

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF AEF INTERNATIONAL

# HARVEST ASIA

## CELEBRATION OF GOD'S LEADING

***Psalm 111:2 The Lord has done many wonderful things!***

Everyone who is pleased with God's marvelous deeds will keep them in mind.

There is much to give thanks for the Lord's leading and provision this past year. For instance: new graduates through the ACOM program of training pastors and ministry leaders in East and South Asia including ASOM in the Philippines. As well as a new ACOM in Thailand. Some of these graduates go on to serve with AEFI in mission and evangelistic work building contextual openings to live and share the gospel. Many pastors go to serve in remote places such as Kalimantan, Indonesia, and East Java where the pastors are supported by sustainable farming and rearing goats. Church planting initiatives are starting and developing in East and South Asia such as, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, and Thailand. The vision is to see 50 new Christ communities of faith over the next ten years.



The Lord has been very kind and merciful to AEFI. We have seen many people coming to know and trust in Him. New believers are being encouraged and supported in their new faith. Children, young people, families, and older people are cared for and disciplined through ministries such as medical, children, and church planting with AEF Cambodia, outreach to the indigenous people groups in Malaysia (Orang Asli) and the Philippines (Dumagat), culinary training for young people in Nepal, and missionaries in Myanmar, South and North-East India. With all this activity and initiatives AEFI need new supporters and churches to pray, share, and financially support the mission. Please share the work of AEFI to inspire others of what the Lord is doing in Asia.

# A New Birth



Asia Evangelistic Fellowship Inc.,  
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AUSTRALIA

*Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new. God has done it all! He sent Christ to make peace between himself and us, and he has given us the work of making peace between himself and others. 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 (cf. Isaiah 65:17)*

When there is new birth, a new way of living goes with it. This is true in so many stages of life. It is true when a couple have their first baby; a whole new chapter has opened in their lives, and nothing will be the same again. When something new is started there is much change for those who work and those who benefit from the work. When Paul speaks to the Corinthians he is appealing to them to see the world with the new eyes of the gospel. Everything looks different because everything is different. If anyone is in Christ they are a new creation which refers to both the person concerned and to the world which they enter. The message of the gospel invites anyone and everyone to be reconciled ('make peace') to the God who made them, loves them, and has provided the means of reconciliation for them to come back to know and love him in return. And because something new has happened, something new must happen. Those who are receivers become bringers of good news.

*How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!' Isaiah 52:7*

As we enter into the Advent season we wait with expectation of the new birth of the Saviour declaring that nothing will be (or is) the same again. This year for AEFI post-COVID-19 sees travel, in-person ministry, consultation, new mission and new entities all return and come into being. With the legacy of mission and evangelism, church planting and new ways of building sustainable ministries come into their own within the AEFI strategy of Asians reaching Asians with the gospel. As we come to the end of 2023 with the tension of celebration and suffering around the world, and with the expectation of a New Year, may you continue to be an ambassador for the gospel and the work of AEFI. Maybe you will gift someone this Christmas with a gift to one of the AEFI ministries that resonates with you.

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*Asia Evangelistic Fellowship International is an indigenous international mission founded in 1960 by the late Dr. G. D. James. AEFI identifies, trains, and commissions national workers to carry out pioneer mission work in their own Asian countries. These national workers are organised, supervised and supported by national boards setup in each country under the pastoral care of the AEF International Office.*

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***Blessings, Pastor Matt Hall***



*Australian and International  
Training Director*





## Shepherd Leadership: East Asia Leaders' Consultation



*John 21:15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' 'Yes, Lord,' he said, 'you know that I love you.'*

*Jesus said, 'Feed my lambs.'*

*16 Again Jesus said, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He answered, 'Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.'*

*Jesus said, 'Take care of my sheep.'*

*17 The third time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' He said, 'Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.'*

*Jesus said, 'Feed my sheep.'*

In keeping with the shepherd's role as leader and protector, the third East Asia Consultation (Siem Reap, Cambodia 30 Oct-04 Nov) was a rich time of teaching, national ministry reporting and case studies. The mission work of East Asia in Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand was reflected upon for learning and prayer. The teaching was rooted in the care and compassion of the divine shepherd and the dependence of leaders on Him to meet all their needs.

