



THE HARVEST IS RIPE, BUT THE WORKERS ARE FEW

BY SYNLA LAO, SERVING IN CAMBODIA

Along Veng province, one of Cambodia's most spiritually dark areas, is experiencing an emerging spiritual awakening. Unbelievers are flooding into Khmer Evangelical (Alliance) churches every week to check out the many reports of healings and miracles. Some drop by and then leave, but many stay for the service. As a result, attendance at Sunday services or classes has doubled or tripled.

Among the new visitors at the church in Srae Nouy village were several female relatives. For generations, all the women in this family had suffered from severe curses and demonic oppression. Marta,* the grandmother, used to practice black magic and had made her living as a fortune teller. Although she no longer deals in the occult, she and the entire family still experienced chronic headaches, slurred speech, and many unexplained physical pains.

During a Sunday service, when it was time to pray for healing, Marta and her 59-year-old daughter, Leta*, went forward. The church leaders approached them to lay hands on and pray for them.

Marta had suffered chronic pain in her left arm for more than 30 years. She had to keep it bent to have relief. After receiving prayer, she was finally able to straighten her arm. Leta, who had suffered a chronic headache her entire life, said, "No medicine can help me!" But after church leaders interceded for her, the headache was no more. As church members continued to pray for Leta, she passed out twice and awoke smiling—completely free. The pastor concluded that she had been freed of at least two evil spirits. As a result of seeing her deliverance and new freedom in Christ, Leta's husband gave his life to Jesus. The three continue to attend church when they can get a ride.

As my husband, Soeuth, and I continue our weekly discipleship classes in the villages, our students come expecting to hear God's words. Many people are asking for new classes, but we can do only so much with just the two of us. If we had more time and extra help, we could easily start two or three new classes in each village! Ask the Lord of the harvest to send us more workers. Pray also for Pastor Dy, who shepherds the church in Srae Nouy.

*Names changed



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Don't Give Up on Praying for the Lost

BY AN ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL WORKER
SERVING IN SENEGAL

While serving as an Alliance apprentice in Senegal, I befriended Sam*, a young Guinean man from the majority religion. As our friendship grew, we began studying the Bible together, focusing on Jesus' life. Eventually, Sam returned to Guinea, and we lost touch. Later, my wife and I were appointed to serve in Senegal full time. Sam was living here in another city, and we started meeting again. But I began to feel discouraged because he hadn't shown signs of committing his life to Christ.

One day Sam said, "I pray and fast all the time, yet I don't see any change in my life. I observe all my friends praying and fasting, and nothing good ever comes from their prayers either. What do I do?" I reminded him about our studies of Jesus' life and the miracles He performed, and I encouraged Sam to pray in His name. "If Jesus can do all that, I'm sure He can hear and answer your prayers," I said. Sam said he would try praying in the name of Jesus.

The night he did so, Sam had a dream in which a man—bright as light—appeared to him. The dream was troubling because Sam didn't understand its significance. During a visit, I was able to encourage him. I recounted testimonies from believers who have had visions and dreams in which Jesus appeared as light. Pray that God will continue to reveal Himself to Sam—and that he will embrace Christ as Savior.

*Name changed

The Intercessor's Artillery

Adapted from Touch the World through Prayer, by Wesley L. Duwel, originally published in 1986 by Christian Publications

Many times, it is more important to praise God than to continue in petition. Praise lifts your eyes from the battle to the victory, for Christ is already Victor. All prayer should begin with praise. The Holy Spirit often wants to lead you out of burdened intercession into victorious praise. Burden bearing is scriptural, but praise is even more so.

Praise pierces the darkness, dynamites long-standing obstructions, and sends the demons of hell fleeing. Mrs. Charles E. Cowman, author of *Streams in the Desert*, pointed out that Christians often repeat the familiar statement, "Prayer changes things." God taught her the deep spiritual truth that after you have prayed and believed, it is often praise that changes things. Prayers that have been repeated for a long time with no seeming response from God are rapidly answered when the intercessor turns from pleading to praise.

There are three levels of praise that can bless your life and add effectiveness to your prayer: (1) praise for what God has done, (2) praise for what you expect God to do, and (3) praise for who God is. Such praise is not only worthy worship; it is powerful spiritual warfare and strikes terror in any evil spirit which may be around. Praise is the Christian's heavy artillery. It clears the atmosphere, multiplies your faith, and clothes you with God's presence and power.

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