

Billy & Jeanne Campbell – News Update JULY 2010



Greetings everyone. The Monsoon season has arrived with very heavy rain this past week. The months ahead will be challenging, no doubt; even the cows and monkeys we sometimes see here in the country park are looking somewhat bedraggled!

At the end of May, Jeanne was in Myanmar with additional necessary resources for the building of a Bible College. It was a successful journey and there is further information below after Billy's recent visit. From Myanmar, Jeanne travelled to Cambodia and met up with a group from our local church in Hong Kong. They were on a mission visit to the *Hope House Education and Skills Training Centres*, Kompong Speu. There were six adults in the group and one of the mum's took her two children, Nicole and Yves. The group taught and sang choruses and led simple English lessons. Nicole and Yves taught the children how to use a toothbrush and clean their teeth, and how to pronounce different English words. In Phnom Penh they had opportunity to visit with other missionaries and see some of the work they were doing. There was time for just a little sightseeing! Their testimonies and reports of the visit highlighted the lasting impressions from the visit and the thrill each one experienced from sharing and learning from the students and others they met on the journey.

Billy's recent Myanmar mission visit went well; it was also a wonderful experience for a member of our local church - a Cathay Pacific pilot - who travelled with Billy. Phil's report to our local church congregation was a great example of the difference a mission trip can make to a person's life - what he shared was a real inspiration to one and all. The new Bible College is nearing completion. It is a solid two-storey building with very adequate facilities for the training and equipping of church planters and church leaders. Graduates from the Bible College are sent to several northern states in Myanmar to serve among their respective tribal peoples. Billy conducted his classes in the new college. Some students were still arriving and it is expected that almost 50 students will register for the new study year.

Sadly, the political situation in Myanmar remains a real challenge to the local population; but the people in general remain resilient, and in spite of the many difficulties the Lord's people seek to remain true to the Master. Billy was thrilled that the students have a clear sense of direction, and with great determination and steadfastness they faithfully study and train to be equipped for the task of spreading the gospel among their own people - even in the most remote regions. The senior students are being equipped for the work of *strengthening the churches*, as they will be commissioned to faithfully teach the Word of God *to others also*. **2 Timothy 2:2**

Recently, both of us met with a Chin pastor who has completed his M.Th studies in a local Hong Kong Bible Seminary. *Stephen* has now returned to Myanmar to serve under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church in that country; he anticipates a teaching position in their seminary in Kalaymyo. His family home, and local church base, is 800 kilometres north of Kalaymyo among the Chin people in a region close to the border with India. Mizoram is not too far away. It is humbling to get to know, and associate with, qualified local church leaders - such as *Stephen* - who are serving among their own people in evangelism and teaching ministries. This is how God is building His church around the world, and we are privileged to have a part to play in such an exciting work.

In early July we will begin our summer holidays, spending time with Kathleen, Andy and the grandchildren (*Pierce* and *Lizzie*) in Albuquerque, New Mexico. *Caroline* is also scheduling some time to join us there; this is the only way we can handle the challenge of family get-togethers when we are scattered on THREE continents! **July 26-30th** is VBS week at our local Clearwater Bay church. A team from the USA will join our youth leaders and volunteers to present a special programme for children and teenagers. We expect about 100 participants, and anticipate an exciting week of activities and a wonderful opportunity to share the gospel with those who attend. Please include this week in your prayers.

Thank you for praying for us and for your encouragement as you partner with us in God's service in Asia.

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