

Global Recordings Network Thailand

NEWSLETTER

Sounds Of Language Foundation

May 2018



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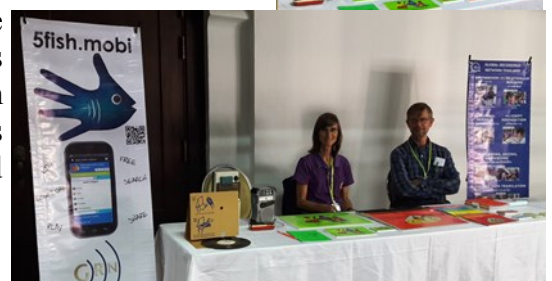
FIRST CHRISTMAS OUTREACH TO THE MPI

In December 2017 Jon, Lot and Anabel joined in the Christmas outreach to the Mpi in Ban Dong village in Phrae province. Many Mpi children and adults came. Pastor Piek was able to share the Gospel and the true meaning of Christmas openly. After the sharing time the GRNT team helped present gifts to each person. The gifts were provided by Pastor Piek's team. Pastor Piek invited any of the Mpi who had physical sickness to come forward to be prayed for. Six Mpi ladies responded and Pastor Piek prayed for them. Four of those ladies prayed to receive Christ. After the meeting was finished, 3 more ladies expressed desire to receive Christ. They prayed and the GRNT team prayed for them. Lot shared, "Though the outreach was just a short time, we praise God for the fruit, especially that one of the women who responded was the leader of the village women's group." Jon added, "When we sow, we will reap from that sowing." The work of following up those who responded is very important. Please pray for Pastor Piek and his wife as they teach these women. Pray also for finances needed for Pastor Piek to travel to visit the Mpi twice a month.



HUNGRY FOR GOD CONFERENCE

18-20 January 2018 GRNT staff and volunteers set up a booth at the Hungry for God Conference 2018 in Chiangmai where John and Lisa Bevere were speakers. The GRNT team was able to display GRN materials and share with people about the 5fish application. Many national Christians and Christian workers attended the conference and many visited the booth and showed interest in GRN materials and 5fish. For example a Karen Sgaw man sitting at his own booth across from ours was excited to find the LLL in pictures and audio on 5fish on his mobile phone.



The Lisu

Kerry, Von and Boy were able to go to a Lisu village one day with Geoff Wong, who is from GRN Australia. Praise the Lord everyone had a chance to share and encourage the Lisu people from His Word. They also checked blood pressure, taught simple English, did Love Touch, and visited one woman in the hospital. The Lisu all appreciated them and want them to come and visit again.



The Lao Song Dam, Thai and the Ugong in November and March

In November, at Blessing Church, near the Lao Song Dam village in Kanchanaburi, Kerry and Von taught the children some songs and English. They also cooked and ate together with Pastor Song and teens from broken homes that she is ministering to. Praise the Lord that Pastor Song is willing to serve the Lord there even though it is a difficult place to work. Praise God for safety in travel and a great time at the Ugong village, as well as at Dong Klang Church. Pastor Chalao and some members of the church joined Kerry & Von in checking the Ugong recording, encouraging the people there to preserve their language, as well as encouraging the believers, Maat and her husband. Von felt touched when some elderly ladies asked her, "When will you teachers visit us again? Please come soon before we all pass away!"



The GRNT team of Kerry and Von, Boy and his wife, Aom, along with their 1-year old daughter, Khana, thank the Lord for a visit with the Lao Song Dam again in March. They went together with Pastor Chalao and her father to visit

some families and the children at her Saturday cell group. They taught the children English, Von checked blood pressure and Boy did Love Touch.



At the Ugong village, the GRNT team and the Ugong villagers together translated a script of the story of the great flood and Noah from the Bible. This story was chosen because the Ugong people have a legend about a great flood. Praise the Lord for Pastor Chalao's help in teaching the children the Bible, games and songs so the GRNT team could work on translation with some of the adults. Praise the Lord that Aom and Boy could help with checking the script in Thai. Aom could relate to the Ugong, because the Ugong have been called "Lawa" though many of them have never had a chance to meet Lawa from Chiang Mai. Aom, who is Lawa from Chiang Mai, was able to speak some of her language to the elderly Ugong and she noticed that some of the sounds of her language are similar to Ugong sounds. She was able to help with writing the translation using the Thai alphabet. While translating the script there were various challenges because the Ugong language doesn't have some words and none of the Ugong present could read or write either Thai or the Ugong language. The team thanked God that the man who performs the annual spirit ceremonies spent the first day with the team during the translation process, which was a great opportunity for him to know more about God.

