



February 2016 News

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Look for us:



Promise Keeper

“O Israel, stay away from idols! I am the one who answers your prayers and cares for you. I am like a tree that is always green; all your fruit comes from me.” Hosea 14:8 NLT

There is a deep and abiding wisdom that resides in the Person of Jesus Christ. All of creation vibrates with the knowledge that a Living God spoke, and the universe came into being. There is no time outside of His gaze. There are no secrets hidden from His knowing. There are no places where we can run from His deep and crazy love for us.

He is at once everywhere, and in everything. It is in Jesus that we all live, and move, and have our being. He is our source of all things we need. The fruit of His Holy Spirit all the equipment we need to live a happy and peaceful life. The power gifts of that same Spirit all the weapons we need to bring His light and life to the darkest places in this fallen world.

From the beginning, He longed to be our source. Our only source. He cried out from the first for us not to look to another for our help. (Which brings the slavery of idolatry) Or to ourselves, (Which brings the deception of human pride, leading to fear and despair). He is the Source of all hope, all that is right and good, all wisdom. He is the Fountain that does not run dry, not even in the driest season, or the loneliest wilderness.

He is the Promise Keeper. The One who does not abandon. Whose

answer is not slow as some suppose, but timed to bring the greatest benefit to those who wait in expectant hope. The book of Jeremiah tells us that His eyes travel throughout the entire earth, searching for those whose hearts are completely His, to show Himself strong on their behalf. Wow. What kind of a God is this?

In this season of divine delays I have become even more sensitive to His leading and guidance. I have experienced His uplifting power when my strength was all but dry. I have ‘heard’ Him whisper His promise to me, ‘Debbie, I am going to take SUCH good care of you.’

We are blessed in our trials the Word of God says. For it is in the testing times that we can reach out and access the greater things, the deeper things. His promises, far from being empty, become meaningful and life giving.

His Word, living and active, becomes alive to us, afresh and anew. He is the ultimate Promise Keeper.

Let us lean in and receive, fresh and new, all He is longing to pour into us.



DEBBIE ECKER
 Vice President
 Firstlight International

Pioneer Church Planting in Myanmar

The tribal peoples of northern Myanmar have been in spiritual darkness long enough.

Therefore, the Frontier Harvest Ministries, and Firstlight International partnership is going to make a difference in bringing the light of the gospel to the northern Pulang tribe of Myanmar.

There are one million Pulang people in Myanmar today yet without a church, and but a handful of Christians to do the work.

Beginning this month (February 2016) we are going to spearhead an event that is going to change the course of history for the Pulang people. We are going to pull down

the spirits of darkness over the Pulang by sending 50 Christian foot soldiers into ten major Pulang districts to preach the gospel, and hand out Christian literature.

These 50 Christians will be a mosaic mix of people. There will be Lisu, Zomi, Burmese, and Chinese Christians joining forces to push back the enemies territory. They will all go out equipped to preach the gospel and invite new believers and those who are interested back to our training base for follow up.

After this our ten full-time workers in northern Myanmar will continue to visit the new believers, and develop a network of churches in all 10 districts. We are believing for

a tidal wave of souls, and networks of multiplying churches to emerge from this send out and follow up work that will take place after.

Please join with us by agreeing in prayer that God's kingdom will come, and God's will be done among the Pulang people of Northern Myanmar.

Outreach Dates: February 1-5

PRAY!



CHUCK LENHART
President
Frontier Harvest Ministries
Board Member
Firstlight International

Declaring His Promises in 2016



Like many of you, Debbie and I are expecting to see the many promises of God (*things that He has said to us personally and in His word*) come to pass in our lives this year.

During most of 2015 (*last year*) I have learned that in most cases in order for that to happen, it's important that we "speak out" or that we "declare" or "decree" the promise of what we believe God will bring to pass. The Bible makes it very clear that all of the promises of God in Christ, are 'yes' and the response to receive them is our 'amen.' (II Cor. 1:20) And there are countless numbers of scriptures that support that the words of our mouth - the things that we "say" are connected to what "we believe." The mouth speaks from that which fills the heart!

Therefore, it is of utmost importance that we maintain a good confession about every area of our lives in 2016. To take this a little further, as we were just about ready to cross over into 2016, I felt like the Lord said to me that this would be a year of Yes! That the "delays" that we had experienced in previous years was over and that what would take place this year would begin to happen much quicker and faster than expected.

