

Disciple-making in Myanmar

Sometimes in DM2 it is difficult to assess the impact of our efforts. At times we lose contact with those to whom we minister, not knowing exactly how God is using them or what is happening in their lives. Sometimes the door to fields in which we have labored closes, preventing us from returning. This is how it was with the mission field of Myanmar. We started, stuttered, and restarted the work several times. Finally social and political unrest (war and persecution) necessitated abandoning this field altogether. Thankfully, God did not stop what He began there (Philippians 1:6). Even with the ongoing grave persecution of Christians in that country, God's work of making disciple-makers did not cease. This month we are blessed to take you behind the scenes for a glimpse into a work still in progress without our direct input. It is encouraging to see the gospel has not stopped during opposition. In fact, the work of God continues ever stronger in the darkest of times. Thanks to Brad Rigby, Craig Northcott, and Drew Smith, who, over the course of six years, despite tight work schedules, faithfully traveled the many hours back and forth to Myanmar to bring a clear grace gospel to this dark part of the world.

Below is a report on a recent DM2 workshop taught by **Stephen, a Burmese teacher**, followed by feedback from some of the attendees.

First of all, I would like to thank God for giving me the opportunity to teach His living word. I came to know DM2 through Brad and his group. I was greatly blessed by the DM2 workshops on Romans and Galatians.



Now I am teaching the book of Romans at a discipleship training school. It is a six-month training school run by a pastor friend of mine. There were 30 participants on the first day. Today, on the third day of the workshop, we have 43 participants. The participants come from various denominational backgrounds. Their ages range from 23 to 55. One is Roman Catholic. Some are recent converts from Buddhism. So, we have many questions and discussions every day. Today especially we had some serious questions about justification by grace through faith in Christ alone from Romans 3:21-4:25. Most of the participants are slowly but surely coming to understand justification by faith alone in contrast to justification by law or good works. I was able to explain the concept of grace clearly. We have two more days

to go. Please pray the Holy Spirit will continue revealing the truth to each participant and transform their lives by His grace.

Attendee Comments (translated into English from Burmese):

"I grew up in a Catholic family and church. I believed in work-based salvation. But now I have come to understand the Bible teaches faith-based salvation. Abraham was saved by faith. David was saved by faith. I am also saved by faith. I would like to know more about this. Thank you for the teaching from the book of Romans."



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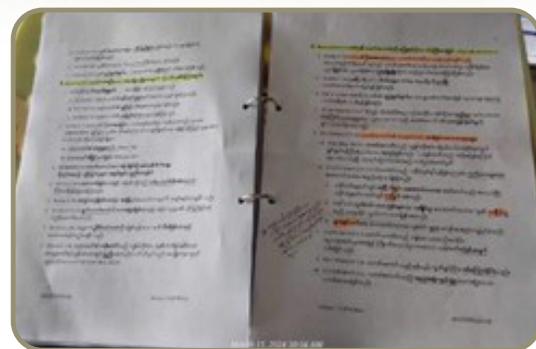
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"I like your teaching especially about the three kinds of sinners from Romans 1 and 2. I find myself in the category of a religious sinner. I have clearly come to see that I cannot be saved by being religious. I need Jesus. I need God's grace. I can only be saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. I thank God for his grace and eternal security in Christ."

"Thank you, Stephen, for teaching us the book of Romans. I like your teaching on "law" and how to use it effectively when sharing the gospel with non-believers. I also like your teaching on the assurance of salvation. It is very clear. Our salvation is secure eternally in Christ by faith alone. It will be very helpful for us to have a copy of the workbook. We can study these lessons again and again."

"This is very systematic teaching on the book of Romans. This is the first time I have received this kind of teaching. I would like to know more about the book of Romans. I like the part about justification by faith in Christ alone. It is very important teaching for every believer. Thank you, Stephen, for your teaching."

"I am a recent convert from Buddhism. In Buddhism, good deeds are very important for salvation. In Christianity, salvation is by God's grace. I came to see this distinction more clearly by your teaching. I would like to study more. Thank you."



Prayer Requests:

- Pray Bolivia 3D training center. On March 26 some of them left on a 3-week trip to teach in various churches in Bolivia and Paraguay in hopes of starting other 3D training centers.
- Pray for our national workers and their efforts in Myanmar, Bolivia, Zambia, and Cameroon.
- Pray for clear direction for starting a school in Canada. We (Bret and Wanda) will be meeting with a local church in Ontario the first week of April to discuss this possibility.
- Pray for the details and planning of trips to Zambia and Cameroon this summer.
- Pray Carlos Tellez as he leads the work in Argentina, along with Bolivian pastors.
- Pray for the work being done in Mexico by Roberto Morales, DM2 field director in Bolivia. There is always a need for finances to make these trips a reality.
- Pray for Oscar Portes, the DM2 Venezuelan field director who recently relocated to Canada. He invests a lot of time and effort in translation work and in facilitating online workshops and the distribution of DM2 material in Venezuela.
- We have added a lot of new material for disciple-making to the 3D program this year. Pray for the translation of this material for use overseas.
- Pray for Robert and Kristina Olivarez and Jayme Nazworth (DM2 missionaries) as they work on raising up a support team.
- Pray for God's guidance for 3D students who will be graduating in May.
- Pray for finances and a maintenance family for 3DTC Texas.



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