The second day Kerry's team was encouraged by the village head-man's wife, who is part of the team recognized by Mahidol University



helping to preserve the Ugong language, when she came to help them check the first draft of the recording by back-translating it from the Ugong language to Thai. After checking and correcting it, Kerry recorded with Jum, who has been one of the language helpers several times already. Von asked Jum: “Did you understand the story or believe it?” Jum answered, “I believed in Jesus last year and that is why I wanted to help you all.” It brought tears to their eyes and was a reminder that God is at work. They were very thankful for Maat who allowed them to record at her home and was a great help during the translation process because she is most know-ledgeable about the Ugong language. There were hindrances such as noises from passing vehicles during translation and recording. Praise God for this time



which was Aom’s first experience with the Ugong and that she could see and be a part of recording and back translation, which are not easy jobs! Please pray for her as there are still many things she needs to learn. Aom wants to learn more about translating and recording.

EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP OF THAILAND MEETING

26-27 February GRNT staff and volunteers shared GRN materials and 5fish at the Evangelical Fellowship of Thailand’s annual meeting for the Northern sector held at a large church in Chiangmai. Praise God that many people were interested in the Good News and LLL picture books and scripts and also many learned about 5fish.



GRN TRAINING FOR RECORDIST TRAINERS IN AUSTRALIA

GRN Australia hosted a Training for Recordist Trainers from 12 to 23 February. Included in the training was preparation for the Recordist training course that will be held 5 November to 14 December in Chiangmai at GRNT. A new recorder, the MixPre-6, was introduced which will replace the previous recorders and the trainers discussed the curriculum/lessons and schedule for the upcoming training later this year.



The So Thavung

In December, after Kerry and Von heard the news that Khamtan was not well, they went to visit him and also deliver some MP3 machines with the So Thavung Good News recording which the So Thavung had requested. One Nyaw grandma whose husband was So Thavung was also very interested in listening to the recording. Apparently, she could understand the language, even though she doesn't speak it.



Kerry and Von and Ajarn Nang visited Khamtan at Grandma Khin's house. When Von examined him, she knew right away that he was in very serious condition and needed to go to the hospital. She told Khamtan's son and the other relatives that he needed to go to the hospital immediately. That evening, she talked to the doctor at the local hospital by phone and the doctor confirmed that his condition was very serious. The next day Khamtan was transferred to the biggest hospital in the province. His family didn't want to amputate his leg and were not sure he would survive anyway. He was sent home and passed away at his cousin's home that evening. Kerry and Von thank the Lord that Pastor Wirat and Ajarn Nang were there for Khamtan's funeral to encourage his family and relatives. They believe that Khamtan had trusted in the Lord Jesus for salvation, and so, they will see him in Heaven.



In February the GRNT team had a chance to visit Grandma Khin and her relatives. Boy was able to do Love Touch for her. This time a neighbor came asking for prayer and Von had a chance to share with her. They were happy when one elderly couple (the first So Thavung they had ever met) showed a keen interest in listening to the recordings. When they had given this couple an MP3 player in December, they were not sure what their response would be.



The Yoy

At Thai Akat Amnuai Church in December, Kerry, Von and Songphan, a former language helper, visited another former language helper, Uthon. Uthon's health was failing and he could not recognize most people, nor could he walk or sit up on his own. However, he recognized Kerry with a big smile on his face and put his arm around Kerry's neck. Uthon had previously put his trust in the Lord and helped them with the recording. On 1 February, they heard the news from Songphan that Uthon had gone home to be with the Lord. They were very thankful that they got to see him before he passed away.



In late February, the GRNT team visited the Yoy and Isaan people again. Kerry and Von taught English to the children who are sponsored by one of the Compassion projects.

Boy told the story of Samuel to the kids and Aom taught a song with actions to the children. The GRNT team was thankful to the Lord that they could eat dinner with some of the villagers at the church that evening. The team also worshiped there on Sunday. This was Aom's first time to visit Thai Akat Amnuai Church. Boy and Aom observed, "Though we are from different tribal groups and languages, we are brothers and sisters in Christ." In the afternoon the GRNT team, along with Pastor Prasit and his wife, some leaders and members of the Church visited two believers who could not attend church due to physical limitations.



SEANET CONFERENCE IN CHIANG MAI

Clair Rulison was able to attend the SEANET Conference in Chiang Mai from January 8 to 12. It was her first time to attend. Every year, SEANET probes the challenges and many-faceted issues of sharing Christ with people from Buddhist backgrounds. This year's theme was "The Role of Ritual in the Buddhist World View". Rituals exist in every culture and express deep things about what the people of that culture believe to be true. Workers from Asia and other parts of the world looked together at what kinds of rituals are practiced among Buddhists and considered their meanings, their importance to the people, and whether there is potential for Christ-followers who come from Buddhist backgrounds to transform the meanings of some of these rituals so that they demonstrate truths about God. Clair attended two days of lectures and 6 workshops in the last three days. Among other good take-aways from the experience, she was able to buy a collection of books based on the topics explored over the past 18 years in annual SEANET conferences. Pray that she and the GRNT team will use the information well and will cultivate a spirit-led attitude of observation in order to develop deeper understanding of the minds and hearts of their Buddhist neighbors.

