



One Lost Sheep

“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it?” Luke 15:4

Our Lord Jesus Christ taught us that everyone is priceless in the sight of God! We also should have a deep concern, compassion, and love for each person, to bring him from being lost in sin, from the power of Satan, and from the slavery of spiritual darkness to the light, love, and life and eternal salvation that are possible only through the blood of Christ.

In Luke chapter 15:3-8, Jesus told about the shepherd who had one hundred sheep. However, when one sheep got lost in the wilderness, the shepherd left behind the ninety-nine sheep in the sheepfold and went out to search for and to find that one lost sheep. Perhaps the lost sheep had fallen over the side of a cliff. Perhaps the lost sheep had gotten trapped by a tangle of thorns, so that he could not escape by himself. Perhaps the lost sheep had lost the way and gone far away from the rest of the flock. The suffering lost sheep by himself could not go to safety. He needed the shepherd to come and save him; otherwise, he would die!

We can imagine the shepherd going out on a wild, stormy night to find the lost sheep. Perhaps there was thunder and lightning, and the rain was falling hard, as in the monsoon season. The shepherd went out, calling the name of his lost sheep searching carefully, loving, and compassionately.

The one lost sheep was not very valuable for money's sake, but this lost sheep was very dear and precious to the shepherd, more than silver and gold. This lost sheep was like a member of the family to the shepherd. The shepherd walked over dangerous trails, to find the lost sheep no matter how much danger the shepherd himself had to endure to find him. At last, the shepherd found the lost sheep! It was so weak that the shepherd had to carry him home tenderly and loving on his shoulders, all the way back to the ninety-nine sheep that were already in safety. The shepherd called out to his neighbors, “Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.”

Jesus said, “There is rejoicing among the angels in heaven, over one sheep that was lost and now found, rather than ninety-nine sheep that did not need to be found”. Also, Jesus said, “The Son of Man has come to seek and save that which was lost.” (Luke 19:10)

In the Epistle of James, we read, “My brethren, if any of you strays from the truth, and one turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way, will save



Celebrating Baptisms



LaVerne Morse with Evangelists, 2004

his soul from death, and will cover a multitude of sin.” (James 5:19-20) We Christians need to have such a compassion, such a love, for the lost sheep. All around us, there are many lost sheep, and we should go out to reach them where they are to save them. We need to go even to dangerous places, and even to new regions where we have never gone before, to find the lost sheep. We need to go even when the skies are stormy, and the thunder is raging, and the lightning is crashing, into the darkness of the night to find the lost sheep.

When we find the lost sheep, we need to speak to him softly, tenderly, and reassuringly. We need to let the sheep know our care and our love. Our Lord Jesus Christ taught us that even one lost sheep is priceless, and we need to go and find and save that lost sheep.

Let us be faithful shepherds, following the supreme example of our Chief Shepherd, our Lord Jesus Christ!

– LaVerne Morse, March 21, 2007

ACS Puts a stake in the ground to reach the Rohingya People in Bangladesh — Mike Gerber

Cox Bazaar in Bangladesh is the home of almost 1,000,000 Rohingya Muslim Refugees. This is believed to be the largest refugee camp in the world. (Half of those refugees are believed to be children!)

Since 2017, 750,000 refugees have fled persecution and mass killings from the Burmese Military (more than 10,000 killed) and crossed the border into Bangladesh. They have relocated to the Cox Bazaar area. The refugee areas are fenced in by chain link and barbed wire. The Rohingya

people in this camp have faced one horrible situation after another.

In March of this year, a massive fire swept through this refugee camp, swallowing homes and people in its deadly blaze. In the wake of the fire, 11 people were counted dead, 400 missing, 560 injured, and 45,000 people left without tents or shelter of any kind.

In late July, the B. Rohingya Refugee Camp in Bangladesh (Part of the greater Cox Bazaar area) was overwhelmed by torrential flooding. Three hundred homes were destroyed, thousands are now displaced and homeless in the camp, and many others drowned or were injured in the landslides and flooding. All this added to the Covid issues left the camp devastated.

Because of a generous gift to ACS from a church in New Mexico through STADIA, three evangelists began a dangerous trip this month to Cox Bazaar to recover “lost sheep” reflecting Jesus’ story of the shepherd who left the ninety-nine to search and rescue the one lost sheep emphasizing the value of every person – no matter the danger. After much prayer and consideration, a team in Bangladesh felt led to begin the work in particular section of Cox Bazaar. They are there to plant a church among the Rohingya Muslim people.

The team will include three evangelists and their families, each with different experiences and gifts. The team leader Paul*, has had a heart for the Rohingya people for some time, so he has been traveling to this area as financial support allowed. He has a small core of converts that, although dispersed by one of the disasters, will likely return. The other two team members Timothy* and Titus* have been training and preparing and praying for an opportunity to go to the lost and are excited to have this chance. Our prayer is that God



Children in the Cox Bazaar Camp



Cox Bazaar Camp

will be glorified among the Rohingya people and by His leading, the workers will make the name of Jesus famous in this dark and difficult place.

