

Zeekisms

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:10

PRAYER REQUESTS

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

- **All of the teachings, translating, recordings and audio editing that needs to be completed within the next couple of months.**
- **That the audio players that have already been distributed would be effective at spreading the Gospel and bringing the teachings from God's Word into the hearts of those who listen to them.**
- **Continued financial support for on-going needs for this ministry.**

The Persecuted Hmong

In many of our newsletters we try to allow you to see the faces of the Hmong believers, who have received Project 316 audio players. All of those that you've seen so far are only from Thailand. Why, you may ask? Because certain parts of Laos and Vietnam are some of the most dangerous places for Hmong believers to live, and we don't want to jeopardize their life for the sake of a picture since we post our newsletters on our website. So, unless we have permission, or block out their faces, we won't put their pictures in the newsletters. About 40% of the audio players have been given to believers throughout Laos and Vietnam, and we want that percentage to rise.

It is difficult to know what some believers go through unless you have experienced living in these countries and have encountered their situations. In certain areas, especially up in the mountains, it is very easy for the communist military and police to persecute believers. Because of the fear that is brought by these officials, most reports of persecution

stay within the villages in which the believers live. They fear that if word got out, then there would be more persecution. In 2 Timothy 3:12 it says that, "All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted." But, is persecution a bad thing? Well, yes and no. Obviously, we don't want to see any-



one go through pain and suffering simply because of their faith. But what usually happens is that where there is no persecution like in the US, the desire for spreading the Gospel and the desire for God's Word is greatly diminished among believers. Therefore, we get lazy and it becomes difficult to empathize with those who are being persecuted.

Being persecuted for believing in Jesus Christ isn't the same kind

PROJECT 316 MINISTRY TEAM

Project 316 wouldn't be possible without the help from our Hmong brothers and sisters. Although not everyone is pictured, there are about 20 believers that are part of the US based project team. They help with translating, recording, and teaching, and provide valuable insight into the language and culture so that the project teachings can be as beneficial as possible.



of physical and mental pain that one would go through because of sickness or unfortunate accidents that happen in life. As painful and difficult to handle as these things are, we usually don't have a choice when these things happen to us. On the other hand, the Hmong are offered a choice: deny Jesus or have your crops and house burned, deny Jesus or be kicked out of your village. The persecutors will even have your relatives' crops and homes destroyed because you are a believer in Jesus Christ. So, honestly what would you do? Deny Christ and stop sharing the Gospel and be left alone or be willing to endure persecution? All you really have to do is keep quiet and you can still have your faith.

Many of the Hmong believers in Laos and Vietnam understand the cost of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. When you hear the testimonies of what some believers have to endure, you are often humbled and want to be able to help them in some way.

Although you may not be able to stop the persecution, you can help put into the hands of fellow Hmong believers a resource that they desperately need. Just think for a moment. For the first time, believers can fully understand that they are guaranteed eternal life through Jesus Christ. For the first time, they will understand how to study the Bible. For the first time, they will have knowledge about things to come in the future. For the first time, they will be able to study the entire Bible even if they can't read.

For the first time, they will completely understand how all 66 books of the Bible fit together. For the first time, they will have the foundational teachings that all believers need to have in order to grow in their faith. How? Through a technology that wasn't even readily available 20 years ago: a Project 316 audio player. As it's been mentioned before, one of the biggest issues for the Hmong believers is that they get very little, if any, solid Biblical teachings. Many of the believers have been without the essentials ever since they became a believer 10, 20, 30 or even 40 years ago. No child of God should be starving for lack of not being able to receive the spiritual food that is needed to grow. Therefore, that is what is driving us in this ministry. With the amount of Biblical teachings that are on a Project 316 audio player, there is no other resource like this that is available to the Hmong throughout all southeast Asia.

Thank you for
your faithful
prayers and
support!

Mike, Sonja,
Sinjin, and
Mikaela Zeek

