



Serving with partners in the Asia Pacific Region

The Forgotten Ones

“We have no hope, no house, no land, no job - how can we go home?” the young man said with quiet intensity as we sat on the floor of the Bible school after the worship service. He is only one of the 2 million refugees who fled Myanmar due to fighting in their homeland. Over 150,000 have been confined to refugee camps on the Thai-Myanmar border over the last 30 years – imagine a whole generation for whom ‘home’ looks like a bamboo prison! These are the forgotten ones – you hardly ever hear about their plight in the news.

A young Christian woman who now lives as a refugee in another country shared her story with me. She and her family fled for their lives after her mother refused the demands of some soldiers to open her shop on a Sunday. Shortly after, her village was burned to the ground. Her new home is only slightly better. Recently when she got into a taxi, the driver saw she was an illegal immigrant and threatened to take her directly to the police station unless she paid him the equivalent of \$48, or nearly a week’s wages. She begged him to take her to her parents’ apartment, and they scraped together every penny they had so she wouldn’t be sent to a detention camp.

Yet, incredibly, our sisters and brothers remain strong in their diaspora, faithfully testifying to God’s goodness. They wait and pray for justice and compassion in their homeland as well as where they now live. The young women and men that Ann taught at a Bible school in a refugee camp minister in remote communities on the weekends. Some refugee churches have started drug and alcohol recovery programs. They bring healing and hope to broken lives ... in their own brokenness.

Please remember to pray for these dear ones - for safety, comfort, and for hope and a future. (Jer. 29:11)

Faithfully,

Ann & Bruce

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The parents of this dearly loved child pray that he will some day go to school and raise a family beyond the confines of the refugee camp where he was born.

Message from Marian

There are hundreds of thousands of refugees in the world today, and every few minutes Christians are being martyred for their faith. Doesn’t God care? Oh yes He cares! He cares so much that He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins, and grant us eternal life. And God suffers with us in our suffering.

When God told the suffering Paul: “I am with you and that’s all you need,” Paul exclaimed: “My strength is made perfect in weakness. The more I suffer, the more I depend on God.” We are not only to bear our suffering, but to use it as a witness for Him!

**Dr. Marian Boehr (“Aunt Marian” to our family) served for 38 yrs as a surgeon missionary in India.*