

# Women's Ministry in Thailand

December, 2014

*"There is a time for everything,  
and a season for every activity  
under the heavens"*

Ecc 3:1



## Mary's Update



Dear Prayer Warriors,

Looking back over the past 35 years of full time service to the Lord, I realized that I worked feverishly, without taking proper breaks along the way. It was unwise to dedicate my entire life to ministry and serving others, without taking the necessary time to care for myself. I need to learn to balance my life so that I may effectively serve while maintaining my health and well-being. Just as cars need gas and maintenance to run well, servants of the Lord Most High also need proper 'maintenance' to be of the most use in ministry.

In the past, because I had no one to help me in ministry, I felt an urgency and responsibility to get all the work done by myself without taking any breaks, vacation or time to rest. As a result, I could not go on physically, emotionally or spiritually, as I was burned out. In 2007, the Lord, in His goodness and mercy, led a few godly friends to lovingly and firmly exhort me to fulfill my ministerial duties in accordance to God's design and biblical principles. To be more effective and make the greatest impact for God's kingdom, I was advised that a seventh year sabbatical rest was essential. After much prayer and consideration, I took my first sabbatical year of rest in 2008. I am so thankful for their advice as I do not think that I would have survived without that break.

After that, I became aware of many missionaries who experienced burnout. Although they tried to take periodic breaks from their full-time ministry, several went through difficult times and took a long time to recover from their burnout. Those who serve in the mission field know exactly what I am talking about.

Over the past couple of years, God has allowed me to endure many simultaneous trials. You may recall how I cared for my mother after her stroke while I was physically ill and how I had to deal with workers that were repeatedly trying to cheat me out of money while renovating my new condominium. I also had to deal with a lack of unity and various other problems within my discipleship group. Even though these things emotionally drained me, I knew I had to keep the ministry going. I reached a point where I felt that I could no longer continue and decided to take a short break. I spent three months among the saints at Munich



International Community Church who helped me regain some strength allowing me to continue in ministry. I am thankful to the Lord for His sufficient grace and supportive hands. He is faithful and does not allow me to be tempted beyond my strength and always provides a way of escape.

Time has flown! Six years have passed since my last sabbatical in 2008 and I am now ready to take my next sabbatical, in the United States. I am thankful that I can do this because I now have Benz and Ping, faithful coworkers that have the same goal in ministry as mine, that is, to make disciples among Thai women and other nations. They have been trained and have the necessary resources, CDs and study materials (that I prepared for them in advance) to minister in my absence.



I am currently in the United States and plan to be here for a year, unless God has other plans regarding my temporary visa situation. My main goal during this sabbatical is to rest as my whole body greatly needs it. Spiritually, I would like to spend a lot of time seated at the feet of Jesus, so as to learn more from Him. I also hope to learn some new things from some spiritual leaders in the United States, possibly taking some courses that would be helpful to our ministry back home. To also serve our ministry, I plan on writing some curriculum since that is one of the greatest needs in Thailand.

I will be traveling frequently while in the United States, in order to share with supporters and friends regarding the work I have been doing in Thailand. At the same time, I will be praying for the opportunity to raise some financial support as my monthly support has dropped quite a bit. I am thankful to have managed so far, through God's goodness and His provision of miracles.

I landed in the United States on Thanksgiving Day, so some of you may see me in person before this newsletter reaches you. Thank you friends for opening your hearts and homes to welcome this exhausted missionary (me). I am grateful to the Lord for all of you, my supporters and friends.

In Him,

Chanaddah Chaisakorn

**Contributions:** All tax-deductible contributions can be channeled through the clearinghouse in Phoenix, Arizona.

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**Please designate “Thailand Ministry” on the memo line.**

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**For more information please visit Women’s Ministries’ website:** <http://www.theword4women.com>