

HARVEST Asia

Transformation Emmanuel Centre NE India



From (9/2019 photo)

To (9/2020 photo)



Praise God for the funds and work to bring the Emmanuel Centre in NE India to near completion. The inauguration of the building was conducted by the Chief Minister of the region and Christian Ministers highly regarded by the local people. There were about 150 people in attendance. A generous offering was also given for the AEF NE India ministry. Local believers performed songs of worship according to their culture.

The Emmanuel Centre ministry trains new believer leaders in our Lord's service and agricultural skills to support and sustain their ministry. There are still some outstanding building costs. We ask that you join with us in faith and trust that our God Jehovah Jireh will provide for these outstanding costs.

Psalm 107

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures for ever.
- 2 Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story – those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,
- 3 those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.
- 4 Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle.
- 5 They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away.
- 6 Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.
- 7 He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle.



Has your Christmas been interrupted?

The Bible records that just before the birth of Jesus, Mary and Joseph's life was greatly inconvenienced and interrupted. The couple was engaged to be married. But an angel appeared to Mary and told her that she would, as a virgin, conceive and give birth to the promised Messiah - the Son of God. What amazing news! Yet, what an interruption!

How would Mary explain her pregnancy to Joseph? Would he misunderstand and leave her? This was not in their plans. However, Mary accepted it and Joseph received God's word to do the right thing. Both Mary and Joseph adjusted their lives to fit in with God's revealed plans.

We view the Christmas season as a time of celebration, family oneness, peace, and joy. But the first Christmas did not go that way. It was a huge interruption. Interruptions can come at the best of times and interfere with the best of plans. But how we respond to these unexpected events is vital and can make a world of difference.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?" Rom. 8: 35.

One thing is for sure -- God's love for us is so great that He promised us (His Children) that nothing could interrupt or separate us from His great and perfect love. So, the lesson is: don't judge God's love based on your circumstances. Instead, evaluate your situation from the standpoint of God's perfect and unchanging love.

Ask God to use your situation (whatever it may be) to redirect your life in a positive, God-glorifying way. This was true of Joseph and Mary. Their plans were interrupted, but what a glorious interruption! The direction their future took was not what they had planned, but it was far better than they could have ever imagined.

A blessed Christmas and New Year!



Jonathan James
Executive President



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Asia Evangelistic Fellowship International is an indigenous, interdenominational mission founded in 1960 by the late Dr. G.D. James.

AEF identifies, trains, and commissions national workers to carry out pioneer mission work in their own Asian countries. These national workers are organized, supervised and supported by national boards set up in each country under the pastoral care of the AEF International Office.

Executive President: Dr Jonathan James

International East Asia Director: Dr Met Castillo

International South Asia Director: Rev Edwin Ponniah

International Training Director/Australia: Pastor Matt Hall

Chairman of the Board: Dr Ray Dallin

Typhoon Damage!

Typhoon damage and flooding has caused many problems in the Philippines recently, including fatalities. Loss of income for Pastors and disruption to training schedules due to pandemic restrictions have brought many challenges to the AEF Philippines ministry. However, God has encouraged Dr. Met (below) and his team with the kindness of others and regular meetings to connect with online Bible studies. Praise God for His sustaining grace.



Isaiah 43:5-7, 19

5 Do not be afraid, for I am with you;
I will bring your children from the east
and gather you from the west.

6 I will say to the north, "Give them up!"
and to the south, "Do not hold them
back."

Bring my sons from afar and my
daughters from the ends of the earth –

7 everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

19 See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

Rethinking, Reforming and Renewal

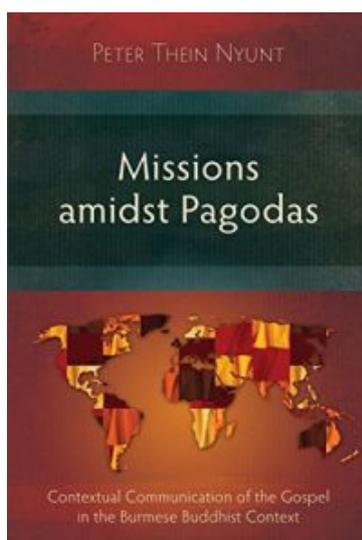


The forthcoming title of a new book project initiated by AEFI explores **contextual Christianity in Myanmar**. Dr. Peter Thein Nyunt (above) is heading up this project. He is a Langham published author and is a former monk of the national religion. Peter is one of the founders of a mission outreach doing a new thing by contextually sharing Christ with those he was once part of in Rakhine. Dr Thein Nyunt holds a PhD in missiology.



Myanmar Temple

The book contains eight chapters from 7 different writers with the preface written by AEFI's Executive President, Dr. Jonathan James. The book covers the following contextual mission areas - **apologetics, leadership, church planting, discipleship, pastoral ministry, and contextual communication**. We hope that it will become an important resource for bible colleges, seminaries, churches, and mission organisations.



The book draws together a multi-tribal/ethnic group of writers. This perhaps has never been attempted in Myanmar where Christians stick to their own tribes and ethnic groups. We give thanks to God for enabling this new venture. For copies of Dr. Thein Nyunt's first book *Missions amidst Pagodas* (\$15) please contact the AEFI Head Office.

