



GOOD NEWS FOR CHRIS

BY BRIAN LINDSAY, WHO SERVES WITH THE ALLIANCE IN THAILAND

My wife, Abby, and I are thankful for what's becoming a common sight: people coming to church whom we've never met. That's how we connected with Chris*. This 14-year-old was teaching another teen, Belle, to play basketball. In what's become a natural part of her everyday life, Belle—a new believer—shared her faith while they played. It wasn't long before Chris prayed to receive Christ. For the next two weeks he was in church whenever the doors were open, even receiving Evangelism Explosion training.

The change in Chris didn't go unnoticed by his Buddhist family, who were dubious of Christianity. They were also concerned that foreigners had brainwashed him. Chris's uncle and aunt, with whom the family shares a home, yelled and cursed at the boy, saying he would be unwelcome there if he left the Buddhist faith. Chris's father, who at first had been indifferent to his son's church attendance, was soon soured by the other relatives. He began pressuring Chris not to attend.

Knowing his family members were unhappy with his decision to follow

Jesus, Chris was unsure of what to do. One of our colleagues advised him not to argue with his family about going to church. Instead, she encouraged him to honor his father and wait until he gave Chris permission to return to church. Through his obedience, Chris showed his family that Jesus was helping him to be a good son. We told Chris to study his Bible at home and said we would pray for God to change his family members' hearts.

Sure enough, God answered! A group of Thai church members studying Evangelism Explosion visited Chris and his family and shared the gospel with them. After they heard the good news for themselves from Thai believers, the family agreed to allow Chris to follow his new faith. Chris's grandmother also accepted Jesus as her Savior that day. We praise the Lord for raising up Thai people to reach the Thai!

Intercede for Chris in his new journey with Christ. Pray that his family will continue to be supportive of his faith. Also, pray for me as I meet weekly with Chris and the two other teenagers in our church, Belle and Manow, to study the Scriptures together.

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Economic Crisis Leads to Mass Exodus from Venezuela

BASED ON A REPORT BY TIM WENDEL,
REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR LATIN AMERICA

More than 3 million people have left Venezuela in a cataclysmic financial crisis that has seen thousands fleeing daily. The economy has shrunk by half in just five years, with inflation near 1 million percent. Food and medicine shortages have led to a public health crisis.

The Alliance has 12 churches and church groups in Venezuela; 400 members—or 30 percent of Alliance congregations—have already left, which would be comparable to 150,000 Alliance people fleeing the United States. Those crossing into Colombia en route to Ecuador, Peru, or beyond endure a harrowing journey. Just reaching Ecuador's border is a 900+ mile trip over terrain rising 10,000 feet above sea level. "They are not equipped for the trip and are suffering severe effects of weather, exposure, and more," said Tim Wendel, U.S. C&MA regional director for Latin America.

The Alliance national church network in Colombia has set up a station in the mountains to aid in the journey. Alliance believers there are joined by other evangelicals in the country in meeting those needs. Also, since November 2018, the CLA (Alliance World Fellowship) in Latin America has taken offerings to help Venezuela's Alliance people inside and outside the country.

Intercede for civility, peace, and the ability for churches to assemble and receive new believers. Pray also for

church growth, for pastors to make ends meet, and for the economy to improve.

Pray for the Impossible

BY A. B. SIMPSON, ADAPTED FROM
ALLIANCE LIFE

The very structure of [God's] infinite nature is such that He lives in the realm of the supernatural, the omnipotent, and the infinite. All God's greatest acts have been impossible for any but Himself. Creation was making a universe out of nothing. Redemption was overcoming a difficulty that was absolutely impossible for any human wisdom or power—to be just and yet the Justifier of the ungodly. The promise to Abraham, the father of believers, was something impossible. Israel's deliverance did not come until they had reached the lowest depths of despair and all human hope was dead. God's hour is the impossible, and God's opportunity is man's emergency.

Surely with these examples before us we need not fear to pray for the impossible—to claim our Master's glorious promise: "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23). Beloved, have you some friend beyond the reach of all human help? Pray for the impossible. Have you a physical infirmity threatening your life and impairing your usefulness? Pray for the impossible. Have you trials and difficulties in your path too hard for any human power to remove? Pray for the impossible.

God loves a hard work and chooses the weak things to confound the mighty. Pray for the impossible and you yet shall sing with a joyful heart: Nothing is too hard for Jesus, no man can work like Him.

Thank you for praying for Alliance workers and for the people with whom they share the gospel. To receive *The Alliance Call to Prayer* and weekly Alliance Prayer Requests via e-mail, subscribe at www.cmalliance.org/pray. Alliance ministries are supported by gifts to the Great Commission Fund and the CAMA Advance Fund.

TO ACCESS ADDITIONAL PRAYER REQUESTS, PLEASE VISIT CMALLIANCE.ORG/PRAY.



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