



From the Golden Shore

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Dear Pastor and Praying Friends,

We are now two months in with our new church and are praising God for His care and provision. Over the last month, the Lord has brought us into contact with people who have open hearts to the Gospel, much like Lydia in Acts. “And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: **whose heart the Lord had opened**, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.” (Acts 16:14) Every time we go out, we ask the Lord to open hearts as well as doors.

In July our attendance was down some because of the rain and folks being out sick. During the rainy season, dengue is quite common. One of our church ladies has gastritis (inflammation of the stomach) which has been quite painful and has kept her away from church for most of the month. Please pray that the Lord would heal her body. Our rental building is also in a flood zone. During the second week of the month, we had some flooding in both the front and back of the building. This week one of the men helped raise the floor in the bathroom to keep it from flooding again. We also installed a western toilet, about which the ladies are happy.

Sometimes it is difficult to find someone whose heart God has opened to the gospel. Annie and I have been going out three to four times during the week. There have been some days, especially the rainy ones, when people did not want to talk much. The area where the church is has not had soul winners walking the streets in a very long time. Sometimes it feels as though we are plowing really hard ground. Most of the people we talk to have heard Jesus’ name, but they do not know who He is. We spend quite a bit of time explaining to people who exactly Jesus is. The first half of July was a little discouraging with no one getting saved or even giving us a chance to witness, but God encouraged our hearts in the last half of the month.

Two weeks ago, we did not have to go far to share the gospel. God brought them right to our house. A young man that we met a few years back was in town for the day, so he stopped by with his friend and his aunt. His aunt is saved, but his friend was not. When they came in they asked if I would talk with her. This lady had never heard the gospel before. I explained to her exactly who Jesus is. Even though she was not familiar with Jesus, she listened intently to every word. The Word of God touched her heart, and there was so much joy in the room when she asked Christ to save her. That afternoon she went back to her city with the assurance that she is saved forever. The next week, Annie and I met a mother and daughter who are from Hpa-An, which is almost two hours away. They regularly go back and forth between the two cities. They both were receptive to the gospel and got saved. It was amazing to see how God had opened their hearts also. I went by their house on the following Saturday, but they had left for the weekend. At the beginning of the month, I was discouraged because it seemed as though nobody wanted to get saved. Now we had a few people saved but have trouble getting them to church.

God, knowing our heart’s desire to help people grow after salvation, brought another person to our house to hear the gospel. The man in our church who helped fix the bathroom to keep it from flooding in the rain brought a young man to help work. Before getting to our house, the young man asked him what he does on Sundays. Our church member replied, “I go to church on Sunday.” This young man said, “I would like to come to church with you next Sunday.” This man said, “Before you come, I want you to hear something first.” Anyone who comes to work at our house knows the day always starts with coffee and some sort of breakfast. Over coffee, I explained to this young man how to be saved. He trusted Christ to save him before work. He is planning on coming to church this Sunday.

Financially, July was the tightest month of the year, yet God supplied all our need. We normally get a year visa, but last January we were only given six months. So we had to renew our visas last month. In all, it cost us \$5,000 for all seven of us, but we are praising God for the visa process going through without any problems. We can now stay in Burma for another year. God is also providing us with a baptistry for our church. We ordered a fiberglass tank to be custom made, and it should be delivered within the next few days. We are excited to get it installed and start baptizing our converts.



Sending Church: Grace Baptist Church of Troy, NY
Missions Agency: Golden Land Baptist Missions Horseheads, NY

The van God gave us has become increasingly troublesome and costly to maintain. We are in need of a more reliable and safer vehicle for our family and ministry. We had to repair the starter on the van twice and the sliding door three times in the last month. For a while we smelled gasoline inside the van every time we went someplace. The smell was stronger when it was raining. My first thought was, "We're gonna blow up on the way to church." Come to find out, a seal for some of the fuel injectors was leaking. Had the gas dripped onto the hot engine under the driver's seat, we would have been cooked, quite literally. Thank God we found the problem in time and replaced the seals. When Annie goes out to the market, she has to rent a taxi. By getting a better vehicle, we would cut down on the cost of repairs and taxis and also travel safer. We missionaries love adventures, but we try to stay away from unnecessary danger. Repairs are also becoming harder to make because our car has been discontinued, and replacement parts are rare. Currently, Myanmar is one of the most expensive places to buy a car. Because of the war, imports on vehicles are halted, causing high demand. Because of the dictatorship, the registration and license plate fees are "through the roof". A ten to twenty-year-old van costs anywhere between \$25-45,000 USD. We are praying, believing that God will meet this need. Would you please pray with us that God would provide the exact vehicle that we need? Feel free to share this letter with anyone looking to invest in missions. Our current vehicle has helped us reach many souls for Christ. We look forward to reaching many more souls whose hearts God has opened through the use of a better vehicle.

Please pray for the believers in our church and community to grow. Being two months old, our church is just starting out. We have a long road yet to go in getting it properly established in the faith. I am systematically preaching through the most basic doctrines (salvation, eternal security, baptism, Bible reading, prayer, *etc.*) to get the church off on the right foot. We are also producing material in Burmese to help them in their daily Christian walk. Please pray for God to give us His wisdom. We are not only praying for the lost but are also praying that God would open the hearts of the saved to live for Him. God bless. May God lead you to those hearts He has opened in your area.

Yours for souls,

The Davis Family

Matthew 4:16



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