Writing on the Wall

JUNE 29, 2012

Aizawl is the capital city of the autonomous state of Mizoram in North East India. Reaching Aizawl is not an easy proposition; it is far, and a formidable and costly trip, even if you fly in from neighboring Myanmar, which borders Mizoram in the North. One listener from northern Myanmar made that trip because she discovered greater spiritual truths in the broadcasts and felt a strong conviction to meet the AWR pastor and church members in Aizawl. I know you will enjoy her testimony:

"My name is Zo Hming Liani but most people who know me call Hmingte. I’m a teacher. Previously, I was a leader of the children’s Sunday school and Youth organization in the Methodist church. "One day in 2003, when I was coming home from work, I saw an advertisement written in chalk on the wall of Pastor Thangkhuma’s house. It invited people to listen to the AWR program on shortwave radio. That night, when I listened to the radio, I heard Pastor P.L. Thlenga’s sermon. Because his message was relevant to the condition of our family, it touched my heart.

"After becoming a regular listener, I wrote a letter to AWR. Soon, Pastor Thlenga answered me on [the] radio program and said he received my letter and encouraged me to communicate more. His reply was heard by my whole family—they were all home at the time.

"From that moment on I was enthusiastic about listening to AWR. The
programs came on at nine o’clock at night, so wherever I was, I rushed home to listen to [it]. The main reason why my heart was touched was because the messages courageously delivered the Word of God.

"One day the antenna of our radio broke and we used a hollow condensed milk tin which had to be held continuously in place—by hand—so the voice would come in clearer.

Hmingte’s decision to travel to Aizawl brought opposition from her parents, but she pressed on!

"By 2006 my desire to meet the preachers in person became very strong. When I informed them by letter, they invited me to visit them. So I prepared for my travel. But when I was about to go, my father prohibited me because he was worried that I would become a SDA. However, since I have a strong will, I left in the evening—taking the risk.

"When I arrived in Aizawl, the hospitality of the [Mizo] conference officials was very impressive. Everything I needed was fully provided for. Then they asked me to participate in campaigns and crusades that were going to be conducted in nearby villages. Church elders also invited me to their homes for special meals. By seeing their behavior and lives, I was encouraged and empowered to follow Christ.

"I witnessed that they really lived their lives according to the Word of God and I felt that the love of God was persuading me through their way of living. At that time, I decided to become an SDA and know more about the Word of God and live in accordance with it.

"Therefore, my choice, my decision for the sake of God’s name, was to be baptized by Pastor P.L. Thlenga at SDA church in Aizawl, Mizoram on May, 2006.

"However, when I came home, I was severely attacked for joining the SDA because it holds different convictions and beliefs from my family. Because of me, all my family members were put to shame in their church and in society. I myself also suffered extremely like one who had serious heart disease.

"Additionally, during the Buddhist Sabbath months, there were tuition classes on Saturday but as a Seventh-day Adventist, I chose to keep the sanctity of the Sabbath day so did not take the tuition classes on Saturdays. This cost me my teaching income by missing those, and I felt embarrassed for the lesser income to help support the family.

"But the reasons I enthusiastically remain in the holy Seventh-day
Adventist church till today are because of the prayers of the members who know me and their care for me."

Thank you, again, for your continued support—the Advent message could not be broadcast to the millions like Hmingte, just waiting to hear, without you! Your prayers open the way for the angels and the Holy Spirit to work. And your gifts allow AWR’s message to be shared around the planet in almost 100 languages to reach into the hearts prepared by God’s agents.

Your partner in mission,

Dowell Chow
AWR President