



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Dear Fellow laborers in the Fields of God,

Passover is always a special time. Passover unites all members of the Body of Christ, no matter who we are or where we come from. Jesus said that, “*Many would come from the East and the West and sit down with Abraham in the Kingdom*” (Matthew 8:11). It always amazes me that God is choosing many of His children from among the poor, undereducated and disenfranchised of this world. How does He make His choice? What criteria does He use? I doubt we will ever know until after the Kingdom comes to this Earth. But I do know this: God is glorifying Himself in our weakness and showing an important lesson to the world.

I Corinthians 1:27 “But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty.”

This year we had the opportunity to take the Passover and observe the first holy day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread with three families of Karen refugees from a remote refugee camp located in the mountains on the Thai-Burma border. Travel in and out of the camp is difficult and the border region is an unpredictable area that sometimes erupts into fighting with little notice. Last year we could not obtain permission for these families to attend the Feast of Tabernacles because travel in and out of the border camps was severely restricted for security reasons. So this opportunity was particularly important for them.



L-R. Row 1: LayGayHtoo, MooLawLah, Julius Ceasar, NawEhHso, Cleopatra, DahGayPaw Row 2: LaLuNan, NawHteeShee, HserEhPaw, SawBaw, NawPawHtoo, EhHserKu, Gloria Sexton Row 3: Leon Sexton, SawPoHtoo

We held the Passover in a town called Mae Sariang, a six-hour drive high in the mountains due west of Chiang Mai. We arranged for our Karen brethren to stay at a clean, reasonably-priced guest house. Several of our Legacy graduates and students decided to join with us. Since we had a school break at that time, all of our volunteer teachers and most students were visiting their homes and families. We found a local restaurant that had a private meeting room they allowed

us to use for Passover and daily services. Gloria and I could not stay the entire eight days of Passover and Unleavened Bread, so we met every day for worship from Passover evening through the weekly Sabbath between the first and last holy day.



L-R: LayGayHtoo & EhHserKu sing special music

Legacy graduate Seng Aung and senior student La Lu Nan helped with translations and song leading. Each day I gave a sermon. This was a good opportunity to go over many things, not only about Passover and Unleavened Bread, but all the holy days. Those of us from the U.S. who have experienced regular weekly Sabbath services and Bible Studies, sometimes take for granted the vast storehouse of knowledge we have been given about God and His plan of salvation. Our Southeast Asian brethren have not had the same opportunities. Our job is to pass on to them the truth God has given to us.

This is not a simple task. Some might say, “Well, we have a lot of literature we can give them, right?” Yes, it’s true. The various Churches of God do have a lot of literature in booklets and on audio CDs. But these materials are in English and few in Thailand and Burma can read and understand English. That is why hearing the True Gospel message in their own language is so important. They are starved for the truth of the Bible and deeply appreciate any chance to learn and understand the meaning of God’s Word.



*Karen children enjoy Feast gift of balloons
L-R: HserEhPaw, HserBluPaw*



*Feast Meal: L. LaLuNan, Seng Moon, Seng Aung, Surachai,
with Karen members and Legacy Students*

It takes time to see fruits of our labors. Anything God is behind and blessing WILL always bear fruit. God does not waste His time. His Work always produces good fruit. Sometimes I get impatient. I wish we could see more and more people coming to the knowledge of the truth. But who will teach them? Who will visit them in times of need? Who will pastor them? We must build a sure and firm foundation so that anything built upon it will prosper and grow.

In the early New Testament Church, God performed a miracle so that people could understand the Gospel in their own languages.

Acts 2:6-9 “And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, ‘Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?’”

Thus far, God has not chosen to perform this kind of miracle for us in Southeast Asia. So we must train our young Legacy students in English and then teach them the true Gospel from the scriptures in order for them to go back and teach others in Karen, Kachin, Burmese, Mizo or one or more of the other languages of their people. Most of the young people who come to Legacy speak at least two languages already.

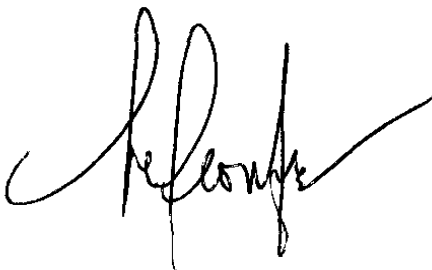
Each time we graduate a young man or woman with English skills and knowledge of the true Gospel, we are adding truth like salt to this unsavory world. Every time a young Legacy graduate goes home, we put one more block into the foundation of what God has in mind for the future of His Church here. But things do not happen overnight.

It is easy to get discouraged when a student drops out or decides to make a wrong choice in their lives. But then something happens to reveal that we are still on the right track and, indeed, that right foundation continues being laid anyway. For instance, seeing the new Karen members learning about God’s way is always very encouraging. The real reward is to see and hear the enthusiasm of new “babes in Christ” who are learning God’s step-by-step plan of salvation for the very first time!

Fellow laborers, I want to ask you to add something to your prayer list. It is getting harder and harder to bring new students to Thailand from Burma. Both governments keep adding more and more restrictions and requirements for obtaining travel documents. It is also getting more and more expensive to bring and keep each student because we must obtain and renew visas, work permits, health insurance, etc. Please pray that God intervenes for those He chooses to bring to Legacy from Burma.

May God bless and take care of all of you.

Continuing in Jesus’ service until next letter,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Leon Sexton', written in a cursive style.

T. Leon Sexton

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