

STICKY RICE MINISTRY

Lao Attached Field Newsletter

March 2015

Miracles in Laos

A series of events so mysterious beyond human explanation just happened during my February-March trip. First miracle: "The Telephone Pastor Does It Again." It is about a man who was confined to his house for 3 months with a mysterious sickness. Despite his efforts in seeking medical and spiritual help he was not able to get up and walk. After our pastor prayed for him he was able to walk to work in his farm the next day. Second miracle: "The Miracle Rock." It is about a car that decided to stop for a reason. The reason was for our pastor to find a lost sheep. The incredible thing about this car is it refused to start no matter what our pastor tried, even with a jump start and new battery. The pastor had to stay overnight at the village nearby and it happened that the house owner was an Adventist who had prayed to find a pastor. Third Miracle: "A House Fire Stopped at A Little Girl's Prayer." It is about a house fire just decided to stop burning at the sound of a little girl's prayer. And many more miracles have happened in Laos during this short period. What to expect next? Surely, the Lord will do bigger miracles for Laos. Let's read on and find out more about the Lord's work in Laos.

A Miracle Pastor



The telephone pastor has done it again. Despite competitions the telephone cost in Laos has not gotten any better. It is still a healthy 700 Kips or 3 Thai Baht or about 8 US cent a minute. This is happening in a country that has one third of the population living under \$1.25 a day and almost two third under \$2 a day (2003 statistics). Although most recent statistics have shown some improvements, rural poverty is still persistent at around 30 percent. With not enough nutrient intake and proper hygiene rural people in Laos are prone to all kinds of sicknesses that stop them from being productive as they cannot go to work. And this plunges them deeper into the black hole of property.

A man, who is the bread winner of the family, fell sick and his legs were so heavy that he couldn't walk. He was confined to his house for three months. He had no money to go to see a doctor. He had tried all sorts of herbal medicines and traditional healers including the famous shaman or spirit doctor in his village. Finally, in his desperation, someone told him about an Adventist pastor who had helped many before. He called Pastor Sadua Lee (pictured above) and asked for help. Pastor Sadua told the man that he is nobody and could not heal him, but his God can if He is willing. So, the man agreed for Pastor Sadua to pray for him. The pastor prayed over the phone for this man.

The next day, the pastor called the man to offer prayer for him again. The man got so excited and told the pastor that he has already got up and went to the farm with his wife! Although his legs are still weak, but he is able to walk now. He praised God and asked the pastor how he could worship this God, called Jesus. He then agreed to stop work on Sabbath to worship God. But, he is in rural area of Luang Prabang. So, he has asked the pastor to help him worship on Sabbath. That means this telephone pastor will have to be on his phone longer each Sabbath. If you would like to support our telephone pastor to do more miracles please let us know. Our plan is to also produce preaching and bible study audio-visual cds and dvds to give out to introduce people to Jesus and strengthen their faith.

"Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people" (Revelation 14:6, ESV)

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Luang Prabang City Church Building

A Miracle Church

It is a miracle church! Why it is a miracle church? It is a miracle church because First, it is a miracle that this house was built with a shape of a church building. Often, houses are built differently, but this one was built as a church building! Second, it is a miracle because it is sold with such a cheap price when everywhere else in Luang Prabang a property like this would be sold for no less than \$200,000. But this one is sold for only \$45,000. Third, it is a miracle that God impressed YOU to give sufficient funds to purchase the property in time. Fourth, it is a miracle that the church is found at such a prominent location near to a university, a college of politics, a police academy, and a high school. Where can we find a place that is surrounded by all significant education institutions? Why it is significant?

Laos is a country with 149 ethnics. The majority of them live in the northern regions of Laos. Luang Prabang is the “capital city” of the northern regions. Its education institutions are catering for 9 other provinces of the northern Laos. It is our mission to carry out the mandate of the three angels’ messages to “every nation and tribe and language and people” (Revelation 14:6, ESV).

It is our planned to set up a center of influence in Luang Prabang. This property is located at a close proximity to several educational institutions. Students at these colleges are from 9 northern provinces of Laos, representing more than two-third of the ethnics of Laos. That represents almost 100 tribes to reach.

Besides, out of 1.5% Christians in Laos, only 1.9% lowland Lao are Christian, and 1.2% Hmong, 10% Khmu, and hardly any other tribes have embraced Christianity. The opportunity is here! If we can reach out to these students while they are studying here in Luang Prabang the gospel message will be carried back with them to their respective provinces. The seeds of the gospel which have germinated in the hearts of these students will then grow into healthy trees of life in their respective provinces. This means the gospel will spread far and wide. There is no better location than this one.