The team:

Paul* was brought up in Hindu family. He was of the Bengali tribe in Bangladesh. He has three Children of school age. He did not attend Sunday school in his childhood as He belonged to a Hindu family. In 1990 when He heard the good news of “Salvation” from a Missionary preaching in his uncle’s village, he was baptized soon after in 1991. He completed Christian college studies in India and felt a compassion for the Rohingya people as he served as a worker with Compassion International of Bangladesh off and on from 2012 to 2019.

He said, “God gave me opportunities to share the gospel, and some have responded. By God’s grace, I was able to start a worship service every Sundays in my home for a while. There are many more people to reach out in the area where we have been serving. So please remember us in your prayer so that I can reach them someday.”

Timothy* is from a Christian family in the Hill District of Bangladesh. He married in 2020. He heard the gospel from his mother while in his teens. He gave his life to ministry when a missionary came to his village and shared a message on the Great Commission. The message was powerful and touched his heart. Afterwards, he left all and began a ministry among youth and adults. He continually prayed that many unreached people could hear the gospel of Jesus Christ through his ministry. His passion for the lost was noted by the church leaders and he was sent to evangelize in the hill

country in 2014. He felt inadequate in his Bible knowledge, so he went to Bible College in India in 2015. The faculty also noted him and assigned him to minister to the lost.

He said, “I will always remember that God has chosen me to be his servant. I will serve the lost and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ faithfully in my life.”

Titus* was brought up in a Christian Family in a village near the border of Myanmar. He is from the Bawm tribe (Chin). He was baptized in 2016. He has been leading weekly worship services and serving children through Sunday School in his church.

He said, “As I have heard God’s call for his Kingdom expansion work, I am ready to go wherever He wants me to go and serve the Lord in my life. I continually pray to God that someday I can serve the unreached people with my life. I strongly believe that many lost people will be saved, and His name will be glorified!”

This dangerous assignment is happening because of the love of Christ that fills their hearts and the presence of the Holy Spirit that empowers them to fulfill the order of Jesus to go find the lost sheep! Thank you for being part of the sending group that fuels the fire of passion to reach the lost in SE Asia. Every lost sheep matters!

** Note: The names of these evangelists have been changed in order to help ensure their safety as well as the safety of their families.*

Due to the sensitive nature of some of the content of this newsletter, there is an added risk to some workers in the fields of Myanmar and Bangladesh. We ask that you please do not post this newsletter in any way that might put our team in danger.

News from Asia Mission Field — News from Simon

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ from Myanmar.

We are suffering CCF triple disaster: Coup, Covid, Flood and living in unsafe situations. This is the darkest days and there are shooting, bombing, violence daily. The people are hopeless, helpless, and struggling hard for life in this pandemic time.



Flood Relief in Covid



Internal Displaced People from the Coup

Over 200,000 peoples are displaced by killing brutal military coup. They left homes, animals, barns, and all properties and escaped into jungle, safe zone.

BLESSED TO BLESS OTHERS:

“All peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis 12:3. We are Christ’s ambassadors, blessed by God to bless all the nations. 2 Cor. 5:19.

In the midst of hardship, wars, Covid-19, natural disasters, and poverty, we aim to love people, share the Good News, the living Hope in Christ and transform their lives.



Praying for the Refugees



Giving Thanks for God’s Provision

RESPONSE TO COVID-19:

“For the Son of Man (Jesus) came to seek and to save the lost. Luke 19:10. We love to follow Jesus; teaching to GO, HELP & SAVE. The covid patients are suffering at home without medical care as the Coup is not able to help. Our team is going the patients homes and share food, medicines, oxygen cylinders, and pray for them. God is faithful and protected us. Volunteers have not transmitted Covid.

MEDICAL CARE:

Medical care and Prayers are the key to heal their physical, mental and spiritual sickness.



Covid Medical Relief



Refugees Returning to the Jungle with Food



Mulashidi Covid Center



Covid Patient Oxygen Relief



Relief Delivery by River Boat

REACHING REFUGEES WHERE THEY ARE:

We wanted to help refugees. Yes, God blessed enough supplies to help. We distributed food to 25,000 refugees after sharing the Good News and praying for them.

BAPTISM:

This is obeying the Great Commission of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Our team reached and baptized 26 souls in this quarter.



A Lost Sheep is Found

WORDS OF THANKS & CHALLENGE:

Thank you so much for your partnership, love, and prayers. Let's continue to obey and follow Jesus' teaching to GO, HELP & SAVE THE LOST. We stand on the Word of God and share the HOPE of Salvation found in no other name but only in Jesus Christ.

Your fellow Laborer in Christ's Service,
- Simon & True Family



Relief Delivery by Bus



Meeting the Needs of Many

A Prelude to Presenting the Gospel:

A retaining wall to prevent flooding, increase irrigation and crop production.

January 2021: ACS received a request to help a large village in northern Myanmar made up of Lisu, Rawang, Khamti Shan and Kachin people who live side by side. The Khamti Shan are Buddhist and resistant to the Gospel. A church is established in the village and an elder reached out to see if help could be gotten from Christian brothers to solve a big problem for the village. Manasseh Fish spoke for them....



