



"BRICK BY BRICK!"

"ARE WE MAKING PROGRESS?" we sometimes wonder, as the attendances at the monthly meetings of the Thai fellowship groups goes up and

down, new people come, but others depart.

It is helpful to observe a bricklayer, putting each brick carefully in place, the rows gradually going upwards. Not much of a change, still a long way to go. But then, before long, the wall is finished, and progress



has been made! Once there was just a muddy patch, now a new house!

At the first session of our recent Thai Committee Retreat, members were asked what they wanted to

thank God for in the year that has passed. It was clear we hadn't been standing still! Progress was visible:

In our fellowship groups

- * These vary in size, but mostly continue steadily and well, with occasionally new members joining.
- * Leaders are taking increased responsibility to organize the monthly meeting, and weekly prayer times.
- * With ourselves not providing the music at all the meetings, several members are now learning guitar!



In new growth

- * Several new contacts have come to faith; recently we prayed with one on Zoom to accept the Lord!
- * 4 members have been baptized in

their local churches, David with a Thai helper conducting two of them.

* Two locations are possible starts for new groups – in Oxford and Kent – and hope to see progress there.

In our joint meetings,

- * This year the annual Camp was held at a new place with much improved facilities, and saw 13 members consecrate themselves to serve the Lord fully.
- * The two fellowship Days (at Manchester in April, and at Cheltenham in October) were both well attended, with most arrangements made by the members.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders... of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end" (Isaiah 9.6a,7a)

In the committee

- * We now have 4 business meetings per year (2 online, 2 in person), and monthly prayer meetings online – a pattern that is working well.



- * The vision of the committee is growing, and they are praying towards 5 new groups in the next 5 years.

- * We have a new treasurer in place, now being a charity; we pray for a new chairperson and secretary!

In the returnees to Thailand

- * Between 15 and 20 continue with the Lord, and are mostly involved in local churches.
- * Every 3 months they have a joint meal together in Bangkok, for mutual encouragement.
- * Their prayer items continue to be shared with the UK Thai believers in their monthly prayer sheet.

*All these reflections give cause for thanksgiving to the Lord. **Pray** that we may not be complacent, but continue to look to the Lord for his guidance and help.*

Also for prayer

1. Christmas is a good opportunity for Thai believers to witness to their friends; *pray* for their meetings.
2. At the 2-day Committee Retreat, we made plans for future growth; *pray* these can be carried out.
3. Teams are needed to establish new fellowship groups; *pray* the Lord will call and prepare members.
4. We hope to spend time with all the family this Christmas; *pray* for a special time of blessing.
5. *Pray* Mary's ongoing medical care will be effective.

Thanks for praying.

Wishing you a very happy Christmas!

David and Mary



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