

Hmong spirit worship is often performed by a shaman sitting on a bench facing a spirit shelf.



*“The people who walk in darkness will see a great light”*

Isaiah 9:2 says, *“The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. Those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them.”* And in verses 6-7, it states, *“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.”*

These verses encompass both Jesus’ first and second coming and they should be an encouragement to all of us as we look forward to the day when Christ will reign on this earth for a 1,000 years (Revelation 20:1-6). But let us focus on verse two. Although not specifically focused



on a particular people group other than the fact that Isaiah was referring to the Gentiles (vs. 1), the spiritual oppression of the Hmong people is aptly portrayed. For generations the Hmong of southeast Asia have lived in spiritual darkness. Most are in great fear of the evil spirits that can have a tight grip on certain people and villages. In order to appease the evil spirits they perform various rituals. A shaman is often given the task

of going into the spiritual world of demons and finding out what must be done so that a particular person, family, or even an entire village, can be relieved of the



oppression that the spirit or spirits may have caused. The Hmong realize that the spirits continue to plague them with bad crops, disease, and even death. Because of the isolation in the mountains and especially the intense pressure to conform to their culture, many of them continue living in a life of fear. On the one hand, they want to be rid of their involvement with the spirits, but it is a difficult thing to do. On the other hand, they feel the power gained from the spirits by opening themselves up to demonic possession. Spiritual demonic possession is real!

Fortunately, the Gospel has gone out to many of the Hmong villages in southeast Asia. However, only a small percentage have come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ because of the situation many of them find themselves in. So the Gospel still needs to be preached in order that they can be freed from the demonic realm. However, we can't stop there! As

many of you know, the reason why Project 316 was created and why there is such a demand for the audio players is because many of the Hmong believers have never been properly disciplined. Therefore, they are hungry for the Word of God. Too often we get excited and focus on seeing people become believers in Christ, but then very little attention is given to their spiritual growth.

The task of teaching believers the foundational truths of the Bible and training them up in the core doctrines of the faith so that they will become fully developed, authentic, evangelistic disciples of Jesus Christ is certainly a challenging one. Just because it is difficult it doesn't mean we should give up. We thank all of you who have stayed with us and have been part of this ministry.

*God bless,  
Mike, Sonja,  
Sinjin and Mikaela*



## Prayer Requests

Please pray for...

- **More funds to purchase and distribute audio players.**
- **All the planning and details of an upcoming trip into Southeast Asia.**
- **The continued distribution of Project 316 audio players and micro-SD cards into the hands of those who most need them.**