

# STICKY RICE MINISTRY

Lao Attached Field Newsletter

Special Edition, November 2016

## Steps to Christ Goes to School in Laos

A few years ago, it would be unthinkable to get permission to print religious books in Laos, let alone distributing them. It is still illegal to distribute Christian books in Laos without permission. However, just recently Lao Attached Field (LAF) received approval from the government to print *Steps to Christ* and *Ministry of Healing* 1500 copies each. After that we were able to share the books within our church circle only. We did not dare give them away to non-Christian people.

Who would have thought that government officials would come and ask for our books to be distributed at public schools? Yes, you and I are not dreaming. Mr Honghern Khunpithat, a writer and editor from the Laos Publishing House, has read and later approved *the Steps to Christ* and *Ministry of Healing* to be printed at the national publishing house. He has been very impressed with the message in the two books. He now believes that it would be good for the students at government schools to read them. He is going to visit 15 schools in Savannakhet Province. So, he came to ask if we would give him those two books to be distributed to students at those schools.

On 23 November 2016, Mr Honghern Khounpithak and his team came to visit our LAF office to ask for books, that he once gave permission to be printed, to be given to students in the province of Savannakhet. Pastor Saisavanh Phouliphan gladly presented 200 copies of *Steps to Christ* and 100 copies of *Ministry of Healing* to Mr Honghern and his team.

One copy of *Steps to Christ* costs 20,000 kips (\$2.5) and *Ministry of Healing* 50,000 kips (\$6.25). LAF does not have money to pay for these books to be given away.

*“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”*

*- Romans 10:14, 15, ESV*



Mr Honghern Khounpithak and his team receiving *Steps to Christ* and *Ministry of Healing*

### In This Issue

- Steps to Christ Goes to School
- GC President Urges Reading and Sharing of Steps to Christ
- Steps to Christ Goes to Hospital



Steps to Christ and Ministry of Healing in Lao language

But, by faith we could not resist God's lead. Since God inspired a non-believer to distribute His books for us we believe that God will also pay for the books that will be given out. And more, I believe that, in the future, God will put more of these books in the hands of many young Lao students. Soon, thousands of Lao students will learn to know the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. Pastor Saisavanh did ask Mr Honghern, "Do you know that our books are Christian books? Are you sure you still want to take them and give them away to your students?" Do you know what he said? He said, "It is very good to let students know the truth. Knowing many things is a good way to learn."

So, my brothers and sisters, this is an opportunity for you to get involved. I propose to you that if you would like to sponsor *Steps to Christ* or *Ministry of Healing* books to be given out in Laos now is the time. We will also need to print more of them. Mr Honghern will only give out 300 copies to 15 schools he is going to visit. This is certainly not enough for everyone. He certainly needs more to give out. You could sponsor 10 copies of *Steps to Christ* for just \$25 or 100 copies for \$250.

Mr Honghern is currently proofreading more of our books. *Christ's Object Lessons* and the *Story of Redemption* are in line for the next printing. Please pray for the approval of these books and the funds to print them. Already the proofreaders have expressed their positive comments about the books. Officials at the National publishing house and Ministry of Health have requested personal copies of our books which Pastor Saisavanh gladly provided them as gifts.

Certainly something strange is happening here in Laos. We would never dream of getting our books approved and printed by the National Publishing House, but *Steps to Christ* and *Ministry of Healing* were already printed. Not only were they printed, but the officials who were involved in proofreading them saw the values in the books and requesting them to be given to Lao students to read. More E.G. White's books are being translated by our team of translators. Soon more books will be printed and media devices will be produced for those who cannot read. It is an exciting time to live and work in Laos. Soon the gospel will be preached throughout the country.

