



August 2016 News

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Look for us:



The Wonder of Why

“Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 18:13 NAS

I have always been amazed by the story Jesus used in Matthew chapter eighteen to illustrate to His disciples the need for us to remain child like in our Christian faith.

In this story, the disciples asked Jesus who would be the greatest in the kingdom of Heaven? Jesus took a child and placed him in their midst and said: “Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven”. He used a child to teach them the lesson of how all of this works. It’s not about who’s the greatest but rather who is the most child like. Humble, teachable, submissive, and full of wonder.

You see, these were those who were to become the newly formed leadership of what Jesus called the Church (*Matthew chapter sixteen of what was revealed to Peter*) and that they would carry the message of the Gospel into all the earth.

In order for them to do that, their pride of being ‘first’ or ‘the greatest’ had to go. They would soon all learn that “The greatest among you will be servant of all”, and that “the first would be last and the last shall be first” Jesus said. That’s how it works in the kingdom of God. Even as we grow and mature in our walk with

Him, may we never loose our wonder. To remain child like in our understanding of who God is.

I have come to learn that ever child I have ever met at a certain age they all seem to be eager to learn. Some sort of hunger for knowledge. No matter what it is. They all seem to have an eagerness to learn or to know how things work and why.

This become so real to me when Josiah, our son was born. The months and years to follow, each time he would look into my eyes, I saw that ‘need to know’ glance as he looked back at me. So pure. So trusting. Priceless! And it has taught me, I believe that’s how we are to be always with our heavenly Father. Emptied of pride, humble, brave, daring to try new things, full of faith and willing to learn from Him. Even when we don’t have things all figured out, He is right there to catch us if we fall. And He is there to teach us the things we need to know. The key is to remain child like in our faith. And to believe that what He is showing us is possible! May we never loose our wonder of why!



DAN ECKER
President
Firstlight International

Let God Arise! - For Days Like These

“Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him.” Ps.68:1

I live in Dallas, Texas, and in the wake of the sniper ambush on polices recently. This verse take on deeper meaning in my meditation. I checked 2 different sources, and one said “may God arise,” and the other one said “let God arise.” Do we have to “let” an all-powerful, holy and sovereign God act? Or is there something we do that hold God from acting, or arising? One would think God did not need our permission or cooperation to enter into our lives, but apparently He has it set up that way in some circumstances.

The Word of God promises that God will come to the rescue of those who call upon His name in sincerity and truth. He is willing and

able to abundantly provide for us, beyond anything we could ever imagine or ask for. We are even called to be “laborers together with God.” (1 Corinthians 3:9). One would think He did not need our permission or cooperation to enter into our lives, but apparently He has it set up that way in some circumstances.

More often than not, we simple fell out of sync with the Holy and loving God. Take one example of negative emotions or actions such as anger, greed, unbelief, unforgiveness, selfishness, fear, prayerlessness, etc. There is a great battle to-day over the use and control of the mind, not only in the world, but among the children of God. We may have mind-set that is un-renewed and “corrupted rom the simplicity that is in Christ.” (II

Cor. 11.3) Thus, some of our decisions are no confirming to His plans and God choose not to arise in our situations.

Let God arise in our lives means practically that we focus on our heavenly Father and we are on the same wavelength with Him. Align in obedience, in love, in the power of the Holy Spirit, we live with clean hands and a pure heart. All for the purpose of “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven” in Dallas, America, Thailand or anywhere else Firstlight Ministry touches.



DR. YC CHEN
Board Member
Firstlight International

The Father Cares .. and So Do You!

There is a lot happening in Thailand. We are blessed to be serving with some amazing people who are carrying the Father’s heart, and the love of Jesus to people like these.

The person to the left is Ning, she is one of our Families Without Fathers (FWF) project staff in northeast Thailand. She is from the country of Laos and she has a ministry to children through FWF.

With the help of a local Thai church in the city of Nong Khai, are are 17 FWF children in that province.

As in each location there are weekly visits taking place to the homes and areas schools. Most locations hold a weekly children’s outreach on Saturdays with school fee’s and related supplies being provided for every child involved in the program. 70 plus children like these are being reached in seven locations across Thailand.

Thank you for caring enough that others might hear through FWF.



DAN ECKER
President
Firstlight International



Top Stories: *A Prayer of Dedication ...*



On July 11, 2016 I was asked to take part in launching the Asia Fathering Centre in Bangkok, Thailand with John Paul Sprecher, Forerunning Flame International, (FFI).

In this opening meeting, there were a cross section representing a good number of churches that John Paul serves in Thailand.

