

Stand!

"For many are called, but few are chosen." (Matthew 22:14) (NLT)

Tranquility in the Storm

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One Twenty

Raising a powerful last days company of prophetic people who knows their God and does great exploits for Him (Acts 2 : 17-18).

Goshen Events in November/December 2018

Date / Day / Time	Venue	Event
Thursday 7.30pm - 10pm (Every week except the 5 th Thursday)	360 Dunearn Road Singapore 299552	ONE TWENTY Ministering in Word and praying for the needs of the body of Christ.
Thursday 7.30pm - 10pm (1 st Nov & 13 th Dec)	360 Dunearn Road Singapore 299552	GOSHEN PRAYER MEETING for the persecuted and afflicted brethren.

For other events which may be launched after distribution of this issue, kindly look out for updates on Goshen's Facebook page



Why STAND? By the power of His strength, we aspire to stand firmly through the storms that are sweeping through Asia and the world.

In the 6th issue of our magazine, we want to encourage you to anchor your faith firmly in Christ.

"For many are called, but few are chosen." Matthew 22:14 (NLT)

Dear Valued Supporter

We are pleased to enclose our magazine STAND! for your reading

We pray that the leading of the Holy Spirit will speak to your heart. We trust that you will support us through prayer, partnership and financial giving for the persecuted and afflicted church.



Stand!

Standing for The Afflicted church – Nurturing and Developing it!

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Blessings!

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(For all donations please inform us via email to admin@gosheninternational.org or call 6456 0042 to facilitate our accountability to you.)

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ANCHORING YOUR FAITH FIRMLY

THE GREAT COMMISSION

Matthew 28:19

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.

This is the 3rd and last sharing from my heart on the subject of the Great Commission.

When a person decides to accept the Lord into his/her heart, it is the beginning of a new season in his/her life. They begin to personally know God and what it means to obey His commandments in the Bible through a church they attend regularly or a bible study group. However, obeying the commandments of God comes with a cost or price.

Jesus Himself said that *"many are called, but few are chosen"* (Matthew 22:14).

If many are called, why then are only a few chosen? Could it be that many choose not to continue as they are not willing to give up their sinful lifestyle or to carry their cross and to pay the price?

I have long pondered over the many trials and tribulations many Christians go through. John 16:33 warns us that we will have trouble in this world. 1 Peter 4:12 tells us not to be surprised when we face trials and tribulations but to rejoice as we partake of Christ's sufferings. Romans 12:12 encourages us to be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer.

I asked the Lord why many Christians have had to go through tough times. Can't we just

lead a smooth life while waiting for the Lord to return?

A few days later, I came across an advertisement of a product and in red bold letters it flashed "FREE TRIAL before you buy". That same evening, while reading the news, the phrase "Test Run: As part of the trial, ... will test the accuracy of the devices..." jumped out at me.

Even a new product or a new technology need to be put on trial to pass the test under extreme conditions to ensure it is effective and safe for use.

It is the same with our life in Christ. The different kinds of trials we go through tests our faith and produces steadfastness in our character so that we may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing (James 1:2-4). The Lord wants us to anchor our faith firmly in Him.

He wants to mould us into an army of God with character and faith that will not be easily swayed or fall away. For we are not fighting against flesh and blood, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world and against evils spirits in the heavenly places (Ephesians 6:12) (NLT).

The training that He is putting us through is very much needed because He knows that the great trials prophesied of in the book of

Revelation will come. He is building us up to be the Last Days' remnant that will rise up to our call in victory for an hour such as this and then reign with Christ in the new age to come. Amen! Hallelujah!

If you are facing any kind of trial at this moment, take heart that you are not fighting alone. We can lay hold of the promises of God. Do not throw away your confidence which has a great reward.

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison (2 Corinthians 4:17).

The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials. He is your Lord God at your right hand "Fear Not I am the one who helps you" (Isaiah 41:13).

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it (1 Corinthians 10:13).

Finally, my blessed friends, rewards await us as we persevere on and hope for the day of the Lord.

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him (James 1:12). 🙏

Do you know?

