

Southeast Asia

Regional Coordinator: John Meriweather
john@bmaamerica.org

Carrying out God's mission is much like farming. You prepare the soil, plow the field, plant the seed, and cultivate the ground with prayers for reaping a harvest. Now imagine the field you were given to farm was a rock quarry. Preparing and plowing is tedious, long, hard work. You plant seeds only to realize the ground isn't ready. Will you ever reap a harvest? For our missionary teams in the countries of Southeast Asia this is their reality.

In Southeast Asia firmly-steeped religions like Buddhism, Hinduism, and a growing Muslim influence are dominant. In some cases there is overt anti-Christian opposition. In all cases there are cultural and religious hurdles unlike anything we experience in the United States. It can take years preparing and plowing before you see the sprouts of those first seeds.

However, through your partnership and perseverance, and with God's power, praise the Lord that we are seeing the harvest!

In India and Myanmar, second-generation leaders persist in the face of overt government oppression. We have almost 100 house churches led by national ChangeMakers in these countries, continuing the work first started by faithful leaders in the 1970s. In other countries, American missionaries are laying the foundation of church planting. The church in Bangkok, Thailand, has grown and matured to the point that leaders are being developed and sent, and we expect a new church plant for 2024 in a rural village several hours from the city. In the Himalayas a new missionary family has begun the journey toward planting our first church in that country.

Each country has unique and very real challenges to the gospel. We are thankful for these leaders whose lives are dedicated to plowing the hard ground. How long would I be willing to plow? For our missionary teams across Southeast Asia that answer has been given: As long as it takes!



Prayer Requests:

- Pray for God's hand of protection and provision for our churches and for the spread of the gospel in the growing face of government oppression.
- Pray for God to raise leaders and doors of opportunity in new countries across SE Asia.
- Pray for the sustainability of current church plants and for future church plants in SE Asia.

Praises:

- Praise the Lord for the men that have been and are involved in discipleship and leadership development in each of our countries. These men will be critical to our church planting movement in SE Asia.
- Praise the Lord that pandemic restrictions have been lowered, making travel within and across SE Asia easier for our leaders and church planters.
- Praise the Lord for our country leaders, each of whom have a passion and vision to spread the gospel in spite of the obstacles.

American Missionaries

India*	P. Prakash
Himalayas*	Jacob & Miriam
Thailand	Siripong & Jessie Yaebeang Brandon & Brittney Lingle

Key ChangeMakers

India*	Jeremiah S.
Myanmar*	Rama B.

(*Creative Access Nation)