The Isaan and Vietnamese



The GRNT team also attended the wedding in Buriram Province of the daughter of the former Isaan pastor in Akat Amnuai whom they had partnered with in recording the Yoy language. At the wedding, they were glad to hear again God's plan for marriage from the beginning: one man and one woman.

One pastor shared about Love. He told

them that true love comes from the Lord Jesus; it includes forgiveness, patience and prayer. There were many attendees who didn't know about the Lord Jesus and so they had the opportunity to learn about Him.



Praise the Lord that Kerry and Von were able to meet Bua and her husband, who were neighbors of Pastor Lek and Teacher Bell. Bua said, "I enjoy listening to the recordings on the MP3 player. Now I am not so stressed or worried anymore." Her husband also told them that since he believed in Jesus, Jesus has helped him to stop drinking." Bua uses a prosthesis since her leg was amputated.

Praise the Lord for answering prayers for one Vietnamese family, who were born in Thailand, to be united together. Kerry and Von gave the wife an MP3 player and Good News book to encourage her and she appreciated those. Please pray for her husband to also believe. Boy also had an opportunity to share from the Word about "Choosing to follow God" with some of Beh's relatives at a Bible study. The Lord guided Boy to choose the right content that the people at the Bible Study needed to hear.



The Nyah Kur and others in Chaiphum in December, January and March

Praise the Lord that Kerry, Von, Betty, and some Nyah Kur ladies visited another Nyah Kur village. They met a Nyah Kur lady whom they had not seen for almost two years. Before she heard the recordings, she was very depressed. After hearing the recordings, she trusted in Christ, but they had not been able to follow her up because she had moved to another village. She was so happy to see them and told them that she and her husband get along very well now. She is still listening to the recordings.

Praise the Lord for answering prayer. Before the GRNT staff left Chiang Mai in January, they were concerned about Boy and Aom's one year old daughter, Khana, traveling with them to Chaiyaphum and Buriram and how she would do. Praise the Lord she got along fine on the trip. The GRNT team and their partners in Chaiyaphum were from different countries (Vietnam, America, Northern Ireland, and Thailand) and different people groups, including Lawa and Hmong, but they have the same God, the same Spirit and the same heart to go together to visit and encourage the Nyah Kur, Isaan, Thai and other groups who were there. It was a special time. The GRNT team also met two Indians who came there to work with the electric wind turbines. They introduced them to GRN recordings. The leader, who is a Christian, invited the team for



dinner and they had a good time of fellowship together. Another day, they went together with a Nyah Kur man to visit one village and to their surprise, the people there could speak the Khmer language. They listened to the Good News in Khmer on an MP3 player.

The Lord blessed as the team visited the Nyah Kur, Isaan people and their partners again in March. They were all happy to see them. They had a chance to teach some simple English while sharing the Gospel with the children. They went to visit an Isaan family at their home. The son, who was a little drunk, came out and greeted them. He had stayed in Kerry & Von's home before. He told them that his parents were at another house down the road a little ways.

When they arrived there, they were quite surprised and pleased to see an MP3 player they had recently given out, playing GRN recordings and the children and adults who were peeling tamarind fruit together, were listening to the recordings. It was great to see not just one person listening, but a whole group of them! An added blessing was when the son walked from his home to where the group was, bringing the team several bottles of cold water.



Praise the Lord, he could hear the Gospel again and receive prayer from the GRN team who were there. Please pray that the Lord Himself will redeem him and enable him to overcome his drinking problem. They had met one of his friends at church two days before who was now saved and had been able to quit drinking. The GRNT team knows God can do the same for this man.

The Hmong



On the way from Chiang Mai to the Northeast, the GRNT team, including Khana, stayed at the Hmong

village of Boy's family in Phetchabun. The GRNT team thought it was beautiful to see the Hmong with their traditional outfits, food, living style, and most importantly, their language. We thank the Lord that some of the Hmong know Thai so we can communicate with them and also Boy and his relatives can interpret for us.

Von took time to teach some English and Bible stories to all the children and gave them some snacks. Boy's mother took the GRNT team to visit some people and they were able to check blood pressure and do Love Touch, give out 7 MP3 players with the Hmong language, and share the Gospel and pray for people in the village.



