



## LEGACY INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 7, Dundee, Ohio 44624  
www.legacyinstitute.org  
anita\_showers@legacyinstitute.org

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Chiang Mai, Thailand

Dear Fellow Laborers,

Today Tracy Webster died. She was in the Bangkok Hospital suffering with an inoperable cancerous tumor called a Krukenberg tumor. Gloria and I flew to Bangkok last week to visit Tracy after I felt good enough to make the flight. Tracy was in good spirits and was more interested in getting us water and making sure we were comfortable, than in her own life and death condition. I anointed her and we prayed together asking God to intervene and take care of her.

Tracy was a young Thai lady from Australia married to COG member Rogan Webster. She was in Thailand visiting her family and went into the hospital with intestinal pains. We had spoken with her by phone, but we really wanted to get to Bangkok to see her.

Hospital visits are never easy because no one likes to see someone suffering. But the Bible tells us that we are to visit the sick and those in need. People in the hospital really do not like being alone. Visiting the sick, if such visits are kept short and not taxing to the patient, can be very encouraging. When I was in the hospital last year, I appreciated visits by friends and family members, especially my two little granddaughters.

Tracy was very positive, had a cheerful smile, and was happy we were able to come see her. At the time of our visit, her niece was staying with her, and we had a lively conversation with both. Tracy's attitude was remarkable. The tumor was inoperable and the prognosis was not positive, but she was full of hope for the future.

Thinking about that visit now, I ask myself, "Why Tracy?" She was such a positive and sweet young lady. Why did this have to happen to her?

I can ask the question. But I really have no answer. The reasons why bad things happen to good people are beyond me.

At times like these I think about Jesus living as a human on Earth. He was God in the flesh. None of the horrible things that happened to Him were deserved. He was perfect in righteousness. Yet He suffered emotional and physical pain while here among us. The Bible even tells us that He learned from the things He suffered.

**Heb 5:8-9** ". . . though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered."

God knows Tracy. He knows her much better than any of us. And He knows what is best for her. He knows what is best for each and every one of us. He has a special plan for each of us and He will fulfill His will in us.

I am very saddened by the news. But I also am encouraged. Why? Because God shows me His power and glory in all this.

God knows how weak and powerless Tracy was. He knows how weak and powerless I am. Even Jesus Himself said that He could do nothing without the help of the Father.

If Jesus could do nothing apart from the Father, then where does that leave us? I am reminded of my mortality. And I am reminded just how loving and merciful God is to those who have no strength.

So I am encouraged. And I am humbled by Tracy's positive attitude right up until the last. I know her next waking moment will be in the presence of Jesus Christ, who loves her and knows every hair on her head. I also know that Tracy will make a wonderful contribution to the preaching of the Gospel of our Lord to the people of Thailand during that final resurrection and judgment period. I am happy that I will see her again on that day.

### **Rangoon Office**

Myo Zaw, the Church of God deacon in Rangoon (Yangon), and his wife Tumar came to the Feast of Tabernacles in Chiang Mai. While there, we had several discussions about the Work of God in Myanmar (Burma). Presently, we send tapes and letters, translated into the Burmese language, by post from Thailand to Myanmar. This can be very costly, because we must pay international postal rates—even though we are next door.

We are now developing a Bible study course that will be translated into the Burmese language and sent to all who request it. Correspondence with Burma can be difficult because the mail is not as reliable as it should be. Sometimes our mail from Thailand is opened before it reaches the addressee. Sometimes the person receiving the tape is charged an unaffordable fee and sometimes it just never gets there. But if we mail from inside Burma, the postal service is usually reliable.

If people want to write us back, they must pay for an international stamp to get their letter to Thailand. Many cannot afford even the cost of the stamp.

So, in our talks we discussed the idea of opening an office in Rangoon.

We will send masters of tapes, letters, and copies of the translated Bible course to Deacon Myo Zaw. In turn, he would duplicate those, along with other materials, and send them out to a mailing list. This would facilitate getting the Gospel out to the people of Burma and allow for correspondence in return, since the cost of a local stamp is much less than an international stamp.

Opening a church office in Rangoon will dramatically increase our effectiveness in preaching the Gospel in Burma, because getting information out and receiving letters and inquiries back will be made much easier. We are all very excited about this.

Now I come to the critical part. Who will help run the office?