One of the arms of Goshen is ministry to the Body of Christ under the School of Mantling Eagles. "One Twenty Ministry" is held every Thursday except every 5th Thursday of the month. Rev Pat, Chairwoman of the Board of Directors at Goshen, teaches prophetically inspired spiritual application lessons mainly for strengthening our walk in Christ. You are welcome to join us. We pray that every Christian will grow from strength to strength and stand firm in these last days of trials and tribulations.



FROM DEATH TO LIFE

Faced with possible death and all he could think of was the salvation of another man!

Sitting on a portable plastic stool in the center aisle of a public bus, Hubert was hoping to catch up on some much-needed sleep during the 16-hour bus ride from Vientiane to Sam Nur. As midnight drew close, he moved from the plastic stool to take the place of the bus seat that someone had vacated. Hubert had barely closed his eyes when a loud scream pierced the night air. He opened his eyes only to see the bus plunging off the mountain road down the cliff. Instantly, he shouted in desperation, ***“Jesus, help me”***.

When the bus eventually came to a stop, Hubert discovered that he was lying under the seat. The glass windows had completely shattered and all the passengers were

nowhere to be seen, except for another man who was apparently badly injured and dying. Without any hesitation or fear for his own safety, Hubert slowly made his way to the dying man and shared the gospel of Jesus with him before the latter breathed his last.

Since the bus was perched precariously on a bamboo grove by the side of the mountain, Hubert could not do anything other than to wait to be rescued. Sitting and waiting in the dark was hard to bear as he could hear nearby crying and wailing all through the night.

It was 6:00 the next morning before he was finally rescued by a Laotian militia group. He had lost his shoes and belongings but was thankful that he only suffered some minor injuries. He later discovered that 25 other passengers died from this freak accident.

God had miraculously saved him from out of the wreck and he was able to walk barefoot down the mountain.

Hubert used to be part of a gang. He smoked and drank heavily and every sentence he uttered was punctuated by vulgar words. His spent his free time gambling & getting involved with street fights.

What could have caused this radical change in Hubert? It could only have been a close and personal encounter with the Lord.

Although he was born into a Christian family and attended Sunday school classes when he was young, Hubert didn't know Jesus personally until 1990. In order to stop his sisters' incessant "nagging" to go back to Church, he visited New Life Christian Church one Sunday. That morning, the speaker spoke about how God will draw near to anyone who would draw near to Him. He didn't believe that what the speaker was saying was true and tried to prove him wrong.

For the next 3 days, he returned home every night, sat in his bedroom and spoke aloud, "I am trying to draw near to You so You can draw near to me just like what was preached in church". For 3 nights, he prayed the same prayer but nothing spectacular happened. Then, on the 3rd night, someone left an old torn and tattered Good News Bible on his bed.

Curious, he opened the Bible and chanced upon the words *"This is the hour to receive God's favor; today is the day to be saved!"* in **2 Corinthians 6:2**.

Wow! His heart skipped a beat. Hungry for more answers, he flipped the pages and chanced upon the book of Proverbs. As he read, he identified with the foolish man mentioned therein. Every word he read that

night resonated deeply within him as if God was speaking directly to him.

He asked God, "If you are real, then tell me what You want me to do?". He opened the Bible once again and the pages parted at the Book of **Matthew 28:19-20** which says, *"Therefore go make disciples of all nations"*.

Since he was neither eloquent nor knowledgeable, he wondered how he was going to obey God's command to make disciples of all nations? Whilst pondering this, he flipped the pages of the Bible again & the words in **Exodus 4:12** fell open before him: *"Now, go! I will help you to speak, and I will tell you what to say"* silenced all doubts in him.

Hubert then asked God how and where to start, and He answered him with **Acts 2:38** *"Repent and be baptized..."* That night Hubert repented of all his sins and started to attend church in earnest. He was baptized in water and was filled with the Holy Spirit a few weeks later. Life went on as usual except that he suddenly stopped smoking, drinking, gambling or using vulgar language.

In 1993, at the age of 25, Hubert accompanied Mark Geppert (founder of Seapc) on his 1st mission trip to Vietnam where Mark taught and ministered to house church pastors who were being persecuted for their faith in Christ. Through this trip, Hubert learnt the importance and power of prayer walking. In 1994, he went to Cambodia to do prayer walk and help in church planting and in 1995 he brought Bibles in to China.

