

The Other Side of the Story

Paul is a key Ethnic Thai faith community leader and we've heard his inspiring story from team members over many years. Here we are privileged to have Paul share his own story.



Paul (right) with Dema at Paul's leadership commissioning.

My name is Paul.
I live in Ban Luang District,
Nan Province, Thailand.

I am a follower of Christ Jesus

When I first heard of God, our creator, and the son of God, Jesus Christ, I was in year eight in a Catholic school in Bangkok. At that time, I was not a believer and did not pay any attention or show any interest to find out who God is and who Jesus Christ really is. I had spent many years of my adulthood in the USA and had attended a few church services with friends in all those years, nevertheless, I had very limited knowledge of Jesus Christ and God, and therefore, had no faith in Christ and in the God who sent Him. I was still a Buddhist then.

About 10 years ago, I was going through a family crisis and was having a lot of stress. I had no one to talk to. Being a Buddhist, I tried to pray and meditate the Buddhist way, but that did not help, instead, my suffering increased. Then, one day, I met a man at a local coffee shop, his name was Dema. I found out later that he was an intercultural worker with Global Interaction. I was so ecstatic to come across someone that I could speak English with.

Dema invited me to his residence and introduced his lovely family to me, his wife, Carolyn, as well as his two children, Grace and Daniel. After our first encounter, Dema and Carolyn often invited me to dinner at their house and I joined them in the Bible study afterward. I really enjoyed this and was very happy to be a part of it. We became good friends.

Not long after, I told Dema and Carolyn about the problems I was facing and the suffering I had to endure. They were really good listeners and offered me a lot of valuable encouragement and support. After each of our meetings, before we parted, Dema and Carolyn always prayed for me and my family and encouraged me to pray to God in Jesus Christ's name to ask Him to help me with my problems. Dema and Carolyn also gave me my first Bible from which I learned more about Jesus Christ and God.

Whenever I had any question, Dema and Carolyn would try to help get the answer from the Bible for me. The more I read about Christ, the more I was drawn to Him and the better I felt about myself and my problems. I thank God that I had met Dema, my friend, and his family, and for sending this lovely family to our community to tell people the truth about Jesus Christ and God.

Eventually, God freed me of my problems. I always thank God for not abandoning me, and for bringing me to Jesus Christ, my Savior, whom I have vowed to follow till my last breath.