This vital gathering of East Asia leaders has been long anticipated. The Cambodian hosts thoroughly prepared a full program that included opportunities for informal meetings to share with one another. Making connection through teaching, prayer, and worship, and outlining the unique national ministries, was refreshing, and edifying. Fellow leaders were able to hear of the struggles and joys of their ministries. Such as the isolated pastors in the field for the long-term. They are the least expensive and most relevant to their contexts because they live alongside local people weaving the gospel into everyday life.





# EAST ASIA LEADERS' CONSULTATION CONTINUED



Case Studies included Asia College of Ministry (bottom right), Medical/Feeding ministry of Cambodia, Asia School of Ministry in the Philippines (above), Ministry in Restricted Nations, and Sustainable Ministries.

AEF Myanmar shared a moving update on the political and ethical challenges of ministry and mission work (below). New entities and inductees were commissioned and welcomed. Reports of growth and new initiatives in Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand empowered all. The hosts, Cambodia, shared their variety of ministries that included the medical/feeding, children's and youth, orphanage, music, education, church planting, leaders' development, and sustainable mission work.



## CAMBODIAN YOUNG PEOPLE SHARING MUSIC MINISTRY



The East Asia Consultation was a great encouragement for: remote pastors who struggle for financial support, church planters armed with the gospel tirelessly working to forge a new Christ community, and trainers serving to enhance pastoral health to accelerate church health and sustain future leadership. Opportunities to partner with some of these ministries are found in the inserts.



Christmas, 2023

Beloved friend in the Gospel,

### **Jesus the hope of the nations**

For millions of people, the Christmas season means nothing more than presents, parties and holidays. For believers, however, this time of the year reminds us clearly that Jesus came to this world 2000 years ago to usher in endless hope for people facing a hopeless end.

During the year, the national missionaries of AEFI have faithfully carried this message of hope to thousands of people in 11 countries in Asia and beyond. We praise God for some 1,350 people from all walks of life who came to a saving faith in the last financial year.

In Yangon, Myanmar (Burma), 2 HIV-AIDS patients found the hope of eternal life in Christ last July. In South Asia, Sis. P and Bro M found a hope in God through Christ, coming out of a traditional background. In the foothills of the Himalayas, a Shaman Priest realised for the first time, through a series of miraculous encounters, that Christ rose from the dead and is alive forevermore.

Two exciting and strategic events took place this year which, I believe will sharpen our leaders and increase the harvest of souls. In March, our South Asian Leaders met in Northeast India, and in October, I had the joy of meeting the AEFI East Asia leaders in Cambodia. Both consultations were filled with a buoyant confidence in the hope of the Gospel as the world is tossed into hopelessness and despair.

It is fitting at Christmas time, that we renew our hope in the Gospel of our Lord and Savior. Let us also, as the Lord leads us, give a generous Christmas gift to His servants in these 11 countries. As the Word says, let us “do good to all men especially those of the household of faith” - those who have put their lives on the line, during the year, to carry the message of hope to a dying world (Galatians 6:10).

I look forward to hearing from you and receiving your gift that will multiply and bring endless hope.

Wishing you a Christ filled Christmas in 2023.



**Jonathan James**  
Executive President

## **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](http://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 AEFI in the following ways:

☐ **Prayer:** As a Prayer Partner with AEFI. 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: ☐ **AEFI Christmas Appeal** ☐ **AEF Myanmar** ☐ **ADMI**

**(Philippines)** ☐ **AEF India Sponsor a Missionary** ☐ Other (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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BSB Number: 066-192;  
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*Reaching Asia through National Workers*