The Irrigation Canal

He said, *“Their village has an irrigation canal which is 949 ft long. The problem that they are facing every year is that since they can’t build a concrete retaining wall for the canal, the canal is overflowing with water and makes erosions during the rainy season every year. As a result, a part of the village is flooded every year and the water can’t reach to the paddy fields since the canal is eroded and breaks in many places in the middle.*

He continued, *“They started building a retaining wall with their own resources from last December and they finished building 362 ft in length this year. But now, the resources they gathered were now spent up and they couldn’t continue the work. There are 567 ft left to finish the retaining wall. He said it is very important to have done the rest of the canal before the rainy season comes in next June. They have no other places where they can approach with their needs and they have come asking for help. The total cost of building the remaining retaining wall 567 ft in length would be \$1,600 USD.*

He also said, *“If they get the funds, the labor can be done by the villagers. He said that if they have done the whole retaining wall, the villagers would be free from the flood and over 100 acres of the paddy fields could be irrigated, and it will benefit over 200 families (over 1000 villagers). Moreover, the **Khamti Shan** who are Buddhists will be also touched with the love of Christ.*



The Villagers Working Together

ACS used funds from our General Fund for this project.

May 14, 2021: This is the report from the Elder Timothy to Manasseh Fish about the project:

Timothy told me that 186 villagers volunteered the work... He said that seeing the benefits of the retaining wall, every villager actively volunteered the work and so, they finished it in three days.

Timothy said that since the retaining wall is done, the villagers will have many benefits. The village will be free from the flood and also the villagers can start growing paddy over 100 more acres from this year since there would be no more flooding from this year on. He said there is still much virgin land which can be changed into paddy fields in the



Retaining Wall Completed

future. So, they are very thankful to you for their kind donation. Thank you very much. God bless you.

September 5, 2021: Today, Mr. Timothy, the elder, sent me some pictures of the paddy fields irrigated from the canal for which we helped them build a retaining wall through donation last May. He said that the retaining wall benefits the people a lot because the people could irrigate about **200 acres** of new paddy fields this year.

He told me that even the widows and orphans are so happy that they are saying that they didn't get enough rice last year but this year, they will have enough rice to eat because of the retaining wall. It is right that our small donation makes a huge difference in the villagers' lives. They are very happy to have a good harvest this year. Thank you very much. God bless you.



Paddy Field is Flourishing



Widows



Orphans

New Believers at Three Pagodas with Min Bai — by Myoram

Special greetings to you in the name of our Lord. We hope that you and your family are doing well in the midst of challenges time. We all are also doing well under the protection of God.

It's always a joyful heart to share with you about how God is doing great things in His ministry and extension His created people. Today, on September 4, 2021, the Lord brings four new souls. They accepted Jesus as their personal Savior and



Four New Believers

were baptized. Praise the Lord for His great work and we would like to ask you to pray for their new life in Christ.

And also, we are still working for dining room and wall for the church building. Please remember this ministry in your prayer. Thank you for your prayers and support. All to be His glory. In Christ – Myoram



A New Outside Wall for Security

(Note from Kent: This ministry in southern Myanmar is led by Min Bai for the Mon tribe and is an outstanding work. He has been an evangelist his whole life, starting churches, raising up new leaders, then moving on to start new churches. The church is building a wall around the church for security and also a separate building to use as a kitchen. They ran out of funds and had to temporarily stop. \$3,500 is needed to finish this project. In a country where \$1-3 per day is the average wage, a donation would be a great boost for the new church. If you would like to give toward this endeavor, please note on your check: Wall/ Kitchen Project.)

Memorials

In Memory of:

LaVerne Morse

Given by:

Ruth Morse Johnson

Be sure to check out our website:
asiachristianservices.com

Robinson Mana MBI—Myanmar Bible Institute

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

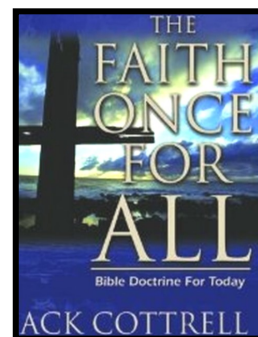
This past month August, we received a grant from IDES. Since before we do this project, we tried to reach out many of our new friends who are unbelievers. Two were baptized during this project week. I am so happy to serve the Lord because I have been able to add a little salt to our neighbors through this project.



Baptism of New Believer

For this semester, I am teaching: Systematic Theology II, the Book of Revelation, and Expository preaching. Especially in the book of Revelation class, students asked me lots of questions. That is really good to me. I had to study much more than I usually do. I love this kind of hardworking experience. Praise God! In some other times, I usually spend times in translating Jack Cottrell's "The Faith Once for All" into Burmese. It would be for 50 million of Burmese speaking people. Dr. Cottrell contributed lots of good insights in this book and it is very beneficial for all those who are able to read. I feel so blessed as I am a part of translators. I am now on chapter 18. What a blessing!

No matter what is taking place in the world, God is at work. We are moving forward to reach the goals that we have set. Friends, thank you so much for your constant prayers and financial support. We love you all. In Christ's name's sake, Robinson and Family



Dr. Jack Cottrell Book

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