In 1996 he started a prayer walk in Laos on his own for the very first time. He would pray for open doors, for more laborers, finances, and for the laborers to bear fruits whilst he walked the centers of education, finance,

religion & communication in the nations he visited. He taught the English language for free to the locals from his motel room and made many friends during his short stay there.

In 1999 as Hubert was travelling to Tibet through Laos, he felt a burden for the Laotian people. Convinced of God's call in his life, he packed his bags and moved to Laos. With no financial support from family or church, no job waiting for him and no friends in Laos, Hubert trusted completely in God's providence. He started walking around the streets of Vientiane, Capital of Laos, and prayed for the people & nation. By divine appointment, he met local Lao Christians and got connected with local pastors and house churches.

“WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD ANY PRAYER REQUESTS, HUBERT REPLIED UNASSUMINGLY, “PRAY THAT I WILL HAVE AN UNWAVERING FAITH AND BOLDNESS IN CHRIST”. ”

God's favor is upon Hubert. He opened many doors for him to share the gospel. Many have come to Christ even though Hubert was not fluent in the local language and he stayed there on a tourist visa. For the past 20 years, he would travel out of Laos to Thailand and back again every 2 weeks just to renew his tourist visa. As a result of all this travelling, Hubert planted many churches in both Thailand and Laos.

Undaunted by the threat of persecution and imprisonment, Hubert would discreetly leave gospel tracts in places where people

could easily pick them up and read. He would openly watch Christian movies in the local language in internet cafes even though he didn't understand a word of it. He took the opportunity to give out gospel tracts to the locals who were curious enough to watch the movie with him. 10 years later, whilst travelling through Vang Vieng he stopped by an internet café. The owner of the cafe ran out shouting “Hubert!” excitedly and happily. She recognized him and told him that she accepted the Lord as her personal Savior after receiving one of his gospel tracts 10 years ago. She is now working for Campus Crusade for Christ in Laos.

In the many years spent in Laos, Hubert has seen many pastors imprisoned for their faith. Each time this happened, He would help to raise funds to support the family of the imprisoned pastors. When 20 Bru (an ethnic group in Laos) pastors were imprisoned for their faith, Hubert did a prayer walk outside the prison. 3 days later all 20 pastors were released from prison.

*What if I die? Would I blame God or be afraid?
What if I was stranded on a mountain? Would I blame God?*

What if I was doing ministry and ran out of money? Would I blame or curse God?

Hubert contemplated the answers to these 3 questions for a whole year in 1991. Only when he could definitively answer “No” to all 3 questions, did he embark on this journey with the Lord. He has never regretted his decision to follow and obey Jesus. 🙏

PRAY FOR THE CHRISTIANS IN LAOS

FACT SHEET

Region : Asia

Population : Over 7 mil

Percentage of population who are Christian: About 3%

Christian Persecution level finding: Top 20 position (As per Open Doors' world watch list)

In Laos, Christianity is seen as an outside influence. Both house & registered churches are constantly under close watch. Believers face persecution & pressure to recant their faith from multiple sources. Pastors and ministry workers face the threat of detention and imprisonment if they are deemed to be engaging in church activities that are deemed illegal, such as when they are caught to be in possession of Bibles or other Christian literature. 🙏

