



Praise & Prayer Items

- Praise for God's provision for 4 new workers to start service recently
- Praise for thousands who heard the gospel during the Billy Graham 'MY HOPE for Thailand' Christmas outreach. An estimated 6,000 people made 'decisions'! Pray for spiritual growth.
- Pray for prayer and financial support for our Appointees
- Pray for more people to apply.
- Pray for the person of God's choice to serve as Director of Administration & Finance for OMF Canada.
- Pray for "Jesus to the Nations" in Halifax, March 26-28
- Pray for National Home Staff Mobilization Conference in Toronto, April 25-May 1

"Grace is Christianity's best gift to the world, a spiritual nova in our midst exerting a force stronger than vengeance, stronger than racism, stronger than hate."

- Philip Yancey in *What's so Amazing about Grace?* Zondervan, 1997

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Dear Friends,

Early last month I had the pleasure of making phone calls to say farewell to two Appointees headed off to the February Orientation Course in Singapore. That brings us to a total of four Appointees who have started service since the beginning of 2010. My role as Candidate Coordinator gives me the privilege of walking closely with new workers as they prepare to serve with OMF. In some cases the journey stretches out for quite a time, but again and again I witness God's faithfulness in providing all that is needed for people to move forward in obedience to His call in His perfect time. This OC is a bit special to me as well because it marks 24 years since I attended a February OC back in 1986, en route to Thailand for the first time. Sometimes it seems like just yesterday! At other times I am conscious of all the challenges and changes I have experienced along the way since then. Throughout it all God has poured out His grace and loving kindness on me and I am confident that He will do the same for these new workers as they face the challenges and changes ahead. What a great God we serve!

Where are the 90?

We continue to pray for 90 new workers, as part of OMF's call for prayer for 900 new workers in a five year period following International Council in September 2006. To date OMF Canada has sent out 22 Members, 11 Associates and 4 Affiliates for a total of 37. In addition, we have just accepted a couple who are headed to Japan, giving us a total of 11 Appointees. Praise the Lord for five new applicants in the pipeline. We hope to have a full house at our next Candidate Course scheduled for July 2-11!

The latest statistics from IHQ show that the Lord has sent the Fellowship 449 new workers so far in this five year period. Praise the Lord for the growth and energy they have given to the various Fields. We are not playing a numbers game and I assure you the figure of 900 was not drawn out of a hat! A survey of the Fields showed that we need at least that many to push forward with the urgent evangelization of East Asia's peoples. The doors are wide open and in many places the fields are ripe for harvest, but where are the workers? Please continue to pray with us that the Lord of the Harvest will indeed send out more workers.

A Matter of Trust

Many people in Asia trust in amulets to bring them good luck or to protect them from harm. One OMFer in Thailand recently wrote: "Ning, a lady who runs an evening restaurant next door to us, has just bought a solid jade bangle worth a lot of money. I was a bit confused that they would spend so much on jewellery when they are struggling to make ends meet. As I admired the bracelet, Ning said 'Isn't this wonderful? Just by wearing this bracelet our sales in the restaurant will double because the jade brings us good luck.'"

Some Thai people view the cross as a type of Christian amulet! Because of that, I decided to stop wearing a cross necklace when I lived in Thailand. The cross is not a good luck charm! It is the symbol of the sacrifice Christ made to redeem sinners. Another OMFer also recently wrote: "A 78-year-old man came to Christ a year ago. He has been reading the Scripture more than anyone else among the Christians in his area. As a result, he finally decided to get rid of his amulet. Although this amulet has a value of several hundred thousand baht, this man expressed no regret as he got rid of it after a recent church service. He now clearly understands that Jesus is the greatest thing in his life. And he has experienced the power of the Word to change a life!"

Pray that God will open the minds of more and more Thai people to understand their need to trust in Christ. Only He has the power to save them and to give them hope in this life and the next.

- Stories taken from www.omf.org

God bless,
Nancy