

# Women's Ministry in Thailand

*Consider it all joy my brethren when you  
encounter various trials.*

**James 1:2**

**November 2010**

## Mary's Update



Dear Praying Partners,

I am sure many of you are anxious to know the latest about my eye condition. Before I give you an update, please allow me to explain first to those who have no access to email, so that they may have an idea about what has been happening to me this summer. It all began in the middle of July, after having a personal bible study for three hours. I realized that I could not see that well. I kept observing every day, especially while reading. It became obvious I could see less and less each day. By the third week, I could hardly read for ten minutes because my vision was blurred. I also felt pain around my eyebrow, along my neck and down the right side of my back. I quickly went to hospital for a check-up, and the result showed that something very serious was happening to my right eye. The problem took place in the photoreceptor of the eye and I was recommended to seek help from the ophthalmologist immediately.



God, in His sovereignty led me to the one hospital in the whole country that specializes in eyes. There I had a further and more thorough check up. I was diagnosed with age-related macular degeneration (AMD-Dry Form). AMD is a medical condition which usually affects older adults that results in a loss of vision in the center of the visual field (the macula) because of damage to the retina. AMD can make it difficult or impossible to read or recognize faces, although enough peripheral vision remains to allow other activities of daily life. Within three weeks, while the doctor was still waiting and observing the whole process, my dry AMD turned into wet AMD. The vessels had leaked fluid which caused rapid swelling of the macula. As a result, I could not read or do any work that required good eyesight, and every object I looked at appeared distorted, blurred and partly disappeared.



Believe it or not, since April, Manee (pictured), the lady in my discipleship group, has had AMD (Wet Form) as the vessels of her right eye leaked blood and her right vision was totally blurred. She was struggling daily by not being able to work to support her family. Her job requires her eyesight for doing handicrafts. I encouraged her to praise the Lord through it, and spend a lot of time in prayer instead of getting frustrated by it. A few months later, God tested me with the same problem, but with more complications throughout the whole process!

Manee made a funny comment to me, saying, “Fair enough that your trial is double because you are a teacher!”.☺ The battle is so real. Since the beginning of the year, the enemies have been trying very hard to bring discouragement among our group, in order to stop the ministry from going forward. Regardless, I keep teaching the Word of God. As a result, Satan’s schemes have failed because God is on our side and He has been fighting the battle on our behalf and the victory has been ours. Hallelujah to the Lamb of God!

Through different trials that God has brought among our group, we all have chosen to respond to them positively and to believe that problems are good things from the Lord, according to James 1:2-4. Therefore, we keep praising God, thanking Him, trusting in Him, rejoicing in Him and praying in the Spirit. As a result, God has been doing many miracles among us and everyone’s faith has grown so much this year. Today, Manee’s eyesight has improved greatly, to the point that she has been able to work. Her doctor had never seen such quick results in any of his other patients. Manee’s is the first one. My case was another miracle from the Lord because after only two Avastin injections, I have regained 60 percent of my vision already and I am also able to do some reading. Praise the Lord for His healing touch!



In this season of Thanksgiving, I thank the Lord for all the trials He has brought upon my life and my discipleship group this year, 2010. It has tested our faith and built us up in His Word.

In Him,  
Chanaddah Chaisakorn

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