



Evangelical Friends Mission

July 2019 Prayer Letter

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Our purpose and passion is to fuel a worldwide movement of people who seek first the kingdom of God, planting churches that live and die to carry out the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.

"Ask of me and I will give you the nations as your inheritance, the ends of the earth as your possession!"

Psalm 2:8

Our brothers and sisters working in The Way Foundation in Chiang Rai, Thailand (friends through Damascus and Winona Friends Churches in Ohio - EFC-ER) are praying about the communities they will be discipling over the next few years. They have been going through a process preparing their team to mentor a community through a transformation process where the community overcomes the things that hold them down in poverty and release the blessing of the Kingdom of God among them. They have come up with criteria and they have taken many trips to help them discern the most "ready" communities for this work. They are also actively seeking insight from the Holy Spirit to know which communities to select. Even though we don't know which communities they will select, we can join them and Jesus in asking the Father for these specific Lahu communities. We believe that the transformation that will happen, a clear example of God's Kingdom come among the people of these villages, along with all the leaders who will be developed through this process will be the foundation of a growing disciple-making movement reaching deep into the rest of the Lahu speaking cultures and beyond them into other people groups.



Join me, our Lahu brothers and sisters, and Jesus as we "Ask the Father" for these communities, for the Lahu nations, and for the nations God wants to reach through his Lahu church (their inheritance)!

David Thomas
Whole-Life Discipleship



Group picture of The Way Foundation D4D team and their coaches in a Bible Telling workshop.

From the EFM Office

Praise God...

- For the funds that have come in to help young adults and many of our missionaries and national leaders in EFM's Asian fields go to Bangalore, India, for the 2019 Elisha Generation conference.
- For the progress we as a staff are making in working together as a virtual office. We are located in California, Oregon, Kansas, Arkansas, and Michigan. We have staff meetings twice a month and have contact with one another almost daily through email and other internet-based tools. We appreciate your prayers for us as we learn to work with one another from a distance (much like our missionaries do).

Please Pray...

- For everyone who is traveling to and from Bangalore for the Elisha Generation conference and also for the conference itself. This gathering will take place July 1-6. Dan will be one of the speakers along with Albert Adhikari, David Williams, Crisanto de la Cruz, and others. The primary goal of the conference is to raise up more workers for God's mission to the world.
- For Dan's visit to West Bengal following the Elisha Generation conference where he will spend time with D.K. and Choity Sarkar and the leaders of the yearly meeting in that part of India.
- For the annual sessions that are taking place in Alaska Yearly Meeting, Evangelical Friends Church-Eastern Region, Northwest Yearly Meeting, Evangelical Friends Church-Mid America Yearly Meeting, and Iowa Yearly Meeting this month. They are taking place in that order. Pray that God's kingdom purposes will be accomplished in each of these sessions.

From Roy and Jinky Twaddell Serving in The Philippines (EFM)

Praise God...

- We had a successful training with our churches in Samar. They will be using the teachings on Islam in their ministries.
- We will be attending Christopher and Nathlyd's formal wedding celebration in August.

Please Pray...

- Our Purok Uno outreach begins ESL classes on June 29th. Already we are talking with the children and parents in preparation for the start of our work. We continue to have a good response with our students and families and with our church outreach staff from Silangan Friends Church. Please pray for God's presence in all we do in Purok Uno.
- For the start of Year Two at FEAST. I will be teaching an ESL related to Theological English this Semester. This is a very real class for those that speak English as a second language but struggle with complex theological terms and language. So, I will teach English in a theological context.
- For the August trip to Palawan, from August 2-8. I will be presenting a teaching on sacrifice in preparation for Eid al-Adha (August 10th) to Tagnipa and Tabon Friends. There is a strong message of Christ's sacrificial death that relates to the Muslim Eid al-Adha.
- Please keep our Iranian partners in prayer. All the issues have increased the persecution of the Church in Iran. Pray specifically that they will continue to train the in-country leaders with and in the Power of Christ.

From Rupak and Pramila Tamang Serving in Bhutan (EFM)

Praise God...

- That three confessed and two gave a public testimony of baptism.
- For the successful marriage at Thimphu Fc of our friends many witnessed.
- For all the sister churches running smoothly.

Please Pray...