No wonder, we had been searching for property in many places in the last three-and-a half years with no success. It was either we could buy it in time, because someone bought it before we could raise funds or it was too expensive beyond our affordability. But, this one is different. Immediately when I saw it in February I was convinced that the Lord had chosen this place for us. So, we negotiated to buy the property even before you had a chance to donate your money. We are

thankful for your support. You have shared the joy and blessings with us to have this church.

We will use this church for worship right away after renovation. Then, we plan to build an 8 classroom school with a 200 seating capacity assembly hall which will be used for church on Sabbaths. Community center with health focus will also be operated within this building. With these activities we believe that the people of Luang Prabang and 8 other northern provinces will have a very good chance to live healthily, happily, and eternally.

As of 13 March 2015, we have received \$24,200 in cash and \$25,300 in pledged money, which bring the total funds to \$49,500. As you can see we have received more than we originally asked for. Thank you so much for your contributions.

What to do with funds received beyond this point? Immediately after we have resume ownership of the property we will begin renovating the building. We need to take out partitions inside the house to make space for worship place. We will also need to repair the roof, ceiling, toilet, kitchen, and paint internal and external walls.

Don't stop giving to this project. Like I said, we will build a school, multipurpose community hall, teachers' apartments, and so on. After all these are completed, we will have a center of influence in Luang Prabang that will make positive impact in the lives of many tribes, languages, and different peoples of Laos. And when the Lord comes He will say to you, “Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master” (Matthew 25:23, ESV).

Again, we thank you for your sacrifice so that this church property in a World Heritage City of Luang Prabang can be purchased. We will beautify it and make it a presentable house of worship of our Lord Jesus and will make it a center of light for the city and beyond.



The Unfinished Jiangsay Church, Pakse, Champasak, Southern Laos

Another Miracle Church

Why is this one also a miracle church? Why not? Because it is the only church that has received an official building permit from the Champasak Provincial authority. For some of you who are new to this mission field, it is not usual that the authority to approve a Christian Church construction in this country. But, the Jiangsay Church is special, because it has received an official permit to build! Receiving an official permit to build a church in Laos is indeed a miracle.

But, it is ashamed that this church has been standing unfinished like this for three years already. Today, March 9, 2015, I visited this church and we prayed together at the church for the Lord to help us finish His church building as soon as possible, before the rainy season arrives in June.

What significant about this church is that it is the only SDA Church for the Yahern or sometime spelt "Nyaheun" people of Laos. The Yahern people live in Southern Laos, in Champasak, Saravanh, and Attapue provinces. There are around 4,800 Yahern people in Laos. There are no known numbers of them who are Christians. But, there are a few of them who have accepted the Adventist faith. In fact, the late Pastor Khampasong Khammuenlook was the first Yahern lay pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Laos. He and his family had donated this piece of land for church building. Three years ago, together with the late Pastor Khampasong, we started the construction with



the funds we raised together. But, a year later he passed away. Then, a year after his death his wife also passed away. They were survived by 9 daughters. Since then three eldest daughters have married and have more children. All of them are committed members of our church. They have been praying for the church to be completed in honor of God and of their parents who led them to Jesus.

Furthermore, I also met a young girl who also joined this group. What interesting about this young girl was that I was told that she was beaten badly by her father because of her faith in Jesus.

It is the girl in yellow. I did not want to show her face. So, I purposely obscure her. Her faith is remarkable that she would not yield to her father's will,



but to the will of God. After many prayers we heard that her mother protected her from beating and now she is allowed to attend church on Sabbath with others. There are many more young Yahern like this one who will have a chance to worship in this church building once it is finished.

Will you help us finish this miracle church for the Yahern people? These people are very poor. They make brooms for a living. All day, they can earn as little as \$2.00 a day. To finish this church building \$10,000, plus water system \$2,500, toilet facility \$2,500, pastor's house \$6,000, and electricity \$1,000. The total is \$22,000. You can pick which project you would like to help. However, the church building is our priority. If you cannot help please pray that the Lord will impress others to help. Let's us carry the gospel message to all nations, tribes, and languages.

