

20**25** — The Year of Pleading for God's Great Mercy!

Psalm 25:6

"Now this is **eternal life**:
that they know you,
the only true God, and
Jesus Christ,
whom you have sent."
John 17:3



Kuedsamsip Headman "Pong" Sharing Scripture in Church

Establishing Churches

Developing Communities

Empowering People

Nurturing Life



Joni & Nangsar



Sunday church service in the new church that Eastside built at Kuedsamsip Village Pang Mapha District, Mae Hong Son Province, Thailand



Kuedsamsip Village Congregation

God is continuing to do great and mighty things across northern Thailand. We are seeing entire villages being transformed through the power of the gospel! The eight Lisu villages that were blessed with water projects in the Pang Mapha district of Mae Hong Son province are hearing the clear message of Christ for the first time. We want to thank all of our friends and supporting churches for helping us carry out the work that God has assigned to us.

Non-Christian Lisu communities here in Thailand have traditionally called themselves "NEE LA TSO". This translates as "devil people," or "demon people." Christians are called "WU-SA LA TSO". This translates as "God's people."

We are currently in the process of persuading the Lisu living in this district to stop referring to themselves as being "demon people." Instead, are encouraging them to begin calling themselves "God's people" as a first step towards discovering their true identity as people created in God's image.

The village headman of Kuedsamsip has now embraced this change of thinking. We are currently talking with the other headmen about the need for adopting a new orientation for their people as a whole.



Group Photo of Visiting Outreach Team from the Phrao District

In between our own visits to oversee the new work in this district, we have been sending in outreach teams from various places outside of this area. These outreach teams from the older churches that we have established are being sent into the area twice a month to strengthen the new Christians.

Please join us in lifting up this new work in your prayers. We are in the process of sorting out the various pieces that make up the distinctive characteristics of Lisu tradition and folk religion so that everyone can come to a consensus on what aspects of the old ways need to be kept, and what features can be changed. We will need all the discernment in navigating these cultural sensitivities.

Your Fellow Coworkers.

Joni & Nangsar

"... on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."