- For Bible school that starts from 8th January.
- For our visit to India Elisha Conference.
- For a good result for our boys half yearly exam of class 12.

From Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj Serving in Nepal (EFM)

Praise God...

- Prateek graduated from High school (+2) successfully and is now ready for college in the US. We thank God for a favorable response from GFU Oregon for his application for admission in the Honors course for the Fall 2019 session.
- The ministry and contacts among the Mussahars (Dalit) community (in Jugolia and Santapur of Rautahat District) and nearby areas, and we are helping to run a house fellowship among them with the help of one trainee from Asha's Tailoring & Crafts Training in Cha'pur.
- The contacts in Baranla (Pyuthan) and Rolpa where Narayan has been able to establish contact with some believer families and is also taking the form of a house fellowship.

Please Pray...

- Our Far West Ministry has run into problems again with the leader quitting because of personal problems and running his own business. A road trip to Bajhang, Baitadi, and Bajura has been planned in the month of July before the monsoon sets in and the roads get damaged. Anita and Solomon Magar (Jhurjhure Friends Church) are being guided into taking a decision to moving into the Far West and running a house fellowship set up in a suitable place.
- For 14 year old Neelam Sada who attends tuition in Arun and Babli's Children CHE Ministry in Aurahi (Janakpur), She prayed for her non believer father and he recovered from problems in life and accepted Christ.
- For our CHE Trainers - Suleman and Gokarna as they go for the Elisha Generation meetings in Bangalore to be held from 1st to 6th July. They have never traveled outside Nepal and have lot of apprehensions not knowing the Indian languages and never traveled by train before, but they are excited to learn more for their spiritual growth through this meeting.

From B. and D. A. Serving in Nepal (EFM)

Praise God...

- We praise the Lord that the new converts are being trained and DISCIPLINED.

Please Pray...

- We need prayer to endure for the summer months because it gets extremely hot.

**From Abe and Diane Bible
Serving in Ukraine (EFC-ER)**

Praise God...

- We are half way through our deputation time in the US and it has been a wonderful time celebrating with supporting churches a life of 50 years together in ministry. A time to give glory to God!
- The Lord has given us safe travels and health. We are especially conscious of it being back with old friends, some of who have a number of health problems. We are in God's hands, aren't we?
- Praise for a 19-year-old car that runs wonderfully and for the mechanic who has looked after it for us, and the friends who store it when we are overseas!

Please Pray...

- The month of July will be busy as we continue speaking at churches and celebrating God's goodness. Pray that we will be sustained till the end and that God will receive great honor and glory through it all.
- Abe has just received his conference schedule for the fall and winter to continue training leaders in evangelism and church planting. Pray that men all across Ukraine will respond and pray that God will provide the resources to carry out this ministry for another year.
- For our church planters in Ukraine who continue throughout the summer to evangelize and pray and touch hearts, that they will be faithful, and that the Lord will provide much fruit.

From EFC-Nepal

Praise God...

- We would like to express a heartfelt Thanks EFM family for providing funds and upholding us in prayer for Silver Jubilee of EFCN on 28th May 2019 and National Conference on 26th and 27th May 2019. We had 400 selected members from all the Evangelical Friends Churches in Nepal to attend this conference and Jubilee. EFM's First Missionary couple (Rev Dr John Vanlal and Sangi) to Nepal were present on these very auspicious special events. We had distinguished guests from Taiwan, India, EFCR-ER USA.
- Praise God for a four day Pastor and Associate Pastor Training in Godawari 28–31 July 2019. Also, for new member being added into our Churches and seven persons have taken water baptism.
- Praise God for Successful Graduation of 19 students on 18th June 2019, and now they all reached their respective places with lots of excitements and enthusiasm.
- Praise God for successful programs.

Please Pray...

- Pray for continuity in unity, love and cooperation among leaders and believers and spiritual awakening in our churches to bring inner oneness in Christ.
- For land and building in Janakpur, Dhulikhel, Kathmandu, Tintalle and other places as well.
- That we would face and overcome our challenges in different aspects and various capacity to reach new places with greater heights for Kingdom sake.
- For upcoming conferences and field visitation.

**From Voicu and Ana Marian
Serving in Romania (EFC-ER)**

Praise God...