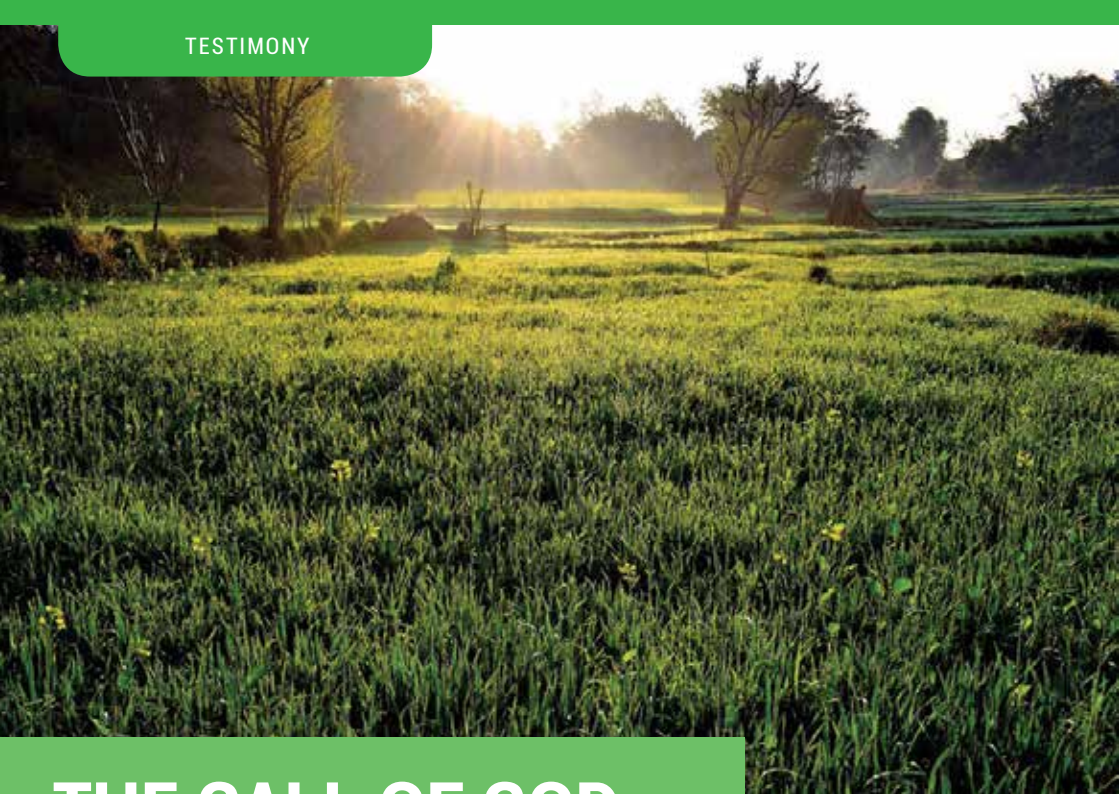


Pray:-

- ❶ Pray that believers in the country will anchor their faith in the Word of God. Pray that they keep their eyes always on the LORD and not be shaken (Psalms 16:8).
- ❷ Pray that the Lord Jesus reveal Himself to the people of this nation. Ask the Lord to shine His light brightly to directly reveal His glory and goodness to the people of Laos.
- ❸ Pray that the Lord deliver His people in the nation from harassment, intimidation, and all manner of dangers. Psalm 27:5 "For in the day of trouble He will hide me in His shelter; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will set me high upon a rock."

Let us also uphold Brother Hubert's ministry needs to the Lord in prayer:-

- ❶ Pray that God provide brother Hubert with good local Pastors & ministry workers to shepherd & care for believers in the churches that he has planted.
- ❷ Pray for the training of worship leaders and musicians.
- ❸ Pray for more volunteers to come forward to help gather information so that unreached people groups can be studied and profiled for future outreach efforts.
- ❹ Laos has experienced frequent flooding and landslides in many parts of the country, especially during the rainy season between June to September. Pray that the Lord provide the finances, basic necessities, relief aid & workers for those displaced and living in temporary shelters & tents.



THE CALL OF GOD

Since 2012, Mark has been visiting a Drug Rehab Farm (“the Farm”) situated at the border of a South East Asian country. After sitting through a 6-hour flight, Mark took a 14-hour drive from the airport to the Farm with only one rest-stop in between. As the local authorities are highly suspicious of foreigners, each trip is arduous and fraught with danger. Mark knew full well that they have the power to arrest and imprison anyone.

On one occasion, when Mark and his team decided to take a short cut to the Farm, several village policemen who were hiding in the thick forested area gave him a fright when they suddenly jumped out of nowhere and stopped their vehicle at gunpoint. They were

questioned at length about their purpose for visiting the area & their passports were examined in detail before being allowed to continue on with their journey.

Mark is an ordinary faithful Christian living in New Zealand with his wife. He works as a Real Estate Agent in his day job while serving as a Mission Committee leader in church encouraging, supporting, training & preparing people for mission work to fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord.

After visiting the Farm, Mark wanted to do more than just attend Church. He was overcome with emotion when he saw the innocence of the people bound by drug addiction, ostracized & abandoned by their families and communities. Some even

committed revolting crimes like killing their own wives and children whilst they were 'high' on drugs.