After much prayer, planning and preparation this much needed ministry of FFI is off and running in the region. It is my greatest joy to be a part of this amazing ministry opportunity to heal nations!

The Asia Fathering Centre is dedicated to ending fatherlessness in countries of South East Asia and beyond. It will serve as mobile base from Bangkok, (*a team of people*) to hold conferences, seminaries, youth rallies - all focussed on deepening our understanding of the Fathers love. Most importantly, to walk along side Pastors, Thai churches, and their leadership to bring the Fathers' love more deeply into the fabric of the local churches to heal wounds and to strengthen families.

Top Stories: *Training in Myanmar ...*



These are the students of the Emmanuel Theological Seminary (ETS) in Kalaymyo, Myanmar. My time of teaching there last month was great!

During their Spiritual Emphasis Week 2016 - 2017, I taught on the subjects of: The Outer Man v. The Inner Man, The Old Man v. The New Man, and the need for us to have a Spiritual Mind Set v. having a Fleshly Mind Set.

I felt led by the Lord to teach on these subjects to reaffirm the Spiritual DNA, that we have in Christ, who works these things into our lives as we accept Him, and to allow ourselves to be "changed" and "transformed" by Him, in our everyday lives by the power of the Holy Spirit. It was an exceptional time of teaching and training for me, and for each of these students.

Pastor Go Mun Thang, the President of ETS, the Board of Directors and the teachers are deeply encouraged by the commitment that Firstlight International is making to help raise the standard of this training institution.

We are blessed to be a blessing and that through Christ, the Seed of Abraham, all nations will be blessed!

ThaiLights: *Serving God in Thailand ...*

All of our Firstlight Teams, and Area Churches are blessed to be working with all of you who are praying for, and who are financially supporting all of these Firstlight projects in Thailand. Our Lord continues to use each of us in His special way. Thank you for helping in this way.

During these past few months, we have had a great time visiting the Families Without Fathers (FWF) families in the area of Suwannakhuha in the northeast of Thailand.

As you well know, the FWF project helps to support children from fatherless homes with some of the educational costs so that each one can

complete their education which gives them a better quality of life in the future. Some FWF families not only lost the father, but also experienced other types of difficulties as well.

According to God's word to us we must go out to share and bring the good news of Jesus to them. Therefore, it is his love that sends us to be a part of his kingdom and show his love through our actions.

This made me remember what Jesus did when he saw people like this. Remember his word in the book of (Matthew 25:45) which says, "Then he will answer them, saying, Truly. I say

to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me."

All around us there are many who hunger and are disadvantaged. Have you ever thought about some of these people? Would you please be a part of us in supporting and praying for our project to reap a harvest in his kingdom? Thank you for being a part and God bless!



NATTHIKA
TANTAVEEWONG

Operations Assistant
Firstlight, Thailand

Featured Article

On A Personal Note



To say that we are 'busy and blessed' is an understatement. Many in the Body of Christ have declared 2016 to be a year of 'Acceleration'. And I would have to agree. My last time out it was two countries: Myanmar & Thailand, 19 airplanes, 12 cities, in 31 days! It is certainly an opportune time! For Debbie and I, and of course: Firstlight International, the Lord has impressed upon us that this would be a year of "Yes" and that there would be "No more delays". One of the verses that confirms that is: *Thus says the Lord God, "None of My words will be delayed any longer. Whatever word I speak will be performed," declares the Lord God.* Ezel. 12:28. WOW! ... Did you hear that? YES! .. One of my spiritual disciplines for this year is to begin each day with a serious of DECLARATIONS and DECREES that the Lord has shown me to "speak out loud" over my life personally, promises that I am believing for, for my family - ministry, key people, their businesses, places and nations! And that in includes YOU dear ones And I can tell you for me, it is working! Why? Because the Word of God, when spoken has power to change things!

And when we do, we are putting spiritual laws in motion and the Lord watches over His word to perform it. (Jeremiah 1:5)



DAN ECKER
President
Firstlight International

Try it for the next 30 days!

Featured Item

Prayer Points

**"In the morning, O Lord,
You will hear my voice;
In the morning I will order
my prayer to You and eagerly
watch." Psalms 5:3 NAS**

Please pray for:

- 1. Thailand: Powers of darkness broken. Repentance. Holy Spirit conviction. Souls saved. Strong Church.**
- 2. For all of Firstlight International: Projects. People. Churches. Leaders. All members. Growth!**
- 3. For God's abundant provision during 3rd quarter of 2016.**