



Shepherd's VOICE

January 2013

"And the things that thou has heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

II Timothy 2:2

The students are back for the beginning of the spring semester 2013. I am not sure if the students realize how much has already changed in their lives. When the students come to school, the first thing I tell them is that whatever their experience in life has been, "God is good, and He has good things in store for them." The second thing I tell them is that their life is about to change. Scripture tells us in Isaiah 43:18,19 "Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth..." The students come here with great expectations and we intend to help fulfill some of those expectations. Last year, after only being here a couple of months, a young student from Vietnam (her name is Nu) wanted to go home (she had already left two schools because of loneliness). I told Nu, "NO!...God brought you here... to change you and help you fulfill your

destiny." Nu is still here, halfway through her second year, and great changes have taken place in her life. In many ways, the students' former ways of thinking and doing church changes. One of my Burmese students said, "Oh pastor, I need to go back when I finish and teach my people the Biblical truths that have changed me." I always remind my students that to move forward they must be willing to leave the past and look to the future. As a Christian myself, I have come to realize that if I hold onto the past...even the good things in the past, I will then miss out on the good things that God has planned for me. For the students, new schedules and requirements at Bible school can be quite challenging, but within a few months they seem to make the necessary adjustments. The scripture here in Isaiah tells us...

*I will do a new thing,
now it shall spring forth.*

Almost every day we are planting the seed of God's Word in their hearts. We are always planting the vision in their hearts that they can and will live fruitful and productive lives, whether they are ministers or working in the marketplace.

This past Christmas season was a busy one for the students. They did outreaches in the local community and schools here in Sriracha, and



VBCI Thailand Class
2012-2013



VBCI Students singing and drama at a local youth detention center

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also in a couple of neighboring communities. It was a good chance for them to witness about their faith and show off some of their drama skills. It seems to me that by Christmastime the students come out of their “shells” and become very excited about sharing their faith. The staff is committed to giving the students an opportunity to express themselves, whether it is through music, drama, or just giving their testimonies.

As for my family, we went to northern Thailand to spend our Christmas. I had the opportunity to take my wife to Doi Tung (The Kings Mother’s Garden) which is near the northern border of Thailand. It is one of the most beautiful gardens and places in all Thailand. If you should ever visit Thailand, this is one of the places you would want to visit.

This month of January, I will be teaching on the subject of Spiritual Warfare. Believe with me to bring a new understanding and revelation to the students. God has great things in store for these students, but it happens as they stand on God’s Word and fight the “good fight of faith.”



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