

# THE MARTIN CHRONICLES



## *The Perfect Storm*

*"If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NLT)*

In meteorological terms "The Perfect Storm" occurs when three significant yet unrelated weather systems converge at the same time, resulting in a cataclysmic weather event. I believe this scenario is eerily reminiscent of what is happening in the spiritual climate of Thailand. Exciting things are starting to happen! Just as with weather systems, you don't know exactly when the event will occur; you can only predict something will happen based upon the evidence of the "wind currents."

### **The Three Wind Currents**

If you follow news from Thailand, you know there is a lot of turmoil within the government. Historically this is not new. In the past 76 years there have been 17 constitutions, on average a new one is written every four and half years. In Bangkok right now there are two powerful political factions competing for power. Both of them want control of the government. In fact, as I write this letter—the prime minister was forced from office due to this power struggle and as a result the country is without a leader. Without going into detail of all the facts, it appears there is no political way out of this situation. I agree with an article printed in the Bangkok Post on September 9, 2008. The Thai author wrote — **"The fact is: Each and every one of us is responsible and accountable for our country, our society and the future of our children... We should continue to fight corrupt politicians. But if we truly want better things for Thailand, the change starts with us, the Thai people."** I too believe this is the only permanent solution to the country's predicament. The change starts within the hearts of the Thai people.



The King of Thailand is one of the longest reigning monarchs this world has ever seen, over 60 years. He is a very benevolent king and highly revered and worshipped by Thai people. For the vast majority, he is the only king they have known. As a result, citizens feel very secure regardless of the political turmoil because there is a sense of eternity about him. **In fact this country has remained peaceful only because of the high reverence everyone has for their king. When his presence is gone there will be tremendous soul searching because their sense of security will have been removed.** Please pray for the king as he has a heavy burden to carry in the concern of over 63 million citizens and the peace of the nation.



The Gospel has been proclaimed in Thailand, by missionaries and national pastors for over 180 years and yet the country only has 300,000 believers, 0.5% of the population. In many areas there are no believers. But this is changing. As God promised in 2 Chronicles 7:14 (see first page) when His people get together and pray, He will hear from heaven and heal their land.

Right now among Thai Christians this is happening. Hundreds of leaders from all groups and denominations across the country are coming together in unity, a rare event in Christendom, to pray for a revival in their land. They are working together to start churches in every district of the country. And as they do, the church is growing. This is evidenced by the fact that in this past decade more churches

have been started than at any other period in the country's history. As Church growth accelerates, the number of Christian believers will grow proportionally. **I believe Thai people will become more and more frustrated with the government, and as their security is threatened, they will start looking to the King of kings who is truly eternal and can provide true peace and security for those who trust in Him.**

Even though Thailand is going through difficult times, it will get even more difficult as these "three winds" start to merge. I believe this is all in God's plan. Please pray for this country during these trying times that many would come to know Him.

#### Prayer Requests:

- Strength and encouragement—We sense very strongly Satan doesn't like the work we are doing
- That our house in Alabama would sell
- Tim's future plans
- Crystal's work load and school load

#### Praises:

- The favor and cooperation we have with Thai church leaders and pastors
- Everyone in our family has remained healthy and safe

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#### *Our Part and Your Part*

As we have shared in previous prayer letters, we are very privileged to be part of this movement of God in Thailand. In the ministry we have been given, we provide strategic tools to Thai pastors so they can spread the Gospel more effectively.

We collect data on church membership and produce maps from this data. This gives pastors specific information where to start new churches and areas to evangelize where there are no Christians.

The digital library we have created provides thousands of resources for all believers, to help them study the Bible and grow and be encouraged in their faith.

You can view this digital library at <http://www.thaicrc.com> (Thai Christian Resources). Currently the library has over 2,500 resources in eight library collections.

1. Believers' Library – for encouragement and growth
2. Church History Library – history of the Church in Thailand
3. Children's Library – for teachers of children
4. Leaders' Library – to help leaders be more successful
5. Maps & Data – statistics and maps to understand the state of the Thai Church
6. Missionary Resources – to help missionaries be more culturally relevant
7. Worship Leaders Library – songs, poems and hymns
8. Bible Resources – to gain deeper understanding of the Bible

**Even though we are serving overseas, the truth is, without your prayer and financial support, we could not be doing this ministry. Your role is just as important as ours in spreading the Gospel in Thailand.**

**Dwight & Mary Kay Martin**