Myo Zaw and Tumar are wonderful servants of God; but they, like Gloria and I, can't do it all alone. We need help and so do they.

Currently, we have two young people from Burma at Legacy School. Adja Shan is a new girl student from Kachinland. She attended a Seventh Day Adventist school in Burma, so she has a foundation in the English language, as well as being fluent in the Burmese and Kachin languages. We plan to train her in office and computer design skills. She was able to come here from Burma because of a generous scholarship donation from the USA.

There is also La Nunan. He is our Student Body President and will be graduating this spring. La Nunan (his nickname is Malat, which means "third son" in Kachin) is already helping to translate into Burmese. We will train him in computer design, but he needs further formal training in the English language to become a good translator. It is something he wants to do, and it will be a good career path for him.

In order to give him further training, it would be advantageous for him to get into an English language program at a university nearby in Chiang Mai. The tuition to send him for education at either of two local universities will be approximately 4000 dollars per year. After four years, he will receive a Bachelor of Arts in English and be able to provide us with professional translations into Burmese or Kachin. The degree would also be recognized by the Burmese government, or anywhere else for that matter.

La Nunan also speaks two Chinese dialects, because he grew up on the China border with Burma. Perhaps in the future, after his English language training, we could capitalize on his Chinese language ability.

Legacy has no additional funds beyond our school operations budget to send him to a university program, so we need some additional help. Since he is still at Legacy, we presently provide for his room and board. We have also taken him to get a motorcycle driver's license so he can legally ride a motorcycle in Thailand. He can use one of Legacy's motorcycles to get back and forth to school. The plan would be for him to stay at Legacy, continue his translation work, and go to the university for a formal degree in English. We also plan for him to continue his Bible education, and gain experience giving sermonettes, and visiting the border refugee camps to hold Bible studies.

This is an ambitious plan; but with God's help, not only is it possible, it is going to happen as long as we are in line with God's will for Burma. The Bible tells us that all things are possible with God.

**Matt 19:26** "But Jesus looked at them and said to them, 'With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"

If anyone wants to help put La Nunan through school, please write and let us know. His education and church service preparation will go a long way toward helping us successfully preach the Gospel in Burma, the border areas of Thailand, and maybe even across the border of Burma into China.

The main reason we founded Legacy Institute school in Thailand was to train young people for God's service. Since we do not do the calling, we cannot know which ones God will choose to use for His divine purposes. But, even if they are not chosen to serve the King of Kings, they receive training in occupational skills, ethical principles of the Bible, and are given a great witness. The rest is up to God.

Jesus told us that the harvest is great, but the harvesters are few. We continue to pray that God will use Legacy to train more harvesters.

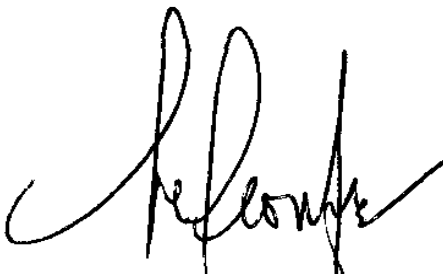
May God bless all of you and take care of you in your many trials. I just learned that the European Union is about ready to select a President and Foreign Minister, as well as other cabinet posts. It will only be a matter of days before the EU becomes a viable political player on the world scene, with its own President, governing body, foreign policy, and army.

Are you ready for a "United States of Europe"? Well, ready or not, it is soon to be a reality. Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong talked about a United States of Europe over 60 years ago. Now all the prophetic warnings he and others have passed on to us are about to become very, very real. They are no longer just some ideas on a chart about prophecy. All this is happening right before our very eyes.

We don't have a lot of time left. Things are now moving very quickly to that time when "no man can work."<sup>1</sup>

Let's renew our commitment to God and join hands to get the Work done!

In Holy Lord Jesus' service,

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

T. Leon Sexton

P.S. Some of you have contacted me asking how Japur (Warawet) and his mother are doing. They were in a motorcycle accident right after the Feast. Both are now out of the hospital. Worawet is back at Legacy recuperating and his mother has returned to her home in the mountains. God has mercifully taken care of them both. Please keep praying for their complete recovery. We are especially concerned about Japur's right eye. Please pray that God will restore his eyesight in that eye.

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<sup>1</sup> John 9:4