



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Chiang Mai, Thailand

Dear Fellow-laborers,

Every year, around what Americans celebrate as Independence Day (July 4), I think about the wonderful freedoms Americans enjoy today – freedoms that are guaranteed by a Constitution drafted about 225 years ago. US citizens and non-citizens alike have enjoyed these freedoms. Living outside the US allows me to more clearly see the contrasts between the freedoms in America and the lack of the same freedoms *outside* of America.

The preamble of the Constitution explains the purpose of the government:

“We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America”.

The genius of the US constitution is that it was put in place to protect the security and FREEDOMS of its citizens. Notice that the rights and welfare of the people are most important. Our American laws and legal codes are based on English common law, and in turn, English common law is based on the Laws of the Bible. We can still see many remnants of God’s laws still in existence in our American legal system. For instance, the right to file bankruptcy every 7 years is based on the Biblical *Year of Release* which occurs every 7 years. The right to face our accuser in a court of law is also a basic biblical right. There are many more.

This is not necessarily the case in other countries. For instance, there is no country in Europe that has pure freedom of religion in the way America does. Most have a state religion. Even Britain has a state religion!

Many of the countries of Europe have judicial systems based on the Napoleonic Code. In these countries, the welfare of the State supersedes the welfare of the individual.

Here in Thailand, there is a Parliamentary government in place and a constitution. But little more than lip service is paid to the idea that government exists for the welfare of the people.

One of the most precious freedoms in America is freedom of religion. People of any faith can worship according to their own belief system without government interference. Religious freedom is one of the great foundation stones on which the United States was founded. Let's look at the First Amendment:

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.”

This first amendment was established to protect the common citizen from control of what I call the “Thought Police.” Notice that the First Amendment says *nothing* against praying to God in a public school or not permitting the 10 Commandments to be displayed in a courthouse! It simply says that the government cannot interfere in establishing a religion or its free exercise. This Amendment was decreed to protect people's religious beliefs FROM THE GOVERNMENT! Not the people from religion!

Here in Thailand, religious freedom is guaranteed by the person of the king who is the protector of all religions in Thailand. This is not at all true of countries that surround Thailand.

Another freedom Americans enjoy is freedom of the press. The opinions and ideas of people can be freely expressed in print, whether they agree with the government or not. According to the Constitution of the USA, the government cannot interfere with such opinions and ideas. That is not true in ALL the countries of Southeast Asia, including Thailand.

Amendments number two through eight continue to protect US citizens from infringements of basic human rights by government or the military.

Americans enjoy REAL freedom. But looking at things from *outside the forest*, I see that many of the basic freedoms we enjoy are taken for granted – almost never thought about. And, the way human nature works, freedoms taken for granted and treated with little consideration will soon be taken away!

How many of you reading this letter have actually READ the Bill of Rights! Do you even know what our freedoms ARE! The people who wrote the Constitution of America did it to protect the freedoms of its citizens. Unless those freedoms are recognized, respected and defended, they will erode away!

Let's look at things on the spiritual level. There are those who would claim that the Laws of God are “outdated” and “burdensome”. Yet the country that possesses the greatest freedoms protects those freedoms by laws BASED on God's Laws!

Believe me! It is not God who wants to take away our freedoms and enslave us – it is Satan the Devil! The one world government prophesied by the Apostle John in Revelation is *not* described as a government based on human freedoms and the rights of its citizens. Rather it is described as the *ultimate police state!* And the Bible says that it is coming!

Jesus came that we might have life, and have it more abundantly! The Kingdom of God is a kingdom of freedom and release from poverty and oppression. God's laws, the laws of His Kingdom, bring grace and freedom to its subjects.

Luke 4:16-21 *“When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. 17 The scroll containing the messages of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him, and he unrolled the scroll to the place where it says: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has appointed me to preach Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the downtrodden will be freed from their oppressors, and that the time of the Lord's favor has come.” He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. Everyone in the synagogue stared at him intently. 21 Then he said, “This Scripture has come true today before your very eyes!”* NLT

God's way of life is a way of freedom and RELEASE from blindness and slavery!

Today Legacy Institute is among a number of organizations that faithfully spread the Gospel message of Peace, Hope and Freedom around the world. We could not do this if we were not supported by many Americans who believe in what we are doing and have the RIGHT and FREEDOM to support any particular church or ministry they wish. Your right to support Legacy Institute is guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America. Legacy's right to operate freely in Thailand as a Christian organization is guaranteed by the person of H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

We could not do what we do in any of the surrounding countries of S.E. Asia; not Laos, not Cambodia, not Burma, not China, not Vietnam and not Malaysia. God has seen fit to establish us in Thailand according to His Divine Will.

At this time we have the freedom to teach God's Truth freely from our base in Chiang Mai. You have the right to support what we are doing. How long this will all last is up to God. By His Grace, we will continue. By His Grace, we will fulfill His Will.

