legacy are God's servants and provide support for fellow-servants in Thailand, India and Burma, we are under attack almost on a daily basis.

I can tell you frankly as fellow-laborers, I get worn down by this incessant warfare we are engaged in. I get tired. And I get weary!

The Bible tells us that we do not war against flesh and blood, but rather, spiritual powers in high places (Ephesians 6:12). What we generally experience are the effects of the spiritual influences on human authorities. They become the unwitting instruments of Satan and his fallen angels. I will give you an example:

A young man named Zin Maung Zaw is a first year student at Legacy Institute's Leadership Training Center in Chiang Mai. Zin is from Burma and his parents are members of the Church of God. We are blessed with 5 COG students who are part of our first year class. Zin's father was able to get him a Burma (Myanmar) passport. In order to travel to Thailand to attend Legacy school he needed a Thailand visa. So he went to the Thai Embassy in Rangoon (Yangon), the capital of Burma and asked for the necessary visa so that he could come to Thailand to study.

We requested a visa for him to stay in Thailand at least 9 months to complete his first year of study. The official at the Embassy (actually a Burmese employee) did not want to give him a visa at all. We prayed and applied again. This time he got the visa, but it was only for 3 months. The official (same one) said Zin could extend it in Thailand.

Well, I think you can guess where this is all going! Zin was misinformed. When we went to renew Zin's visa, the Thai immigration authorities would only extend it for 20 days! This means he will now have to return to Burma and start all over! This creates unnecessary hardship on all of us, both financially and emotionally. But that is what Satan wants. He wants to constantly keep us off balance so that we cannot concentrate on the Work of God as we should.

Why would Satan want a young man from a COG family going to God's school to learn God's way of life – so that he can return to Burma and teach others this Way? Zin is a wonderful young man with a great attitude and *he really wants to serve God!* So naturally, he is targeted.

There should be absolutely no reason NOT to extend his visa in Thailand. He has the proper visa; he is in Thailand legally; and he is actually studying (the reason stated on the visa application) – not seeking employment in Thailand.

But this is Satan's world. He is its prince. And the various human authorities fall under his sway.

Please pray for Zin. He wants so much to stay at Legacy. Let's all ask God to intervene for him so that he can get the proper length visa to return to Thailand and complete his studies at Legacy.

This is only one example of how Satan attacks and disrupts our efforts to serve the Almighty God in Asia. There are many, many more! And, like I said, it never seems to let up. In all my years in Ambassador Foundation and then later the field ministry, I have never experienced such a relentless campaign to keep us off-balance and discouraged.

That tells me we are on the right track!!

If we were doing nothing – we would not be targeted. But Legacy is a THREAT to Satan's program to keep the people of South and Southeast Asia blinded to the truth of God! We are a THREAT because, through our humble efforts, more and more are hearing the Word of God, and responding to the calling. And now we are training young people to go into battle against Satan's demonic forces. We are equipping them with the armor and spiritual weapons they need to go back and fight the blindness and slavery of Satan's deception. They become the champions of God's battle plan to set free the enslaved and heal the broken hearted!

Gloria and I have felt overwhelmed by the magnitude of the mission God gave us. But, the Great God, in his mercy, has sent us help! He has sent us young people from the Churches of God in America to hold up our arms in the battle. They are our Joshuas. They are our Aarons and Hurs. We are awestruck at the caliber of the young people who have stepped forward to volunteer for front line missions in the service of God.

Each volunteer must come up with the means to pay their own way over and back and be willing to sacrifice at least one year of their lives to serve in Thailand. Every year we wonder who God will send and whether we will have enough volunteer teachers to carry on the programs at Legacy school. But, every year God comes through with "just enough" to get the job done. And what a job they are doing! It is truly amazing!

This year we have five volunteers who are engaged in doing the Work of God. We ask more from them than they have probably been asked by anyone, anywhere before. They arrive as "bright eyed" and "bushy tailed" young people – and we immediately plunge them into adult responsibilities that affect the future lives of hundreds, if not thousands, of people God is calling now and in the future.

Let me give you some examples. This year we have 2 young men engaged up to their ears in heavy responsibility. They must not only handle their duties in the classroom, but must also carry out Church related responsibilities as well. The first is Ryan Foster. He was here last year. He volunteered to return to help us again this year. He has a Master's Degree in Teaching. Back home he would probably be engaged in teaching at the primary, secondary or even the college level. He would probably be earning a good living and thinking about settling down with a nice girl and starting a family. But instead, he decided to sacrifice and return to the front lines. Ryan not only has a full load of teaching at Legacy school, but gives sermons or Bible studies almost every Sabbath! On top of that, he travels to the border region of Thailand and visits Church of God brethren who live in refugee camps in some of the most remote locations you can imagine!

Several weeks ago, Ryan traveled to a remote refugee camp high in the mountains on the border near Burma along with Bobbie Bauer, one of our other volunteer teachers. They traveled in an old bus and later, by four wheel truck. The road to the camp is a mud track (it is the monsoon season). They were able to get in OK and spent the Sabbath teaching the Karen refugee families who live there. But they could not find a vehicle returning to the main road. So they walked. I found out later they had walked 40 kilometers on a mud track through the mountains and jungles. This is the kind of sacrifice I am talking about.

Ryan is now engaged in setting up a Feast of Tabernacles site on the border so that our border brethren can keep the Feast. They are not permitted to travel to Chiang Mai where the main site will be. But all of God's people need to go to the Feast. If they cannot get there, then we must take the Feast to them! Ryan will go and preach sermons every day of the Feast so that they receive the spiritual food they need. Soon he will travel to Rangoon, Burma to give the sermon to a small group of brethren gathered together on Trumpets. Ryan is 25 years old.

