

## Cambodia – Fall 2007

This fall we were reminded of the need to always be flexible in our Father's fields. Our original plan for this fall was to travel once again to Myanmar and conduct several institutes among the Lisu people of Northern Myanmar. We were excited about this opportunity to continue our work among these former head hunters who live high up in the mountains beyond the reach of most mission organizations. Needless to say our plans took an unexpected turn when violent clashes broke out between the ruling military junta and the people they oppress. As the time for our team's departure grew near it became clear that now would not be a good time for some Americans to travel to Myanmar and convene meetings with nationals. So with the advice of several trusted friends inside Myanmar we were forced to postpone this work and make other plans. This was probably the most difficult decision we have made in the history of The Aquila Project.

With a quick call to our travel agent and some frantic work on their part we were able to change the air tickets (rather than lose them) and head back to Cambodia. This was done on a very short notice, but we are very excited about the outcome of this fall's trip. Our national director for Cambodia, Nivath Nhem, invited us to come and work together on the next phase of our work in the Kingdom of Cambodia. We have long recognized the need to greatly multiply our work among the many leaders in Cambodia who desperately need equipping and encouragement in their work. We would like to take this opportunity to share with you, or faithful supporters, where we are headed in this work.

Working closely with Nivath and other friends in Cambodia we have developed a plan to utilize indigenous trainers across Cambodia to greatly impact a larger number of leaders. Nivath made a proposal to us this fall to expand the work into 8 different provinces, targeting new pastors and new church plants. This will be done by identifying leaders we have been working with since 2003, and empowering them to go to these new areas and provide training conferences on essential areas of ministry for these new pastors. The plan calls for conducting 4 conferences in each of the 8 provinces each year. In 2008, the plan calls for 125 pastors participating in 4 conferences each, one per quarter. At the end of the year each participant will take part in a graduation ceremony and be commissioned to spread the good news of Jesus across the Kingdom.

Needless to say, this is exciting stuff and we are looking forward with great anticipation to seeing these new leaders having a tremendous impact in their given fields. We are still planning on taking a team of American trainers in the summer

of 2008 and continuing to train these key leaders. The impact of this ministry continues to grow in this nation where only 2% of the population identifies itself as "Christian".

On this falls trip to Cambodia, Jeff was able to meet with all of the key leaders and discuss this new model in great detail. We are confident that this will have a tremendous impact on the future of the Church in Cambodia. In addition, Jeff conducted a short training conference with about 46 of our oldest friends in Cambodia, many of whom will be involved with the new plan. It was a tremendous time of encouragement, equipping, and empowerment of some of our "heroes" in Cambodia.

It is our goal to take this model and implement it in Myanmar as well. The doors are closing very rapidly in Myanmar for westerners to go and conduct any type of work, so the need for this type of program is greatly needed. Please join us in praying for the implementation of this model in Myanmar next year.

As God continues to open doors of opportunity for this ministry, your involvement in this work is more important than ever. Your support through your prayers and financial gifts are making a huge difference in the lives of thousands of our brothers and sisters in these dark corners of the world.

Thanks for continuing on this journey with us!

Jeff and David

P.S. If you would like more details or would like to visit with us about your involvement in this new phase, please do not hesitate to contact us. Our contact information is at the bottom of the page. We would love the opportunity to share with your church, Bible Study Class, Men's Group, Women's Group, or business associates!