Please pray that God continues to bless us here at Legacy with peace and freedom so that we can continue to participate in His End Time Harvest Work. And we will pray for you that God would stay the hands of those who would take away your and my Constitutional rights to worship God freely according to our consciences.



New Legacy Students from Lahu and Hmong Tribes

Newest Legacy Volunteer

We are blessed to have young Daniel Fehr with us this year. He is an experienced draftsman and is an apprentice architect. He has come as a volunteer to help us develop plans for dormitories and other buildings we desperately need for the school. He is now measuring the small plot of land we purchased for the campus so that we can draw up a master plan.

Daniel is a “can do” sort of person that doesn’t let a little thing like lack of precision instruments get in his way. He needed a surveyor’s tool to lay out the boundaries of the land including elevations. The tool he needed was some sort of scope that establishes bearings, etc. Well, we had no such tool, and I suspect that this kind of tool is rather expensive if we would have to buy one. So, Daniel just made one out of several sections of Bamboo!

That is the kind of spirit we want at Legacy School.



Daniel Fehr

Tragic Loss for Legacy

Just a few days ago, I received the very sad news that Bobbie Bauer's mother died of a heart attack. Bobbie was one of our Legacy volunteer teachers. She served during 2 academic years before going on to attend Ambassador Bible Course. She did an outstanding job and everyone loved her dearly. All of us here at Legacy mourn with Bobbie and pray that God will comfort and take care of her and her family. Please pray for all of them.

Building Needs

We now have the land for a school, but not enough buildings. We will need to build a dorm for the young men and one for the girls. We will also need to expand the kitchen and build more bathrooms and showers. We will have to run a village water line onto the property. This construction is necessary to have a working campus.

Presently, the price of everything is rising in Thailand. This is because of the increase in the price of oil on the world market. Thailand has no oil fields of its own and all oil and petrol products must be imported. Fuel prices have almost doubled. As a result, everything is affected. Food costs are escalating, as well as everything else. Prices of construction materials are also on the rise.

God promises to take care of our every *need*. We *need* to build dorms and other buildings. We *need* to get pipe laid so that we can pipe water in from the village. And we *need* to continue to pay for the monthly operational expenses of the school. We presently have 18 students studying at the school and 5 more waiting at the border for permission to come across. Four of those waiting to come to Legacy School are young people from local congregations of Churches of God in Burma. Three want to come from Lazum Brang's church congregations – one young man and one young lady from the China border – and 1 young man that I baptized together with his father 3 years ago from the Taungoo congregation. Also Saw Lay Bey's granddaughter is waiting at the border. Please pray that the Thailand Work Permit office will open up their quota quickly so that they can be legally registered.

Legacy Institute International Leadership Training Center is *VITAL* for the growth and care of the new COG congregations on the Thailand/Burma border and those across the border being raised up by Kachin Evangelist Lazum Brang. He is only one man. He needs help. Once trained, Legacy graduates can go back and serve in their home congregations. Maybe God will call some of them to His service as pastors or church leaders. Others can use their education to find work or start small businesses to support the Work of the Church.

God is actively working in this area of the world. Legacy's job is to support, any possible way we can, what HE is already doing! The Legacy School is a very important component of that support.

Legacy School Newspaper

We will be publishing our school newspaper, “*Legacy Leader*” once again this school year. *Legacy Leader* keeps you posted about recent happenings at Legacy school. The articles are written by our students. You can read the *Legacy Leader* at www.LegacyLeader.org

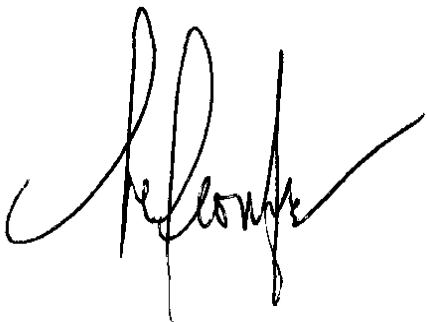
Feast of Tabernacles in Thailand

Preparations are under way for the Feast in Thailand. We have 2 sites: one in Chiang Mai and one on the Burma border. We are expecting over 60 Western brethren to join with our local Karen members and Legacy students to celebrate God’s Feast in Thailand. If any of you would be interested in attending with us – please contact Mr. Herbert Vierra at the following E-mail address: Herb_Vierra@LegacyInstitute.org.

We are looking forward to a successful school year with the opportunity to teach and demonstrate God’s Way of Life to young people from the mountains of Thailand and Burma. Legacy is Gods’ School and we look to Him for all guidance and necessary resources to continue according to His Will.

Please pray that God continues to bless us and protect our students and teachers. You too, are continually in our prayers.

In service to Jesus Christ,



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.