Dr. Thein Nyunt's 1st book https://langhamliterature.org/author-bio?author_id=5930

1 Thessalonians 2:4

God was pleased to trust us with his message.
We didn't speak to please people,
but to please God who knows our motives.

Training Asians to reach Asia for Christ



We pray that Dr. Pracha and ACOM Thailand will be supported by an excellent board. Pray for strong and deep growth as this valuable ministry is developed. Pray that lay leaders will be enabled to share the word of God with their people in the villages and towns of northeast Thailand.

The aim of the **Asia College of Ministry (ACOM)** program is to provide students with the knowledge, personal development, and skills necessary to prepare and support them adequately for a successful vocation in Christian ministry.

The program aims at producing practitioners. Many subjects contain a “practicum” assessment component; others require students to lead seminars and present short talks. As well as demonstrating classroom competency skills, all students will be involved in ‘real-life’, hands-on ministry under competent supervision.

At present there are five nations that deliver ACOM training – **China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Nepal.**

It is our privilege to report that God has enabled AEFI to open a new ACOM ministry in Thailand. Prof. Dr. Pracha Thaiwatcharamas (right) will be the **ACOM Thailand** Director officially appointed by the AEFI board in November 2020. Dr. Pracha brings with him a wealth of experience and training in theological and seminary education and Christian leadership. He has a heart to equip lay leaders with little or no Biblical and Theological training to be prepared for ministry. We believe that the ACOM structure and curriculum will suit this purpose well.



We give thanks for Dr. Alan Meers (above) who developed ACOM. By writing and coordinating the ACOM curriculum and training materials still used today. He helped to realise part of the vision of our founder GD James to **train Asians to reach Asia for Christ.** We praise God for Dr. Alan's faithful service of administration, teaching, and pastoral support for over a decade.





Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Dear beloved friend of the Good News,

Wash your hands, keep your distance, and in some places, wear a face mask. We have been told countless times what we can do. That we can make a difference. That we can save lives. These instructions are all good and true. But if this becomes the pattern of our lives it can become a burden. The pressure of having to perform to please.

In some cultures, and faiths, pleasing is the pattern of performance. But what if you fail? What if a family member, or a god, is not pleased with your performance? What is the response? Shame? Thankfully, Isaiah the prophet promises that the emphasis rests not on to us but on a child is born. The people's shoulders are delivered when upon his shoulder; when He accepts the burden of rule.

There are many places in Asia where AEFI's missionaries, evangelists, and church planters are ministering and the local people feel the burden of performance. Whether it is serving their gods, or family, or community. The burden of cleansing your life remains the responsibility of the person or the family, or the community. Any divergence from that path leads to shame. This is the same in the age of the pandemic. Although we purify ourselves outwardly, we can't do that inwardly. We need the Holy One whose name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Purification, healing, and salvation is the work of a son who is given to us. Isaiah communicates the simple truth that divine grace, and not human virtue, is finally what counts.

This is Good News to many in Asia. In Nepal those that hear about who Jesus is and what He has done for them respond in faith to the grace of God. Many are being baptised and discipled and given the right to be called the children of God. This is happening in India, in Myanmar, in the Philippines, in Malaysia, in Indonesia. In all of Asia as AEFI nationals share the Gospel with the nations where they serve God.

At Christmas, each of us is included in the wonderful privilege of giving a gift to others. You can bless the AEFI servants who serve God and the Good News with a Christmas gift. I encourage you to give generously and joyfully during this difficult time for many.

May the joy, peace, and presence of Christ be with you and your family during this time.

Matt Hall
Australian Director



MY RESPONSE

Post to: AEFI, PO Box 16, Duncraig East WA 6023, Australia.

or **Fax to:** 08 9243 5104

Name: _____ Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

The AEFI secure web-site - www.aefi.asia - can also be used for making general donations to AEFI.

YES! COUNT ME IN

With God's help **I / we*** would like to be a partner in the Gospel with AEF in the following ways:

Prayer: As a Prayer Partner with AEF. Please send **me / us*** updated prayer information.

Sponsorship: **I / we*** would like to sponsor a child. Please send details.

Financial: Please receive **my / our*** monthly quarterly yearly one-time donation of:

\$ 50 \$ 100 \$ 150 \$ 200 Other (Please specify): \$ _____

Gift: Please use this gift for: **Emmanuel Centre** **Philippines Relief Fund**

Book Project **ACOM Thailand** **Christmas Gift for Workers**

Method: I would like to make **my / our*** payment by:

Cheque (payable to Asia Evangelistic Fellowship) Credit Card Direct Debit

If paying by Credit Card: Type of Card VisaCard MasterCard BankCard

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: ____/____/____

Name on card: _____ Signature: _____

*If paying by Direct Debit tear off. Mail the top section to AEF.
Use the information below for your direct debit.*



Make your direct debit to AEF's Bank Account :

Name of Account: Asia Evangelistic Fellowship
Bank and Branch: Commonwealth Bank of Australia,
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BSB Number: 066-192;
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Reaching Asia Through National Workers