



## Prayer Letter from Dr. Tom and Donna Wolfe

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*multiplying Christ's disciples and churches by training the Lord's laborers around the world*

Missionaries serving with International Partnership Ministries

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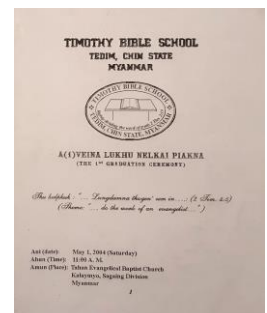
Dear Fellow Servants in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,

The Lord Jesus was together with His disciples. They had just left the Upper Room and began to walk through Jerusalem on their way to Gethsemane (John 14:31). It was the night before He was nailed to His cross at Calvary – to give Himself and shed His blood for our sins. By the Spirit, John records for us about fruit that Christ chose them to bring forth to the Father's glory (John 15:1-16). I am sure you know about the true vine, the abiding branches and the fruit. It was about their mission in light of the death and resurrection of their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. That mission continues today.



Jesus said to them – and through them to us all who follow Christ: “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you (15:16).” This prayer letter is about the appointment Christ made for us all to serve as His chosen branches: it is about His branches abiding in Him to produce much fruit that remains. This is about the necessity of prayer for the Father to provide His strength and resources for this mission we together have in Christ.

Donna and I, following 24 years of pastoral and educational ministry, were led by the Spirit to begin this missions work just over twenty years ago. It was the beginning of IPM's Education Department. Believing God would provide and enable, even while going about deputation work to present the burden for others to consider support, we started very quickly with overseas labors together with IPM missionaries to help establish and develop Bible school ministries – for teaching and training the Lord's harvest laborers on the fields for the fields. Many of you have been helping through prayer and giving. We have seen fruit abound to your accounts. And that fruit remains and has increased through those who have followed Christ and His Word to go and bring forth fruit. From the beginning of this missions work, I often refer to the multiplication of disciples and churches (Acts 6:1, Acts 6:7, Acts 9:31) that result from fully implementing the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20, 2 Tim. 2:2). We have witnessed this time and again in the regions beyond – His laborers reaching more people in more places.



I want to illustrate this with a couple examples. In 2004, I made my first overseas journey to Myanmar to work with IPM missionary Nang Lyan Kap. We taught a modular course. We conducted a graduation for Timothy Bible School (2004 program cover pictured at right). I worked with Kap in order to take the Bible school from a three-year to a four-year curriculum. A year later, I returned for the launch of a graduate seminary. Since those early days, the Lord has blessed and provided exceeding abundantly – a new location in Tedium (Chin State), a growing student enrollment at all levels, and newly planted churches in many towns and villages. I've been back eight times over the years, most recently with Donna in 2020. Now, even while they endure a bloody civil war in Myanmar, the work of the gospel continues under God's blessing. Timothy Bible School & Seminary just celebrated another wonderful graduation event (photo at left). Please pray for peace in Myanmar. My heart is to go back in 2025.



A second example – for many years I have made overseas journeys to northeastern India, to the city of Jaigaon on the border with Bhutan. I work with IPM missionary Thangcha Gangte. In fact, we just began



planning for my return to that missions work in 2025. With Brother Thangcha we launched Baptist Theological Institute in 2007. Today the work continues with increased students, even some coming from Bhutan, who can go back into that Himalayan nation to spread the gospel and plant churches. Brother Thangcha sent me a photo of their recent graduation celebration (photo at left).



The Lord's blessings continue! I will be serving in Ivory Coast in July. I had planned for this overseas work in 2023, but our cancers got in the way. We can clearly see that God was blessing and appointing His time for this work now. We will help re-establish the Bible college, conduct a church leadership seminar (expecting about 80 pastors and others), and preach in several new churches. I've been to Ivory Coast several times, but not since Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted. We have a new team of IPM missionaries there, and this will be a productive time of fellowship for the advancement of evangelism and church planting. Please pray for our final preparations for a full and busy ministry. We still have need of some funds for the leadership seminar (to help these needy men with lodging, food, transportation, and other incidentals). If you'd like to help, please send your gift to IPM and mark it for Ivory Coast Seminar. We still need a total of about \$3,000. Any amount will help meet the need. Thanks for praying!



Still this year: a September work in Ghana with Solid Rock Baptist Bible College & Seminary. Serving with IPM missionary George Dapaah, we are planning a modular course in the seminary and then graduation of fourteen pastors from the seminary division. I am currently supervising each of them as they accomplish their big Practical Project, step by step. Please pray for them, that they will meet the deadlines for the steps they need to take to finish well. In November I will return to Mindanao in the

Philippines to teach another modular (Expository Preaching) in the seminary division of Mindanao Evangelistic Baptist Institute & Seminary. The seminary has also grown significantly. Currently, my IPM colleague Charles Farley is serving there along with his wife, Joan. (seminary class photo at right)



Finally, we rejoice to give a very good update on our health. You'll recall that in 2023 Donna and I had cancer diagnoses – breast, prostate, skin. It was a heavy-duty year of several surgeries, diagnostic tests, various procedures, and lots of doctor appointments. We both went through a long series of radiation treatments – I won with 28 to Donna's 15. We thank the Lord and are glad to report that further tests/monitoring have all shown excellent results – by God's grace! Thank you all so much for keeping us in prayer! We appreciate your fellowship in the cause of the Vine!

Your fellow branches in Christ,

*Tom & Donna Wolfe*

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