Please know that this year we are Declaring His Promises over our lives! And if you don't mind, over YOUR life as well. That 2016 will be a year of 'yes' in your life and that you, too, will rise strong! **Amen and Amen!**

Top Stories: *Myanmar Partnerships*



I am always amazed by the many people that the Lord brings into my life as I serve Him.

This is Pastor Mun Thang, Founder and President of the Evangelical Mission for Christ, Myanmar and the Emanuel Theological Seminary School of Missions (ETS) in Kalaymyo.

Together we are partnering to see a new generation of disciples of Jesus raised up to be sent to serve the Lord all over Myanmar. Part of our commitment is to financially support ETS by providing teachers salaries on an annual basis and to bring practical and theological training to the students each year.

This month we will witness another nine students receive their degrees in Biblical studies. I will teach for two days of the final term and I have been asked to address the students and the faculty during the 2016 graduation ceremony.

Top Stories: *FWF Family Updates*



As is our Families Without Fathers (FWF) custom, children and families like these are receiving weekly visits to homes and area schools. All of these children and families are coming from fatherless homes in seven locations across Thailand. Without FWF many of them would be never be reached with the Gospel.

Our Firstlight Area Teams, have become the 'hands' and 'feet' of Jesus to them during some of the most trying times of their lives. And because of that, many are coming to Christ in each location on a regular basis.

We are thankful for the prayers and financial giving from people like you that helps to make FWF possible each year. Our 2016 FWF project budget is \$25,000 USD. Our goal is to reach 100 kids over the next 1-3 years. There are currently 75 plus children being reached through FWF.

May each one come to know the love of the Father more and more in 2016 and beyond. With your help, they can!

ThaiLights: *Serving God is Best!*

In November, I had a great opportunity to serve God with John Paul Sprecher, his whole family and their team from America.

With the help of our Firstlight Area Team, and churches, a series of Young Lions Arise meetings took place and each one went amazingly well with tons of blessings from our Father, God who had opened the doors for us to minister in two Thai schools and for a youth revival in local churches in northeast of Thailand.

By God's grace, more than a thousand students and church

members heard the Gospel, and had been touched the Father's love, with a good number of students accepting Christ as their Savior. Praise the Lord!

Since that day, we have not stopped praying that the seeds we have sown would have fallen on good soil, will be fruitful a hundred times more.

I want to thank God that the director of each school were able to witness the love of God in such a real way. They have invited the Firstlight Fellowship Church Network - Thailand, to come into

the schools again sometime this year also. And there are many students who have expressed an interest to learn more and we have started to build a good relationship with them. It is my prayer that God will make the way for us to bring those students into His Kingdom in the future.

Please pray with us that one day, they, too, shall rise up to serve God with us!



NATTHIKA
TANTAVEEWONG

Operations Assistant
Firstlight, Thailand

Featured Article

On A Personal Note



In a vision the Lord gave me on August 16, 2015, I saw the hand of the surgeon being pushed away from me, three times. In January, my surgery was cancelled for the 3rd time until Feb. 1st. When the doctor called me to tell me he could not in good conscience perform surgery on me when I was sick with a cold, (I was), I had complete peace. His timing, as usual, was perfect, because my doctor was also battling sickness. For both of us to go into this not at our best, well, I was greatly relieved and thankful once again for such a kind and caring doctor. So now, as you are reading this, I fully expect that I will have undergone, finally, the lapriscopy that we set out for in July of 2015. And I am SO ready to embrace 2016, as a year of YES!! YES to all that the Lord has for us this year: Our School of Passion with Son Burn Encounters. Yes to time with my dear mom and dad and family who have waited so patiently for me to get through this. And especially YES to the wedding of Josiah and his beloved McKenna in August. All things, in Your timing, Lord. You are good!! I cannot thank everyone enough for your constant care and encouragement. You have ministered the love and grace of God to Dan and I on many occasions and we pray God's kindest reward on you all.



DEBBIE ECKER
Vice President
Firstlight International

Featured Item

Prayer Points

“You crown the year with a bountiful harvest; even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.” Ps. 65:11 NLT

Please pray for:

- 1. Pulang people Myanmar: Powers of darkness broken. Repentance. Holy Spirit conviction. Souls saved. Churches planted.**
- 2. For Firstlight International: All Projects. People. Churches. Leaders. All members. Growth!**
- 3. For God's abundant provision during the first quarter of 2016.**