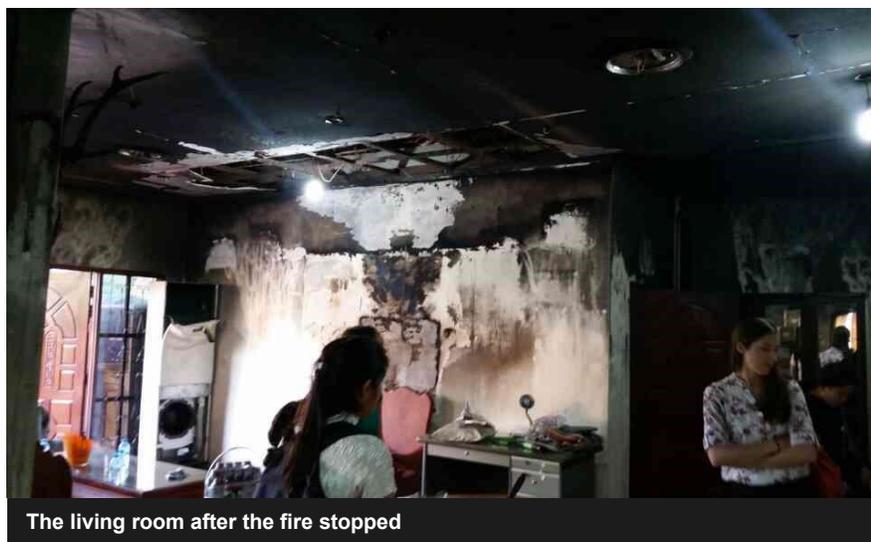


Amy, the Little Girl Who Commanded the Fire to Stop

A Miracle Girl

A prayer of a little girl put out a house fire. It is not usual when a fire started in a house and already burned up to the ceiling would simply stop by itself. But the fire that started at this house after raging through the wooden wardrobe, TV, and went up to the ceiling consuming everything on its path just simply died down at the prayer of this little girl.

Amy is just a new believer. She was just recently baptized. She is just a young girl. But her faith in God is big. When the fire started at her house others ran for their lives out of the house as quick as they could. She knelt down and prayed, "Lord, please save us!." Then, the fire, after "hearing" the prayer of that little girl, decided to obey—stopped burning right in front of her eyes. It is not usual to see the fire obey the command of a little girl. But, in this case, it does.



The living room after the fire stopped

After dinner, the family went to bed. Around 11 they heard something strange and smelt foul odor. They thought that it was a burglary and no one dared to come out of their bedrooms to look. Puna decided to come out and have a look and she saw a flame raging on the TV and wooden cabinet in the living room. The fire was

so strong, no one could come out of their bedrooms. They jumped out through the windows in the back. But, Amy fell on her knees and prayed. "God please save us." At that moment big flower vase fell over on to the fire and the fire died down. Then, the fire that already went up to the ceiling also decided to stop burning too. The other fire already reached the kitchen and garage. Some young men nearby came to help as they could. They tried to break the car window that parked in the garage, but the window did not break. After the fire died down the owner of the car was grateful that the her car's window was not broken, so avoid expensive repair.

Apart from the fire stopped at the prayer of a little girl there was something really strange happened in this house. You see, the mother and her children have embraced Christianity, but the father still has not fully accepted Jesus. He allowed his wife and children to go to church, but he still hanged on to his traditional faith inherited from his ancestors. He kept his idols inside the house at the house shrine. The strange thing was that while other valuable things were not burned, but the fire completely consumed the idols.



The family is happy ever again after

We just had a house dedication for the family. The father gladly joined us in prayer and the whole family was grateful to God for His intervention. Please pray for the young faith of this family as they learn to walk with Jesus.

For your information, their son is now learning to become a 1000 missionary in the Philippines. The family said that they are ready to support him to later study theology at Mountain View College, Philippines if he wishes.



Standing in front of the church building is Thongsouk, a Khmu lay pastor

A Miracle People

It is a miracle that this little group has so many people from unreached tribes of Laos. Currently, we have 11 families of believers in this group. These believers are from five different ethnics of Laos: 2 Tai Nyo families, 4 Phu Thai families, 2 Tai Meuy, families 2 Tai Mene families, and 1 Khmu family. There are 8,000 Tai Nyo people in Laos. None from this tribe has accepted Jesus before. Only two families have recently accepted the Adventist faith. There are 11,000 Tai Mene in Laos, and around 8,000 of them live in Borikhamxay. Very few of them have embraced Christianity, only 0.5% or less than 60 have embraced the Christian faith. There are around 400,000 Phu Thai people living in Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam and Southwest China. Over half or 232,000 live in Laos. Very few of them have embraced Christianity. Although they claim to be Buddhists, but they worship many different spirits, including at least 25 house spirits. I was born and grew up in a Phu Thai village, so I know how many spirits they worship. They have a spirit at every corner of the house. However, they are not as resistant to the gospel message like other tribes.

We need to buy the property above to make it a place of worship for these people. You may wonder why we need to buy and build so many churches in Laos. It is because the Lord's work in Laos has just begun to pick up in speed. Before I arrived in 2011, we had only 4 church buildings in the whole country. Since then, with God's blessings through people like you we have built 7 more church buildings, in the process of securing a church building and land in Luang Prabang, and two more church building in progress. So, thank you for helping us buy a church property in Luang Prabang. Now, there is another opportunity for you to buy another church property in Pakkading, Borikhamxay Province.