They also visited the Hmong Pastor, Phusit, at Khek Noi. The church has a program to teach Hmong literacy to church members and the young people in the church hostel so they can read the Hmong Bible. The pastor had been praying for over one year for Hmong Bibles and God answered his prayers in a wonderful way, when late last year, Von's friend gave GRNT 100 Hmong Bibles. Boy, Aom and Boy's relatives brought these Bibles to the pastor without knowing he had prayed for over 1 year for Bibles in his language. Some Hmong cannot read their own language yet, but all were very happy to receive them. On the same trip, at the Indo-China market in Mukdahan, Von's friend, Beh, led the GRNT team to visit some Hmong sellers and others to encourage them by sharing God's love and praying for them. We all praise the Lord for this wonderful opportunity!



The Phu Thai in February and March



On the way to Mukdahan province, the GRNT team visited some Phu Thai at the government hospital in Sakon Nakhon. They were able to give them some food, an MP3 player, and encourage them by praying for them. In Mukdahan, Pastor Wichai, his wife, his mother and Rasamee, along with the team and Beh, went to visit the Phu Thai at Nasameng district. The GRNT team gave out two MP3 Players. One lady thought that her husband was a relative of Ajarn Che, and so she was interested to receive a player so she could hear the Good News recording and Ajarn Che's testimony.



The other player was given to a couple who had become Christians some time ago, but had little opportunity for growth since there was no church in their area. Pastor Wichai appreciated the GRNT team for being a part of follow up and outreach to the people in this place. The team were encouraged that Pastor Wichai's mother, who is over 70 years old, was willing to give up one day at her job to join them to serve the Lord.

At Renu Nakhon church, when the GRNT team stopped by to see our Phu Thai language helpers to check the translation, Kerry discovered his own recording machine had died. They were very thankful that Lot was able to send his recording machine to them, but they had to wait two days for it to arrive. Meanwhile, the GRNT team visited the Phu Thai, along with Ajarn Che, at Na Kae District and other places, too. A Phu Thai grandma was very excited to listen to the Phu Thai recording. She had already gone out to share the Gospel with others using the Good News flipchart, but now she can share more easily with an MP3 player, too.



The GRNT team appreciates Pastor Phonchai and Ajarn Che for their continued partnership with GRNT in translation and recording.

On Sunday morning, the GRNT team went to a house church. There were about 20 people, both believers and unbelievers. The leader of the house church asked them to share, so they shared the LLL 1 recording in Phu Thai. The people there were happy for the team to worship together with them. They were interested and excited to listen since this was their first time to hear the recording. The team, led by Boy, had an opportunity to pray for the daughter-in-law of the owner of the house who was not yet a Christian. In the afternoon, they picked up the language helpers and after many hours, they completed recording LLL 3. Pastor Phonchai and Ajarn Che brought a university student who came to observe the recording process and even brought food for the GRNT team and the language helpers to eat since they were busy helping check the translation, practicing and recording. Praise the Lord for His Faithfulness.



RESEARCHING THE NYAW IN NAKHON PHANOM

29-31 March a GRNT team of Joshua and Lot traveled to Nakhon Phanom province and met with Mr. Sathapon to discuss recording the Nyaw language. There are no Christian materials in this language. In Thailand the Nyaw language is spoken in the northeast area in several provinces including Nakhon Phanom province. The Nyaw population in Thailand is about 50,000. In northeast Thailand there are very few Nyaw Christians. Most of the Nyaw Christians are Nyaw who have gone to work in Bangkok and have come to know Christ there and continue to live in Bangkok or other provinces. Mr. Sathapon is a Nyaw man who came to Christ when he was working in Singapore and he has a burden to share the Gospel with his own people. He has now returned to northeast Thailand and has opened his home as a Christian outreach center. He is happy to work with us by translating GRN scripts into the Nyaw language in order to record. Please pray for Sathapon that his translation will be natural, accurate, clear and appropriate for the Nyaw people and culture. Concerning the future recording, please pray that God will provide Nyaw language speakers who truly trust in Jesus.



VISITING THE MOKEN IN SOUTH THAILAND

15-21 February GRNT staff, Lot went to Phuket in South Thailand and joined Urak Lawoi Pastor Ahlin and Jonathan, a missionary from Malaysia. The team traveled to Ranong province to visit the Moken people.



In Ranong Lot's team visited many Moken families including GRNT's Moken Christian partner, Mr. Uu. Lot gave him some medicine because he has some health issues. Lot also gave MP3 players with Moken recordings to Uu's mother and other villagers. Everyone who received a player was excited to listen to the recordings because they are in their own heart language. MP3 players have a very important role in sharing the Gospel with various people groups especially with people who are illiterate.

The Moken people catch and sell shrimp, crabs and leeches for their livelihood. Lot's team saw that the Moken don't know how to catch squid and fish like the Urak Lawoi do. Therefore Pastor Ahlin took some time to teach some Moken how to catch squid.

Many Moken children were interested to learn and they really enjoyed catching squid and taking them home to eat. Pastor Ahlin would like to return in the future and teach the Urak Lawoi method of catching fish to the Moken people.