- Good year-end results for our students, many answered prayers, God's goodness above what we could ask or imagine.
- Christina's work contract; John's spiritual growth and desire to work at his job as unto the Lord.
- The joy of new Christian marriages; opportunities to participate at weddings of former students.

Please Pray...

- Our spiritual daughters' health and protection (Aurelia, Loredana, and Petruta). In particular Petruta, who suffers from Addison's (adrenal disease) and is not doing well lately.
- Travel safety and good connections flying to Ohio on Jul 9 (three different flights from Sibiu to Columbus). Provision of a job for John who's also coming for three months.
- Energy, inspiration and clarity while sharing the Lord's message in churches.

**From Dave and Cindy Aufrance
Serving in Hong Kong (EFC-ER)**

Praise God...

- Pastor Tommy Hui will become the senior pastor (minister-in-charge) of RiverGrace beginning July 1. Cindy and I will work alongside him for this year transition.
- For four public testimonies of baptism month, and others that said they would also like to be baptized at our next baptism later in the fall.

Please Pray...

- Cindy and I will be traveling to the States for most of July. Pray for health and safety in travels and that we will have wisdom in decision being made for our retirement and return to the States in 2020.
- For the situation in Hong Kong. Two huge demonstrations of one and two million people have happened in June, protesting some proposals by the Legislative Council and the Hong Kong CEO, regarding extradition to China from Hong Kong. People are rightly fearful because of the lack of justice and rule of law in the court system in China.

**From David Thomas
EFM Whole-Life Discipleship**

Praise God (Thailand)...

- For unity among The Way Foundation D4D team leaders and members! Praise God for widespread growth and use of the Bible telling skill among many of them! Praise God for growth in many areas needed for discipling their villages!
- Fmon, Yosapa, Charlee and Pla, the four leaders who lead the two D4D teams. Thank God for their different gifts, decision-making and planning skills!

Please Pray (Thailand)...

- For continued wisdom and favor as our D4D leaders disciple and mentor their team members. Pray for the Holy Spirit's blessing and favor as our Lahu brothers and sisters seek to grow by creating personal development plans and by following up and encouraging each other through these plans.
- For clear discernment and insight from heaven as these leaders guide their teams in seeking God's guidance in selecting the communities he is leading them to disciple.

- For both Kibbe families as they travel back to America for the summer for safety, rest and good connections with their partners.

Praise God (Rwanda)...

- For five D4D church teams throughout Rwanda who have engaged their community leaders in a vision casting day to envision what their communities could look like as God's Kingdom is free to thrive among them!
- For Tertullien and Gerard and their training and coaching of the five teams focused on mobilizing their whole communities.
- For pastor Sam, a D4D leader in Bujumbura, Burundi who is engaging his church and his community aiming to see God's Kingdom thrive among them!
- For widespread transformation among leaders in Burundi. They are learning to steward well the resources God has given them, and this is making a big difference in their lives and in the lives of other leaders they are influencing.

Please Pray (Rwanda)...

- For the five Rwandan D4D church teams to continue to build excellent relationships with leaders in their communities (government, other church and religious leaders, etc. Then pray that together with their communities' leaders they will be able to select FATT (Faithful, Available, Teachable, able to Teach others, 2 Timothy 2:2 people) that they will mentor and who will disciple their communities.
- For insight for Tertullien and Gerard as they coach 18 leaders working through these five churches, engaging their whole communities to see God's Kingdom come!
- For our Burundi and our eastern DR Congo leaders to grow in their understanding of whole-life discipleship, in their personal transformation, and in their Bible-telling skills. Pray for excellent learning and life transformation as they implement what they are learning in the preparation phase.
- For wisdom for Brad and Augustin as they mentor Sam and other emerging D4D leaders in Burundi and Eastern DR Congo.
- For breakthrough with a "dependency" minded leader in Uvira, DR Congo.

Praise God (Cambodia)...

- For the relationships and opportunities God is opening up for the Swards and Elise in Stueng Treng. Praise God for unity and a good partnership with their YWAM colleagues in this area.

Please Pray (Cambodia)...

- For a deepening of each team member's relationship with Jesus, and for discernment in the Holy Spirit's leading. Pray for Scott's relationship with a young teacher and the leaders in the village he comes from.