Drug addicts at the Farm live a structured life looking after farm animals and cultivating basic crops for sale. The monies earned is used to maintain the operational expenses of the Farm. They also spend time reading the Bible and singing worship songs. Some of them eventually experience a breakthrough in their struggle against addiction, although it is a long drawn process, some as long as 10 years and many repeated stays at the Farm. Jay is one such former addict whose life was transformed at the Farm.

Testimony of Brother Jay

Jay's definition of home was just 'a place to sleep'. There was no one waiting to welcome him home as his mother passed away when he was very young and his father was always busy working. Jay felt extremely lonely and emotionally hungry for love.

In a desperate attempt to fill the void and emptiness, he started gambling as a hobby to relief stress and forget his problems. But the hobby soon became an addiction. Overwhelmed by the mounting gambling debts and discontentment with his life, Jay started taking drugs at the prompting of his "friends". There were days he wished he wouldn't wake up just to avoid feeling the heartache & pain. He voluntarily checked into government drug rehabilitation centres on several occasions only to return to his addictions upon discharge.

Jay's life was in a downward spiral as he battled depression & addiction. Instead of supporting and helping him break free from his addictions, his father disowned him instead. The turning point came when

someone recommended that he get help from the Farm.

There was something very unique and different about the Farm. From the first day he stayed at the Farm, Jay could feel the love and sincerity of the brothers living there. It was at the Farm that he first heard the gospel of Jesus Christ and accepted Christ as his personal Saviour. After one year at the Farm, Jay attended 4 years of Bible school then went back to serve in the Farm. After which he got married & went back to his own village only to succumb again to gambling. It was only after his return to the Farm, humbling himself as a brother, that he became truly transformed. The journey took nearly 10 years and he is still a work in progress.

Most of the brothers who came to the Farm did not last even a year and many went back to their old lifestyles & addictions after they left the Farm. Serving in the Farm requires a long-term commitment, a lot of patience & perseverance. It is truly by the grace & mercy of God that they are able to see their labor bearing fruit despite the many disappointments, failures, heartache & tears.

Do pray for the Farm:

1. Pray that the Lord supply the finances to maintain the day-to-day running of the Farm.
2. Pray that the Lord send spiritually mature volunteers to serve in the Farm.
3. Pray for God's protection and favor to be upon the Farm.

Those who wish to volunteer or contribute financially to the Farm may contact Goshen at 6456-0042 or email us at admin@gosheninternational.org.sg for more details.





Title: **SAVE THE CHILDREN**

Target Funds Needed: **SGD \$6,500**

Thank you for your continued support and contribution to help reunite the late JJ's children with their relatives outside of the Middle East.

Since the predicament of the late JJ's children were highlighted in our September/October issue of Stand!, we have received encouraging news that the children have recently received their Identity Cards which will enable them to now apply for passports. DNA tests for the children which constitute evidence required for application of visas to UK by the authorities were done in October 2018. They are now awaiting results.

After several court hearings, the Court has yet to give a verdict to validate the late JJ's Last Will & Testament. The children will only

be able to commence legal proceedings for immigration to the UK if they have the Court's verdict & DNA results.

Please pray that the Court will not delay in granting a favorable verdict in the validation of the Will. Pray also for the children's health and emotional well being as they continue to live with these uncertainties.

In addition to your prayers, we hope that you would prayerfully consider contributing towards this cause. As of the current moment, we are still short of about SGD \$2,250 required to assist them in the legal and administrative issues of obtaining the visas and passports.

May the Lord bless you richly as you contribute toward helping these children relocate to the UK. 🙏

Contributions can be made payable to:

GOSHEN INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES LIMITED

OCBC Bank Code : 7339 Account : 508-308962-001 (for Fund Transfer)

PayNow: UEN No. 198204059M

(For a direct deposit into our bank account or payment made via PayNow, please inform us via email to admin@gosheninternational.org or call 6456 0042 to facilitate our accountability to you.)

Alternatively you may mail your cheque to our address :

My Mail Box (Business) No. 880228, Singapore 919191

**In the event that the target fund is reached, any excess will be channelled to the general fund.*