Please help us secure this property as soon as possible, before it is taken away by someone else and we will have to mourn for the loss of this property again. To secure this property, house 6x9 m and land 8.5x36 m, only needs \$3,500. Yes, it is not a typo. It is only \$3,500. The problem is our poor mission field has too many expenses and thus even this amount we do not have. We must secure this property first, then we can later develop this place to become a presentable house of worship. Later, we will need to do a water system, toilet facility, and renovation to the internal and external.

Thank you again for all your support to the Lord's work in Laos. By securing this property you will help us reach out to the Tai Nyo, Tai Mene, and Tai Meuy who have never accepted the gospel before.

A Miracle Doctor



Doctor Khamdy, pictured at LAF office

Doctor Khamdy is currently a resident doctor at the Xayaboury Provincial Hospital. He was recently attending LAF bible training, February 24-26, when I met up with him. What is special about this doctor is that when it comes to healing he has such a strong faith in his heavenly Doctor—Doctor Jesus Christ.

Being a medical doctor, but he was powerless to cure his son's disease. His son got mysterious sick when he was working in Bangkok. He was treated in Bangkok but did not get better. So, he took his son home and treated him there in his hospital. But his son's condition did not improve. His fellow medical doctors suggested that he seek treatment for his son in the capital city, Vientiane. He brought his son to Vientiane to do all kinds of investigations he could. At the end, they found nothing wrong with his son physically. The doctors then concluded that his son had some kind of mental breakdown. All these took more than a year. He and his wife spent all the penny they had on their son to no avail.

Finally, they turned to Doctor Jesus Christ. They prayed in their room for Jesus to heal their son. Then, the son came in to their room asking what happened. Why all the sudden he felt in peace. They kept praying. And then the son saw in his vision that the spirit was leaving him saying that he could no longer stay because Jesus laid claim over his life. He belongs to Jesus. Since then their son became normal and the family continue to worship Jesus in their house.

Doctor Khamdy has invited us to go to visit his family in Xayaboury to give them bible study and they would like to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Laos. He is now telling everyone that Doctor Jesus healed his son and that he and his family have accepted Jesus as their Savior.



Pastor Bounprany's Car stalled as It enters a creek

Contact Us

You can write to us or give us a call for more information about our works and other mission projects.

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A Miracle Rock

A miracle rock stopped our president, Pastor Bounprany's, car at Na Ang Village, Luang Prabang. It is just an ordinary creek. Every car could pass with no problem. Nobody's car got struck here before. But, Pastor Bounprany's car decided to stop just as it entered into the creek. It simply stopped. They found a small rock, but it was too small to stop the car. Anyway, they cleared the rock away and tried to restart the car. The car refused to start. Even after getting help from a passing-by car and jumpstarted with their battery still the car refused to start.

It was like the donkey of Balaam who refused to go further because it saw an angel of the Lord. This car must have seen an angel of the Lord standing in front of it in the creek, so it decided to stop. Since it was getting dark, so Pastor Bounprany walked up to the village nearby to seek help. They came to help, but still couldn't get the car to start. So, Pastor Bounprany and the other two young pastors were forced to spend the night there.

They were on a trip to the next village to give out sport equipment to a high school there. They hoped to establish connection in that village, but the Lord had a different agenda. He stopped them at Na Ang Village instead. Forced to stay overnight at Na Ang Village, pastor Bounprany was invited to stay at the village chief's house while the two young men camped at the car.



At the house of the village chief, Pastor Bounprany was asked about why he came to the area. He told the chief that he came to give sport equipment to the next village. The

chief sensed that Pastor Bounprany must be a Christian. So, he told him that he was also a Christian. In fact, he had a Voice of Prophecy correspondence certificate issued by the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Laos.

But, he said that several years ago he went to seek support from a former leader of the church who told him not to come to bother him anymore. So, since then he had joined the other Christians in his village worshipping by themselves. There are around 200 Christians in his village. What is significant about why the car was stopped was that the chief has requested us to come to worship with him as he wants us to preach the Sabbath truth to his people.

We plan to go to visit the chief and his people on Sunday, March 28. Please pray for us that the Lord will grant us wisdom and words to speak and also work in the hearts of the people there that they will embrace the truth of the bible and join God's last day movement.

The next morning, the car just started at the first click of the key. What do you think? Why did God stop the car? Would you like God to stop your car too? Next time, when your car stops it may have a good reason.