Bobbie Bauer was also a volunteer teacher at Legacy school last year. She is 24 and has a degree in Education. She returned to help us this year *because we needed her*. Her duties are not only teaching classes at Legacy, but also include teaching Sabbath School for the Church children in Chiang Mai. While she has never had any formal music training, she is our music teacher at the school. She is learning herself and must stay one step ahead of her students!

Then there is James Hostetter. James is a little older. He is 28 and this is his first year of volunteer service. He has a degree in Philosophy. When he arrived in June, I asked him if he had ever spoken in Church before. He said, "no". Then I asked him if he had ever had any speech training. He said, "no". I said, "Well, you'd better get prepared, you have a sermonette this coming Sabbath"! He did a fine job and has been helping out with sermons, sermonettes, and traveling to the border to visit brethren ever since.

What is phenomenal about these young people is that they never say, "I can't do it." They tackle their responsibilities and do not complain. They do it because it **MUST** be done and there is no one else to do it!

Mandi Steele is a new volunteer who just graduated with a degree in Journalism. She is 22. Since we are an educational institution, I decided we needed a school newspaper. I gave Mandi

the job of being Editor of the paper and starting it from scratch. She is also the computer typesetter and photographer. Her teaching plate is also full, but she is a real trooper! Our first edition is now complete. Wait until you see it! It will keep all who read it updated on the day to day happenings of the school and give details about our students and faculty. She has worked the newspaper into the curriculum so that our students will now learn the art of setting up and publishing a newspaper!

No one says “no” at Legacy school. They just DO!

With young people like these – we can and WILL move mountains in the service of God!

Bobbi will be leaving after the Feast to go home. We are going to really miss her around the school. Her replacement will be another volunteer, Jessica Wilson, who is currently studying at the University of Chicago. Jessica is going to sacrifice time between her studies to assist us in teaching God’s Way of Life and vocational skills to our hill tribe students from Thailand and Burma. She too, will be asked to go above and beyond the call of duty in God’s service as part of the Legacy Team.

God has a plan for Asia. And these young people from God’s churches in America are an important part of that plan. Please pray for them. They too are on Satan’s radar. They are engaged in not only the physical hardships of living in a foreign culture and stressful circumstances far from home, but they are also engaged in the SPIRITUAL warfare taking place at the end of the age! They need our fervent prayers for continued protection and the spiritual strength only God can provide! Without them, it would be impossible for Gloria and me to continue the mission God has entrusted to us. We love them and marvel at their courage.

If you want to write letters of encouragement to them – feel free. The address is: 192 Moo 4, Baan Mae Sa Luang, T. Mae Sa, A. Mae Rim, Chiang Mai 50180, THAILAND.

Update on School Land Purchase

God is listening to our prayers and His Saints are graciously coming forward! We now have approximately 80% of what we need to purchase the property we will use as a permanent location for the Legacy School. But we still need your urgent and heartfelt prayers for God to stir up His people to provide the other 20%. The bank has kindly given us an extension. But this will be up soon after the Feast of Tabernacles! I realize that many are now saving additional funds for travel to the Feast, and many of you have already sacrificed as much as you can. But God is in charge, and I am fully confident the rest will come in time. The Legacy School is His school. He was *behind* its foundation and He *is with* its building. It has become obvious He wants it, otherwise, we could not have come this far. Therefore, *His Will shall be done!*

I have often thought about why we have not been able to secure a loan to purchase this property. Some have even asked why I don’t ask high ranking Thai friends for a loan! Well, our faith is not in the Thailand banking system, nor do we place our faith in asking our Thai friends for

loans. Our faith *must be in Our Heavenly Father* to supply our every need. And we *need* a permanent location for the Legacy School. So we *will* and *do* trust Him!

Anyway, we know that God is a jealous God. He will not give His Glory to another. If it was the Thai bankers who made this happen – then they would get the credit! If it was powerful Thai friends who made it happen – then they would get the credit. God just doesn't do things this way. Instead, what He is doing is accomplishing His Will (*once again!*) through the People of God, the Saints of the Most High.

The individuals of the Body of Christ who see and recognize what God is doing in Thailand and surrounding countries are the ones who are coming forward in a time of need. It is the People of God through whom He works and it is the People of God who will share in His Glory! Not another!

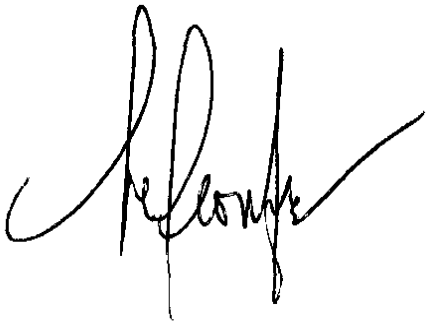
Those of us at Legacy are frankly overwhelmed at the support that has been shown by those who believe that what we are doing is the Will of God! Please pray that God will continue to bless Legacy and that we will be able to accomplish this task – *and accomplish it soon!*

That is all for now. Gloria and I – and all of us who serve God through the work of Legacy Institute – thank all of you for your continuous prayerful support and the sacrifices you are making to assist us as fellow-laborers in this Work of the Most High God. I know God is watching and He sees what you are doing. May God bless all of you and pour out His Spirit upon you during the Holy Day season just ahead.

Please remember all of those who will be traveling to remote and sometimes even dangerous places to serve the scattered brethren on the Holy Days. Pray for their health, safety and for inspiration that they will be used as His instruments to give God's People the spiritual food they need.

God's Blessing upon you all.

In Jesus' service,



Leon Sexton

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.