



April 2022

Dear Co-laborer and Prayer Warrior in Christ,

Greetings from Bibles International. This month we are celebrating the resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Jesus said to Martha in John 11:25-26, "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die." He then asks her, "Believest thou this?" Jesus Christ makes an astounding proclamation. He tells Martha that He is the resurrection and the life. This is important for her to understand because her brother, Lazarus, is dead and Christ is about to perform an incredible miracle. He then tells her that this self-proclaimed identity, "the Resurrection and the Life," must be believed by her. If she does indeed believe in this truth, then two things will happen. First, if she were to die (like her brother), she would still live. Second, if she were to live, she would never die. Those are two bold statements. But that is what Easter, or Resurrection Sunday, is all about. It is about life – eternal life and the abundant life.

Do you believe this?

In John 11, Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. He produces life out of that which has no life. He wanted Martha to understand and believe this because it was important that all those who saw that miracle believe that life could only be produced by Him because He was life itself. Only Christ can produce life in the hearts of those who are spiritually dead. He spoke and Lazarus came forth. Life was produced in Lazarus from Christ's word of command. God's Word is living ("quick" to produce life in Hebrews 4:12). It is the incorruptible seed which lives and abides forever in 1 Peter 1:23. God uses His Word to produce life in the souls of those who believe in Him. That is why we are determined to labor so that the Word of God is translated into the mother tongue of all languages that do not yet possess it. We are convinced that for life to be produced in the hearts of those who are spiritually dead, they must have His Word. We see death every day due to disease, wars, and conflict. Life is fervently sought, but the kind of life that is eternal and abundant can only come from Christ and His Word.

The Need for LIFE in Myanmar. As we think of the resurrection and the life that Christ provided for us, our hearts ache for those in the country of Myanmar (Burma). This country in southeast Asia is currently experiencing civil unrest. They need LIFE – both eternal life for those who are without Christ, and the abundant life for those who are followers of the Lord Jesus. Life is valuable and precious. It is to be pursued, cherished, enjoyed, and treasured. Faith is needed (Romans 10:17). During times of anguish and distress, this need becomes paramount. In uncertain times and conditions, the need for the comforting, soul-satisfying, powerful, hope-filled, life-giving, and refreshing Word of God cannot be underestimated. Our hearts are stirred to do our part.

Two People Groups who are Pleading for Help. We wish we could meet the needs of all those who are in uncertain circumstances in Myanmar, but we cannot. We can certainly pray and take their needs before the heavenly throne room every day. In addition, we can do our part in providing the translated Scriptures for those in need. We would like to ask you to join our team and help us

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take life and hope to those in Myanmar who are pleading for God's Word. We can do no less. We know that the translated Scriptures have eternal value and would be the most important thing to strengthen and encourage their faith. They need to hear God speak to them in their own heart language. There are two particular people groups that are yearning for God's Word for guidance and encouragement: (1) the Asho Chin, and (2) the Long Phuri Naga. If God has entrusted some of His resources into your care, would you be willing to pray for God's guidance as to whether He would have you invest those resources to help these needy groups?

The Asho Chin New Testament and Literacy Project – The Asho Chin have a rich history and even share traditions/stories which include a deluge (flood) and the tower of Babel to account for the various clans that dwell throughout the Chin hills. While eastern religions have been dominant, about 25% profess Christianity (with about 10% who claim to be evangelical). Hearing their passionate plea for a Bible and literacy aid has been heart-wrenching. They crave to have their own written language and their own Bible. They have watched other groups worship, read, write, sing, and study in their language. This has produced a spiritual hunger and sanctified jealousy for the same. Translator training, work on the New Testament, and work on a primer with our literacy team have begun, but there is much work to do. The financial need is **\$25,000**.

The Long Phuri Naga Literacy Project – The Long Phuri Naga people have heard the gospel. One of the first young men to respond to the gospel went to a Christian seminary for additional training. However, they do not have a Bible or other resources. Although they have had some Scripture portions in an ancient Long Phuri script from the past, no one can read them today. The modern language remains unwritten. Therefore, our BI literacy team began to meet with them and has created their first reader. They have started to teach the reader to the adults in their churches. They desperately desire God's Word in their language in the future, too. The task is enormous but the need for literacy work is our current focus. The financial need is **\$45,000**.

Please pray for the Asho Chin and the Long Phuri Naga people. They are passionately pursuing God and pray that they will someday be able to have a copy of the Scriptures in their heart language, and be trained how to read them. Some funds have come in to help them already, but the above need is what is remaining. In summary, the Asho Chin need \$25,000 and the Long Phuri Naga need \$45,000, with a total for this combined appeal being **\$70,000**. God cares deeply for both the Asho Chin and the Long Phuri Naga, and grieves the hardships they have endured in their homeland. May God produce LIFE and HOPE among the Asho Chin and Long Phuri Naga through His translated Word for His glory.

If the Lord lays this need on your heart, you may give to either or both project(s) using the instructions here on our website. After choosing the "Give" tab on the top of our webpage, click the "GIVE" button to designate your gift. Choose "BI Languages" and scroll to the desired project name on the list. Thank you for praying and for serving the people in southeast Asia.

For the Glory of God and the people of Myanmar,



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