



Shepherd's VOICE

February 2014

"Then I told them of the hand of the Lord of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work."

Nehemiah 2:18

Let Us Rise Up And Build

This past September, we started a new chapter of our lives. We moved up to the northern most part of Thailand in a community called Mae Sai. On the other side of Mae Sai is Myanmar and the community of Techileik. Over the past couple of years, we purchased land just outside of Techlikeik so that eventually we will be able to build a training center for leaders. We feel very fortunate as the land prices have soared over the last year. Now that we have land (we have the deeds), registering with proper authorities is a little more work. Right now, I have my father-in-law working on this. Some of the things we need to do is landscape the land and also put a wall around it (safety reasons). Registering the land could cost us \$3000-\$5000...I am really not sure, but should know in two or three weeks. The wall that we will be putting around the land will be roughly \$88 per 9ft. in length and then about 7ft. high. The land will measure at least 175 feet on the east side, 245 feet on the south side and



Top: Land in Myanmar. Bottom left: Fill dirt for landscaping. Bottom right: Surrounding wall.

at least 200 feet on the west side of the property. The north side is still being measured. So we do realize it will cost quite a bit of money to do this, but it will be worth it in the long run. I've enclosed a couple of pictures of what a wall would look like and an example of what the landscaping (moving dirt) would look like. Here is also a picture of the land looking from the northwest to the south and southeast.

As far as ministry is concerned, it looks like we have a door open to minister to quite a few village churches. My father-in-law has many different relationships with villages in the Shan State of Myanmar. They asked if we would do a training center as well as leadership seminars in the future. Concerning a training center, I would like to get the land, or at least most of it, finished before I start a training center. My first goal would be to go to the villages and minister to the people and get a bit of an understanding to see where the people are spiritually. I know many of the Burmese people love God – they are just looking for more knowledge and understanding from the scriptures.

At the end of this month, I will be going to the Philippines to minister for a couple of weeks for Pastor Rich Conte. Over the past couple of years (with Word of Faith Church), we have had devotionals printed up for his local church and outreach churches. Pastor Rich has done a great job establishing a work in the Philippines and I count it an honor to minister for him.



Our family is doing well and we really like the area that we are living in. We have Jeremiah enrolled in a good day care where the teachers really love him and there are other little children to play with. We had a wonderful Christmas here with the family (although quite cold for northern Thailand), and we certainly look forward to the next months and years as we plant our work in Myanmar.

Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity.

Tom, Elizabeth and Jeremiah Schumacher

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