

MISSION STATEMENT

Build financial relief for missionaries-in-training and missionaries in the field.
Grow a prayer lifeline to nurture their spiritual, physical and economic needs.

WHERE HARDSHIPS ARE, GOSPEL IS POWERFUL

By Thidavanh 2016, 2017 Harvesters Scholarship Award Recipient

A few years ago when my father got arrested and thrown into a prison in Country "L" along with his staff of five people because of their faith I have to admit that it was the hardest time for me and my family. It was even harder to see God's love for my family in that particular situation. My father has always been a faithful servant for the Lord and has been for his whole life so when this happened I felt like it was unfair for my father. He would continue to give everything he has to God and in His plan to expand the kingdom of God. Although the struggle was rough and took a toll on my father, his staff, and our families they eventually did get released from the prison after 6 long weeks in prison. Upon being released my father showed me that Jesus is worth serving and he would do everything he could to continue serving Him even it means that it would cost him his life. This drive and passion my father was emanating was very contagious and there was a new fire that awoken in my heart and fueled my faith again.

My father's story is one of many persecutions that have happened in Country "L" but I know that wherever the hardships occur, the gospel is also powerful in that area. My father's steadfast faith made me want to improve and better myself spiritually in order to better serve in

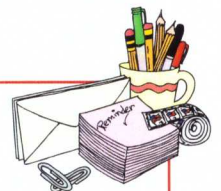
God's ministry; this particular event helped shaped my life, perspective, attitude, love for others, and ultimately my future. From being a self-centered person I began to think of other people and wanted them to get to know Jesus so I began to pray for people who have never heard about the gospel in different countries, religions, and cultures. That was when the Lord started to give me a burden to share His gospel to people who are different from me. I began to realize I knew nothing about other religions and cultures and that I only immersed myself in my bubble and my comfort zone. I discovered that there are so many different cultures and religions all around the world.

Last summer I went back to Country "L" with four friends from Simpson University through the World Serve Program and I allowed myself to learn more about Buddhism and Animism so that I can understand their religious values. Doing that allowed me to be able to communicate the gospel of Jesus more efficient and effectively in the context they are used to and familiar with. My friends and I were blessed with the knowledge of God and He also blessed us by opening hearts of many non-believers who came to accept Him as their savior through our ministry. This program allowed me to gain vital knowledge, wisdom, and experience which will

aid me in my future ministries.

Attending Simpson University and having Cross-Cultural Studies is definitely the right school and major for me in order to help me prepare to serve as a missionary to different groups of people, cultures, and ethnicities in the near future. For my whole life I have been enthusiastic to bring the gospel to people especially those that have never heard about Jesus and those from different religions and cultures. I am also always looking for the best ways to help end conflicts among different communities, cultures, and societies. I discovered that there is a permanent way to end these conflicts; by utilizing peace and love to end fighting and violence. This summer I am also enrolling in the Peace Building Project in the country of "L". The Peace Building Project aims to bring leaders from different religions in Country "L" to come together to have a deeper connection with one another. It is designed to show that even though we have different religions, beliefs, cultures, backgrounds, ethnicities, and point of views we can come to understand each other, live together in peace, and work together to help better our communities.

I am very enthusiastic to learn more on how to bring peace to a society in the most effective, efficient, and proper way without the use of any forms of violence. I wholeheartedly and strongly believe that this project will help to stop persecution and discrimination to Christian in Country "L" in the future; it is a big step in the right direction to achieve a permanent peace. This will help in the process of spreading the gospel to every unreached person in Country "L" and hopefully one day there will be no more stories of persecution to believers similar to what happened to my father and his staff members. We have to start somewhere and this is a good time and place to start. I pray and trust that God will use His people and love in this opportunity to take a step towards attaining peace.



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For your name's sake, Lord, preserve my life; in your righteousness, bring me out of trouble.

In your unfailing love, silence my enemies; destroy all my foes, for I am your servant."

— Psalm 143:11-12

FINANCIAL REPORT

Donation	\$39,484
Expenses	
Scholarship distribution	\$49,000
Office expense	\$370
Total expenses	\$49,370
Deeficit	<u>(\$9,886)</u>
Assets	
Cash	\$77,058
Mutual Fund	\$880,903
Total Assets	\$957,961
as of June 30, 2017	