If you would like to be part of the last days movement and help take the gospel message to the Lao people please let us know. And if you would just like to sponsor books, media devices, or other evangelistic materials to be given out please feel free to contact us. Surely the Lord is leading us in reaching out to the unreached people of Laos. Thank you for praying and supporting us with your prayers and donations.<sup>2</sup>

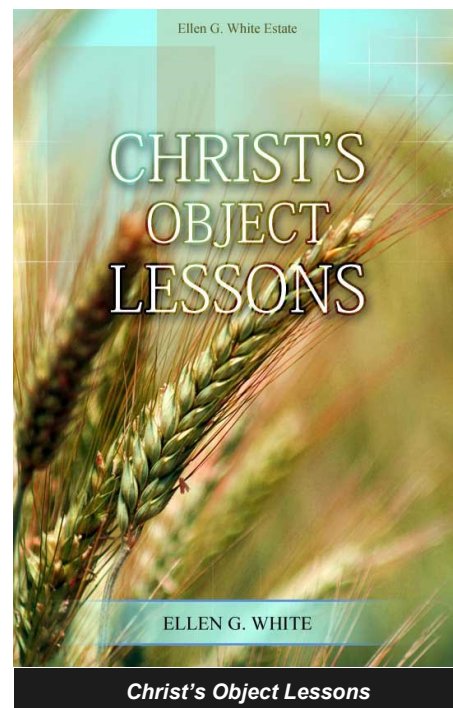
## Christ's Object Lessons in Lao

*Christ's Object Lessons* has been translated into Lao language. It is now being proofread by the Laos National Publishing House editors. Once approved it will go into print at the Laos National Publishing House. We expect to print 1,500 copies first.

Currently, there are 1,300 Adventists in Laos. We hope to put each copy in the hands of all members who are able to read. For those who cannot read we will put audio reading into media devices for them to listen to. This is our effort to strengthen the spirituality of our people in Laos.

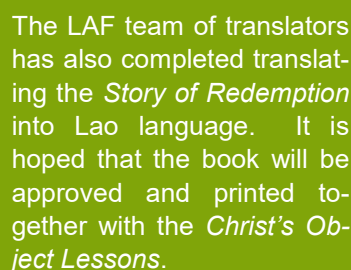
It can also be used as an evangelistic tool. Like *Steps to Christ* and *Ministry of Healing*, *Christ's Object Lessons* is a book that is full of inspirational and spiritual gourmet for all readers.

Please pray for this book to be approved and printed real soon. Also pray for the funds to pay for the printing cost of this book as well.





*The Story of Redemption* is another book that is being proofread by the Laos National Publishing House editors.



We are cautiously optimistic that the books will be approved and printed. Good comments have come from the team of Laos National Publishing House editors. However, we need your prayers for the Lord to work in the hearts of the proof-readers that they will not only appreciate the message in the books but also accept it and practice it.

Thank you all for your prayers and support towards our literature ministry in Laos.



No doubt the Lord Jesus must have been behind our GC president when he called for the reading and sharing of the *Steps to Christ*

**SPIRITLY SAVING, MID—**On the final day of the 2013 General Conference Annual Council last October 13, Elder Ted Wilson challenged church leaders to first read *Steps to Christ*.

In commemoration of the 129th year of the book's publication in 2017, attendees at the Council received a "Read Before You Lead" pledge card.


The card's pledge reads thus:

I accept the "Read Before You Lead" challenge to personally and frequently read *Steps to Christ* during the month of December 2016, and with God's help I pledge both by word and example to encourage others to do the same in 2017.

Elder Wilson sent his appeal to pastors, church workers, and lay members.

"I invite you, whether you have ever read this book before or not, to join in its reading this powerful little book. . . I assure you it is the blessed" he says on its official Facebook account.

Defined as an "old-time classic," *Steps to Christ* has been translated to more than 165 languages



book. The same reason why the Lord called on Mr. Hognern, a non-Christian, to take the books to give out to young Lao students to read. Just imagine if thousands more of young Lao students are reading spiritual books like these. Would it be nice to place many more books in the hands of more young Lao students? Will it be possible? Yes, it is possible. Why not?

Now, the only hurdle is not about government restriction or nobody to give them out. In fact, Mr Honghern asked for more books from us, but we were not able to give him more. We need sponsors to pay for the books! We also need sponsors to print more books.

