



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Front Row L.to R. Julia with graduates (Wanwisa, Raththagana, Sirikan, Kannika) of six-week Intensive English training course receive certificates of completion. Back Row: Leon and Gloria Sexton.¹

4 December 2015

Dear Friends and Fellow Laborers,

At Legacy Foundation Leadership Training Center here in Chiang Mai, we just completed a very special project. Four young ladies were sent by the Royal Palace to participate in an intensive English training program for six weeks. All four work at Queen Sirikit's SUPPORT Foundation museum displaying the "Arts of the Kingdom." This museum is housed in the royal Ananta Samakom Throne Hall, part of the royal complex in Bangkok. They have already graduated with degrees from Kasetsart University in Bangkok and have had some English training. The intensive English language curriculum was designed by our volunteer teacher Julia Stewart, who also taught the classes. Julia herself took part in an intensive crash course and received a TESOL (teach English to speakers of other languages) certificate from Cornerstone University. The young ladies not only had classroom instruction, but participated in real life experience as well by going out into the public and practicing English with Western tourists. They also took part in other classes taught at Legacy (Advanced English, Public Speaking, Sports, and even Sabbath services). The aim was to boost their conversational skills as well as their confidence.

¹ Photo by Casandra "Cassie" McQuoid

Improving their English will help them better serve foreign visitors to the queen's museum. Now the palace wants to send more young people to attend our intensive English training course at Legacy Foundation.



King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand²

It is important that we help the king and queen when possible. When we need assistance, they are always there to help us. They both stay in the hospital under 24 hour doctor's care. The king turns 88 this month and is in poor health. Both monarchs seldom go out now and it is up to other royal family members to carry out royal duties in their place. Please pray for them both. They have been very kind and helpful to us. Thailand is a constitutional monarchy, but the king and queen play a significant role in maintaining peace and order in the kingdom, as Thai politics can be very volatile at times.

2015-2016 LEGACY GRADUATION

Our school year is soon ending and we will hold our ninth graduation for four students on the seventh of February. Each of these students have completed three years and will receive a diploma in liberal arts. Graduates are: Stellin Shwe, HtooMya Shwe, Kay Oo, and Htoo Gay. Moe Palel, who graduated last year (2014-2015) will also participate in the graduation ceremony which he was unable to attend last year. They have worked hard and deserve the credit for finishing their education.

All of our graduates this year are from Myanmar (Burma). Unfortunately, it is getting harder and harder to obtain visas for Burmese students to bring them to Legacy for their education. It is apparent that the Thai government is increasing restrictions to limit the number of Myanmar nationals able to work and study in Thailand. This is making it much more difficult and, frankly, more costly to bring young people from Burma to study at Legacy in Thailand.

But Burma is where the Holy Spirit is active. More and more are coming to repentance. We need to train young men and women to lead the Church there. Where there is no shepherd to lead, feed, and protect the sheep of the Lord's pasture, the sheep go astray or wolves come in to pick them off. Our job at Legacy is to teach leaders who can lead in the church congregations back home in Burma. It is difficult for Western volunteer teachers to stay long term because Burma only allows 28-day visas for Westerners and God has not opened any doors for long-term visits.

²https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bhumibol_Adulyadej#/media/File:Rama_IX_of_Thailand_and_Barack_Obama.jpg (2012)

Our COG fellowship is not as active in Thailand. Maybe the fact that the Holy Spirit is leading us to make inroads into Burma is why “The Enemy” is so bent on stopping us. There are so many roadblocks that are thrown in our way. Now more restrictive immigration regulations have to be dealt with. It is a constant battle.

It reminds me of the scripture describing the enemy we face daily:

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. (Ephesians 6:12)

Burma is a land of idols, witchcraft, superstition, shamanism, demonic forces, and ignorance. It is a land of darkness. We are bringing in the light. Satan must hate what we are doing. The weapons of our warfare are these:

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints. . . (Ephesians 6:13-18)

Please pray for the new saints in Burma. And please pray that God provides a way to get young people among them to Thailand to be educated at Legacy, so that they can return to provide the church with leadership at home. We rely on God to strengthen us and show us the way.

NEED VOLUNTEER TEACHERS

Our next school year begins in July, 2016. We need volunteer teachers to serve in Thailand for one academic year. Selected volunteers will teach various subjects to students from Thailand and Burma with ages ranging from 18-25. Our students study for three years. Classes include: Bible, Computer, English, Health and Hygiene, Leadership Training, Music, Organic Gardening, Public Speaking, Sports and other subjects.

Because personal example is so important, volunteers are required to be from a Sabbatarian background and have three letters of recommendation, one being from their local pastor. Volunteers must be ready to chip in where help is needed. You will be expected to wear several hats. Do not expect Legacy to be like a “normal” American or Canadian college or university. It is not. Volunteers must learn quickly to live and teach effectively in an alien culture and environment with young students who do not speak English as their first language. Some may speak little or no English at all.

Challenging? You bet! Serving at Legacy will change you forever. Ask anyone who has served here.

Interested parties can find applications on our website: <http://legacyinstitute.org/wordpress/outreach-projects/international-leadership-training-center/> or e-mail us at: mail@legacyinstitute.org.

In Jesus' Name,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Leon Sexton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

T. Leon Sexton

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