

A Path Forward

November 2011

Greetings,

“A Path Forward” was the title of a presentation I gave to our missionaries on my recent assignment in Thailand. After several days of meeting and listening to their many questions, my role was to synthesize all of the information to provide clarity in a framework for church planting in their many different contexts. When I graduated in System Design Engineering back in 1987, I had no idea that these skills would one day be used to help plant churches amongst the least reached. More miraculous to me is that I even find myself in places like Thailand and Eg*pt to serve in kingdom building. I am humbled as I consider the redemptive & amazing grace of our God and the love from our Saviour.

My October trip was a very similar experience. The impact of the “Arab Spring” saw the response to our satellite TV programs in N.Africa grow by a factor of 10 in one year. Once more, I joined in several days of meetings, listening to reports from our national workers. At the end of the meetings, we launched into a process of designing new systems to support our teams across the region. It was such a privilege to meet and serve these men and women who work so diligently in sharing the gospel.

A personal highlight for me while in Thailand was a pizza party. Sound strange? This was no ordinary pizza party - it was held at the Abundant Life Home (ALH), an orphanage for children with HIV Aids. (The ALH is part of our Ang Sila church plant where we were also able to celebrate in the baptism of 11 new members!) What filled me with joy at the pizza party was seeing so many smiling faces, and the smiles were not about the pizza. The smiles were about Jesus! Ricky and Karen Sanchez have been church planting in Thailand for over 10 years. Karen shared a story with me about how caring for HIV orphans has impacted the Thai people. They ask, “Why do these Christians love the outcasts of Thai society? And how can these orphans (who many believe are being punished for evil acts in past lives) be filled with such joy?” The answer – Jesus!

The accomplishments of these last two trips were made possible through the incredible support of many people. I want to thank you for your prayers and intercessions for me, my family and MB Mission. Your prayers have protected, provided peace and sustained the work. I am so thankful that we are serving together in ministry. Thank you for being a partner in this ministry call.

As I look at the path forward for MB Mission, I see many exciting new ministry opportunities and I also see growing financial needs. I trust that there will be good fruit from these last two international trips, but just the travel costs were more than \$2,400. As you look at your own path forward, would you consider becoming a monthly financial supporter of MB Mission? Could you contribute \$25, \$50 or \$100 to kingdom building? I invite you to prayerfully consider if MB Mission is a ministry you are being called to support. (For online donations go to <https://secure.mbmission.org/donate/cdn/C0481>.) If you are interested in becoming a monthly supporter you can contact me by email or contact our office for details at 888-866-6267.

During this last season, I have been encouraged by words from Job 32:8 where Elihu says:

But there is a spirit in man and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding.

These words should encourage us all, for the Lord grants us the understanding we need in many different situations. I have experienced this time and time again. We have hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Let's continue to seek out His understanding as we partake in His service.

In Christ,

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