

# The Kairos Course Mission Project Was Taught to Over 60 Key Leaders in Myanmar

by Kent Odor



**Kent Odor** 

Four decades ago in the early 1970's, Ralph Winter, a world-renowned missiologist from the Center of World Mission at Fuller Seminary in California, wrote a graduate school course called: Perspectives on the World Christian Movement. The premise of this class was to provide a way to see world missions as God does. To do that, a person needs to wear a set

of glasses with four lenses. All the lenses matter and only when one sees through all of them will the picture become clear. The four lenses were the Biblical lens, the historical lens, the cultural lens and the strategic lens. This course became revolutionary to



world missions around the world in many different countries. It has been taught thousands of times since that

beginning. The last four decades have seen the greatest missions focused efforts since the day of the great commission. This year this course will be taught to churches, colleges and seminaries over 500 times around the globe.

While on staff at the East 91st Street Christian Church in 1994, I personally experienced this class. The thoughts presented were thoughts I had never considered before, and they were immense in their weight for reaching the lost. I wanted everyone who cared about missions to know these thoughts.

I took the class for credit in 1996. When I joined the staff at the Canyon Ridge Christian Church in Las Vegas in the year 2000, I helped present the class annually for 5 years, and when I moved to Cincinnati I built a team to provide multiple classes each year in the greater Cincinnati area.

About 10 years ago, some missionaries in the Philippines rewrote the class material into a new presentation form in a way that internationally educated church leaders could better process the principles and put them into immediate action. This was called <a href="The Kairos Course">The Kairos Course</a>. It has become a gold standard especially for developing and third-world country leaders.

Through the help of a new partner to ACS, this course was taught to 14 of the Burmese Bible College Presidents this past March.

Tom Schneller from **Disciple Makers International**, the past president of the International Conference on Mission (ICOM), helped facilitate the arrangements for the Kairos teachers to travel to Yangon.Some came from Guatemala, Japan, Nepal, Myanmar

and the USA. To prepare, Mark Morse went to Louisville and took the course at the campus of **Operation Mobilization** readying himself for hosting the gathering



on behalf of ACS. This was a significant undertaking for ACS and we believe it will have a 25-year lifespan in reaching out to the last 50 unreached tribes in Burma. Rejoice with us that this was possible. This is Mark's report....

## The Kairos Seminar in Yangon by Mark Morse

As I sat in that steamy Burmese upper room, listening to the Kairos course being taught in a different language, my main thought was **how amazing God is**. We make our plans "for Him," and He goes way beyond what we can ask or imagine. On the day that I counted the number



Mark Morse

of people in attendance, there happened to be 72 in the room. I couldn't help but think how coincidental it was, given our objective



The Kairos Seminar in Process

of trying to reach the remaining 50 unreached tribes, as my thoughts turned to Luke 10:1-2:

"After this, the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.""

The objective was to reach the unreached tribes of Myanmar. Kairos was a week-long missions training event meant to set the stage for a strategic meeting of ACS leaders that would be held



Mark — Reaching the last 50 tribes strategic discussion

after the course. It would take a small book to outline everything discussed, as we worked together with this one focus in mind.

One of the fun activities we engaged in was to take every single tribe (printed from Joshua Project) and place the name of that tribe physically on a large map in the front of the room. It was just awesome to see these leaders come alive, as they talked about their knowledge and encounters with many of these tribes.

At the same time, there were many tribes where the leaders in the room were not aware of any contact made by us. One of the homework assignments was for our leaders to contact their own constituency (whether a Bible College or an Evangelism Committee or a church) and go through this exercise with them, to see where we might already have contacts, "Bridges of God," as Don McGavran called them.

There were multiple assignments, as much preparation, cooperation and coordination will be required to reach this objective. One assignment was to go "two by two" and

geo-locate the tribes, using cell-phones or satellite phones. And, as my mother, Lois, said, "The most important assignment is PRAYER. We need TEAMS of people both in Myanmar and in the U.S. joining together in prayer for each tribe by name." Her suggestion was to have a group of people in the U.S. and a sister group in Myanmar both praying for one specific tribe. That would be 100 groups joining together to pray for these tribes. As we go further, maybe YOU would be able to "adopt" a tribe.



