



COMMUNITY  
BIBLE STUDY

December 2015    where transformation happens

# With Joy, Myanmar Embraces God's Love

Dear Friends of CBSI:

People experience overflowing joy when they discover that God truly loves them as individuals, just as they are. It's one thing to say, "God loves people," but it's transformative to be able to say with certainty, "God loves me."



Taw (standing) never knew about God's love until she attended CBSI. Now her life has totally changed.

That's what a woman named Taw is learning in a remote village in Myanmar (formerly called Burma): "In my former religion (animism), we don't have anything about the loving God," she said. "What they had been telling us was how to avoid the anger of the spirits and how to please them."

A Christian neighbor invited Taw to a Community Bible Study International (CBSI) class where she made a great discovery.

"In this Christianity, we are taught about God, and how He is doing well to the people who are following Him. We pray to Him, and He answers us. He is not to be feared as the spirits. Therefore, I decided to become a Christian."

Taw's village is miles from the next nearest village and is only accessible by motorbike on a rutted, one-lane dirt road. When it rains, the road is impassible.

Taw and the other participants in her class do not have individual Bible study lessons, because CBSI Myanmar can only afford to provide lessons for the leaders of this class. But the class members faithfully come to listen, and the Holy Spirit is changing lives as they engage with God's Word.

## Joy from a Reconciled Relationship

In another village, Lal has discovered the joy of reconciliation: "The life of Jacob in Genesis has melted my heart," Lal said, "I was reluctant to make peace with my cousin whose village is just five miles away from here. We did not speak to one another for two years due to some arguments.

"When I saw the joy of Jacob and Esau in their reconciliation, I visited my cousin and asked her forgiveness. I found out that she was ready to be reconciled with me. It was difficult to ask forgiveness, but I have found out that it is worth it to take the initiative. Now, my anger and hate is gone. Both of us feel free and we love each other even more than before."



Small group leaders guide class members through CBSI Global lessons in one of Myanmar's remote villages.

Testimonies like these are attracting the attention of other churches. The president of one denomination said, "I've heard about your ministry and seen your materials from our pastors in the same villages where you are active. When can we start?"

## Myanmar Positioned for Growth

CBS Myanmar currently has 633 classes, and could potentially double or triple that number in the next few years. However, they don't yet have the resources to sustain that kind of growth. That's where you can help.

Would you pray for James, our dedicated national director who is pouring himself out for his people, and wearing out his motorbike on the rugged, mountainous dirt roads?

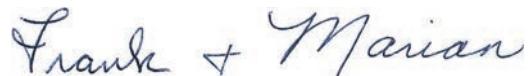
And would you pray about making a generous donation to help us reach more people in Myanmar with the joy that comes from studying God's Word?

CBS Myanmar needs help translating more studies into the Burmese and Mizo Chin languages. The translation cost for a 30-lesson Bible study is only \$600 in Myanmar. In many other countries, the cost can be thousands of dollars.

Funds also are needed to print enough lessons for all the participants and to train new leaders for both adult and children's Bible studies.

Thank you! Together we can join in bringing the joy of Psalm 47:1 to Myanmar and around the world: "Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!"

With joy in Him,



Frank & Marian Vroegop  
CBSI Director & Associate Director



Joy radiates from the faces of these children and youth in the Khawpuichhip Village CBSI class in Myanmar.



790 Stout Road  
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

800-826-4181  
719-955-7777

cbsi@communitybiblestudy.org  
www.cbsinternational.org