

Do not go Beyond what is Written!

"Do not go beyond what is written," is a simple but pointed statement by Paul the apostle in 1 Corinthians 4:6. Unfortunately, within many Christian circles, experience has become the basis for what is truth, not the Word of God. Most believers today agree that the Bible is God's Word, for it says in 2 Timothy 3:16: "All Scripture is God-breathed (inspired) and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." Why then are there so many instances where believers give credibility to dreams, visions, feelings, a still small voice, or some other experience to validate truth? Even in 2 Peter 1:16-18 it says, "We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus



Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain." Wow, that must have been some experience! Certainly, Peter, James and John could have used this for the basis of living out their faith. But, even as important as that was, what does Peter go on to say in verse 19? Despite having that encounter with Jesus and God the Father, Peter said, "We have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do



well to pay attention to it..." So, what is Peter saying? Clearly, he is teaching us that when it comes to the Faith, the written Word of God is the basis for what we believe. Sure, there are times when we see God working in our lives as well as others, but experience can never be a valid test for truth. If experiences are an authentication of your faith, then what you are really saying is that the Word of God is insufficient, and your experience is just as, if not more so, authoritative and on par with Scripture.

So how does this fit in with Project 316?

Simple. Not only do we want to get the Project 316 audio players to the Hmong so that they could hear the Gospel, but the primary purpose was to get the teachings of the

Word of God into their lives so that they would know the meaning of, "Do not go beyond what is written!" Being a mature believer in the faith goes hand-in-hand with studying and knowing God's Word intimately.

As you can see on the donation sheet (which has just been updated), Project 316 was given its name based on the chapter and verse reference taken from 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (and of course John 3:16 as well). Project 316 was created in order to help Hmong believers by equipping them with the knowledge necessary so that they can become fully developed, authentic, evangelistic, disciples of Jesus Christ. As an evangelist, my greatest desire is to do just that. And so, providing our Hmong brothers and sisters with the audio players and micro-SD cards, we hope they will realize the importance of establishing their faith on the foundational teachings of God's Word.

God bless, Mike, Sonja, Sinjin and Mikaela

Prayer Requests

Please pray for...

- * Additional funds to meet the extremely high demand for the Project 316 audio players and micro-SD cards.
- * Effective distribution to believers who really need the players.
- * Safety for the Project 316
 ministry team members
 who travel to remote and
 often inaccessible
 mountainous areas of Laos,
 Vietnam, and Burma. They
 not only go into remote
 villages for the Project 316
 ministry, but also to teach
 and encourage Hmong
 believers as well.
- Praise God for the recent funds that have come in as part of VBS fund raising efforts through various local churches.