

**“He has made everything appropriate in its time.”**

Ecclesiastes 3:11

## Women's Ministry in Thailand

August 2007

### Mary's Update

Dear Prayer Friends,

#### **1. God's goodness towards my health and family.**

I rejoice in the goodness of the Lord as He makes me healthy and strong again. No longer do I suffer with allergy and weariness in my body and my brain. I praise the Lord for the natural supplements I have been taking that have changed my life for the better. My family members are being blessed in the same way. Moreover, our relationship has been wonderful.



#### **2. God's goodness towards my spiritual walk.**

I have encountered severe spiritual battles for months. However, with the sword of the Spirit and your prayers, I waged war against these schemes of the enemy, knowing that God trains my hands for battle. I rejoice in the Lord who is my fortress and shield. Every time I go before God's throne, I know that I am on the winning side and I shall fight with His power and His strength. I have learned to lean on Him solely, because He is everything to me, and I can do nothing apart from Him.

#### **3. God's goodness towards my needs.**

How grateful I am for His provision that has been real in all areas. I have been encouraged and blessed by your thoughtfulness, support, and generosity. Although the US dollar has been weak against the Thai currency, the Lord always supplies all of my needs sufficiently, in His

perfect timing. I have been able to eat well and treat myself wisely with sufficient support, and I do not have to be afraid that I won't have enough to pay for all that is needed.

#### **4. God's goodness towards my ministry.**

Weekly Bible study has been going great. However, it is not without challenges from those who are not willing to look at their circumstances from God's perspective. Thankfully, God's counsel and guidance is before me, and I experience His supportive hands in all that He calls me to do. I have seen more key ladies from several churches attending my discipleship class this year. The majority of them have been using my teachings as their guide in reaching out to meet the spiritual needs of their own group of women. I have taught several topics which I have recorded onto an Mp3. They are available for personal study and small groups. How thankful I am for today's technology.

## Women's Ministry in Thailand

### 5. God's goodness towards my future, planned sabbatical.

I have been advised to seek God's will and start planning a sabbatical time on a regular basis. After spending much time in prayer and seeking the Lord in this, I am convinced that it is important for me to do. I have been doing women's ministry for almost eleven years now and I have rarely taken the opportunity to refresh myself spiritually, mentally and physically. After I got very sick last year, I learned that it is necessary in order to keep myself in balance between ministry and personal time out with the Lord. I have truly come to the point of needing a good rest in order to renew my spiritual walk with the Lord and be refreshed spiritually, mentally and physically.

In the past, over twenty years ago, I went through a burn-out experience simply because I was working beyond my limitations. Rest and restoration were not sufficient and almost non-existent. As a result, I broke down and went through dark years of bitterness, resentment and many illnesses. It took several years for me to fully recover. God and His Word alone restored me to completeness. Certainly, I don't want to go through such an awful experience again, and I must prevent this from happening. It was so terrible and scary. I have seen many full-time workers go through burn-out experiences without ever recovering. It is so sad, but true. Knowing this tragic truth, I want to be wise in treating my body as the temple of the Holy Spirit.

God has placed a burning desire within me to write study materials in the Thai language, so I also plan to receive training during my sabbatical year to fulfill this calling. Please pray specifically that this will be a time of rest, restoration, rebuilding, and retooling into effectiveness for future ministry -especially in the area of learning and writing. My sabbatical year will begin in October. Please specifically pray that the Lord would pave the way for me

and provide a place for spiritual renewal, making me more effective for future ministry and for His glory. I want to be able to return to woman's ministry with the power and strength of the Lord.

In Him,

Chanaddah Chaisakorn

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