Kairos students discussing an application to the training

with the focus of reaching them where they are with the love of Christ and God's message of forgiveness and salvation for all through Jesus Christ our Lord.

My father went to heaven a couple years ago. There are many exciting things going on today that he didn't see while he was on this earth, although these were the things for which he strived day and night. I think about seeing this objective from the other side, completed--the initial reaching, at least. And when I say, "From the other side," I don't just mean from heaven, but from here on earth, as these things are being accomplished.

One of the things that stands out already, is how God has put so many people together, many of us "unlikely" workers in this task (and definitely unlikely that we would be working together). But, God has made it so, because HE IS AMAZING. I would love to tell of each person that has been involved since 1921 and before that. I would love to tell about you, and your involvement in reaching God's loved ones. This is a journey. Let's take it together--work together, plan together, pray together. And may God receive the glory.

Note: Immediately following the Seminar, Simon sent me the following letter (see next page). I think his enthusiasm was repeated by many others after the week of experiencing a higher and clearer mission vision and experiencing the unity and fellowship of comrades committed to this cause. – KO



The Kairos Seminar Graduates

Dear Kent, Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ from Myanmar. ACS was able to conduct KAIROS Seminar in March 25 - 30, 2019 at Yangon, Myanmar. Professors from 14 Bible Schools and 10 Leaders from Evangelizing Committees attended this seminar.

KAIROS Means TIME .... To Reach the Lost Nations (TRIBES), as it is GOD'S PURPOSE AND PLAN from Genesis to the end of the age.

Abraham was blessed to bless all the NATIONS (TRIBES). We are now Abraham's children and greatly blessed to bless all the Nations (Tribes). (Genesis 12, Gal. 3)

ABRAHAM, CHRISTIANS are really blessed by God = TOP LINE All Nations, Tribes on earth will be blessed through YOU, = BOTTOM LINE

THE TOP LINE BLESSING IS FOR US, OUR FAMILY AND OUR OWN PEOPLE. BOTTOM LINE BLESSING IS FOR THOSE OF DIFFERENT ETHNICITY OR TRIBES TO OURSELVES.

Most of us are staying Top Line, comfort zone and forgetting the Bottom Line, God's command to bless all the Nations.

There are 50 unreached tribes in Myanmar according to Joshua Project research. But when the Christian leaders collected the information, the unreached tribes increased to 60.

Now it is TIME to get up and Go to reach those tribes, by obeying the GREAT COMMISSION OF OUR LORD JESUS. You can be partner in this REMAINING, UNFINISHING TASK by prayer, teaching, sending workers, supporting, and encouraging.

May God bless you all as you are serving our King to accomplish the most Priority Task.

Your Fellow servant, Simon Thaung, Coordinator of KAIROS SEMINAR

Last week before the printing of this UPDATE, we received this letter from Simon and determined to pass it on to all of you. This story is the result of outstanding work over the last 25 years in China. We are now dreaming of the next 25 years in all of Asia. It is impossible to see the future as we prayerfully and financially support Asian evangelists in their efforts and fund the projects that they request by faith. But on occasion, a thrilling report comes to us of the great work done before because of those who invested in the past that continues to this day. Be encouraged all of you and thank you for your steady and ongoing support and, dream with us of the future. — Kent Odor

Simon Thaung

#### Mission Trip to China — June 2019 by Simon Thaung

Timothy and Joana are from Liuku, Nujiang (China). They studied the Bible at BBS - Berea Bible School in Myitkyina in 1990. ACS gave scholarships to them. They went back and trained 1,000

disciples and planted 500 churches in 20 years around Nujiang area.

Ye Xi is from Goshan, near Phy Gue Leu where the Morse family resettled as mission base (In the 1940's).



**Goshan Church Choir** 



**Timothy and Joanna** 



Ye Xi at Goshan Christian Center

They trained disciples and sent them out to reach Lisu and Rawang Tribes. He was called to be trained at BBS, Myitkyina in 1994. After accomplishing Discipleship Training, he went back to Goshan to reach Lisu and Dulong people.

He took LaVerne Morse and Atapha to visit Christian Churches along the Salween river, in China in 1997.



LaVerne, Atapha and Ye Xi in 1997







They walked, climbed and took a tractor to reach villages.
After 22 years, He trained 1,500 disciples and planted 400 churches.