The opportunity is here and now. Before, we used to complain about restrictions and no permission to print the books. Books printed from outside Laos cannot be distributed legally in Laos. Indeed, our pastors used to be imprisoned for bringing in bibles from outside. Now, that era has gone. We can now legally print books in Laos with permission. All our books have government seals of approval and thus can legally be distributed in Laos. What more, a renowned national writer and editor himself is happy to help us distribute them.

Please pray that the Lord of silver and gold (Haggai 2:8) will provide funds for the printing and sharing of His books. And if you would like to invest in God's business to put these books in the hands of the people of Laos or sponsor other the

### Elder Wilson encourages reading and sharing of *Steps to Christ*

**SILVER SPRING, MD**—On the final day of the 2016 General Conference Annual Council last October 13, Elder Ted N.C. Wilson challenged church leaders to first read *Steps to Christ*.

In commemoration of the 125<sup>th</sup> year of the book's publication in 2017, attendees to the Council received a "Read Before You Lead" pledge card.

The card's pledge reads thus:

I accept the "Read Before You Lead" challenge to proactively and thoughtfully read *Steps to Christ* during the month of December 2016, and with God's help I pledge both by word and example to encourage others to do the same in 2017."

Elder Wilson sent his appeal to pastors, church workers, and lay members.

"I invite you, whether you have ever read this book before or not, to join us in reading this powerful little book... I know you'll be blessed!" he says on his official Facebook account.

Dubbed as an "anti-stress classic," *Steps to Christ*



This book points to Jesus as our Savior, Friend, and Comforter. Church leaders believe this particular Ellen White book can help counter the notion that Adventists are members of a cult, a popular belief among evangelists.

## Official letter requesting Steps to Christ and Ministry of Healing

[illegible]

ດັ່ງນີ້ ຈຶ່ງຂະໜີຂັດວາງລ່ວງເລີກບັງຄັບ ເພື່ອພິຈາລະນາ ປະກອບສ່ວນນີ້ ລ່ວງໄປໃຫ້ລາງ  
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ດ້ວຍຄວາມນັບຖືຢ່າງສູງ  
ປະຊາກອນສະມາຄົມນັກປະຕິບັດ  


books just let us know. We will tell you how you can donate.





## Steps to Christ Goes to Hospital

No, *Steps to Christ* is not sick. The reason *Steps to Christ* and *Ministry of Healing* go to hospital is to save people. All people who come to hospital come for healing. Unfortunately, not all of them are healed and able to return home. Some would never see the sun again nor step out of the hospital. *Steps to Christ* and *Ministry of Healing* give them hope beyond physical healing.

LAF team of pastors and lay members form up hospital visitation groups. They would go to hospitals to seek out who need their prayers. It was found that although people don't know about the Christian God, but hardly anyone would refused being prayed for by our teams.



This boy was in agony when our team visited him at the hospital. His body was burned and he was certainly in a lot of pain. We offered to pray for him which he gladly accepted. The next day we went back we saw him with a beaming smile. He proudly told everyone in the room that our God took away his pain and that his wounds dried up overnight. We offered to pray for him again and gave him and his parents *Steps to Christ* and *Ministry of Healing* to read. Then, everybody in the room wanted us to pray for them.

Everybody smiled at our team and welcomed us at the hospital.



Whenever people promised to read our books we would give them and pray with them asking God to heal their sickness and also bring spiritual healing to them.

Just a few years ago, we did not even have a complete bible in Lao language, let alone other spiritual literature. Now we have not only a complete bible in Lao, but also *Steps to Christ* and *Ministry of Healing*. Soon, we will have *Christ's Object Lessons* and *Story of Redemption*. Later, we will have the *Desire of Ages*, *Great Controversy*, and other good books.

All of these books need to be edited by editors at the National Publishing House and approved before going to print. Please pray for us and more books to be printed. Please also consider to sponsor our books so that they can go to schools, hospitals, offices, shops, and houses of the Lao people.