The Churches are

growing and increasing even though there are persecutions, oppressions, attacks, barriers and trials.





Our fellow Evangelists taught Jesus sacrificed ONCE FOR ALL and many evil spirit worshippers accepted Jesus Christ. There are over 300,000 Believers and 900 churches in the Kumming, China area. Praise the Lord!

#### Challenges:

**Tatoo Dulong Girl** 

J. Russell Morse, his sons Eugene, Robert, and LaVerne

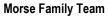


Morse sacrificed their lives for the Lord. Now it our time to give the best to God. It is impossible to send our



Missionaries to China but, you can be involved in the Mission by Praying, Giving, Encouraging and Joining in a short term Mission trip. Thank you for your monthly Prayer Support. May God continue to bless you all as you partner with us in expanding God's Kingdom.

Your fellow servant, Simon Thaung.



### - Reports from the Field . . . .

Our mission: ACS empowers Asian Missionaries to reach the unreached, plant new churches and disciple believers. These reports will bring you encouragement. The work continues in might ways!

#### **Manasseh Fish from Taunggyi Christian Center:**

#### 1. Lehe Leadership

Seminar: Manasseh, Aaron and Min Naing Oo went to Lehe and conducted a Christian Leadership seminar from last March 4 to 8. About 40 Naga evangelists and children teachers came to attend the seminar. There are totally 13 Naga Christian Churches in Lehe township. The Naga



Manasseh, Aaron and Min Naing Oo



Manasseh and 5 Evangelists who are TBC Graduates

region is mountainous and so the transportation and communication is so difficult. Since it is mountainous, the people couldn't have irrigated paddy field and they are just practicing the slash and burn method of cultivation which is unproductive. Therefore, the people

are very poor. There are five TBC graduates who are spreading the gospel there. They are Bar Tin, Timothy, Enoch, Miriam and Kim Wan. As the church members are so poor, the donation is also very low and thus, the Naga evangelists and children teachers are serving in a very much difficult situation. So, they are very much in need of encouragement. And also, there is only a primary school



Lehe Leadership Seminar



Meeting with the Naga Evangelism Committee

in a big Naga village. So, if the parents would like their children to continue to study at the middle and high school education, they will need to send them to towns. But being so poor, they couldn't afford sending their children to towns to continue their education. For this reason, the Naga Children are also very much in need of help for their education just as the children of the ancestor worshipers need help for their children in Shan State.



Naga Children with the Hope of Maximum 4th Grade Education

2. **Khamti Leadership Seminar:** After Lehe Christian Leadership Seminar was done, Manasseh and Min Naing Oo came back from Lehe to Khamti and they conducted a Bible Seminar at Leh Pan Thar village from March 11 to 13. There were over 120 church leaders and members who came to attend the seminar. There are also four TBC graduates who are serving the Lord in Khamti area. The church leaders and members were so much encouraged by the seminar.



Khamti Leadership Seminar

#### 3. Myitkyina Teenage Girl Educational Seminar:

Nowadays, the women trafficking, and child sex abuses are becoming a big challenge. Therefore, Myitkyina Christian Women Committee decided to conduct an educational seminar specifically designed for the teenage girls who have just passed High School Education and university first and second year students. Ruth said there were 132 teenage girls who came to join the seminar and a Lisu woman lawyer shared the laws related with the women and child sexual abuses. It was the first teenage educational seminar ever conducted in Myitkyina and it was more than successful.



The Teenage Girls Attending the Seminar



The Teenage Girls Seminar

#### **Yohan Mana from Myanmar Bible Institute:**

Greetings from Myanmar. I have been away from home almost two months. The Lord has called MBI to lead Summer Youth Camps for 25 years. MBI team went first to Konglangpu while the rain was pouring. Robinson and Judah Dangshin (Chairman of the Board of Trustees, MBI) led 18 students. They taught 75 for one week. You might remember that it took two weeks to walk and climb when we first launched. Now, it takes only three days from Putao - one day with motorbike and two



Yohan Mana and the Summer Adventure

days walk. The camp went very well. The highest peak is called Sanglup. The heavy rain caused for landslide and killed two brothers and injured two other brothers of Tariwanggong village in April.

I went up to Nongmung by car to join with the team. It took 4 days (hiking and walking) in the first two decades. The old road is abundant now, every traveler chooses car. We had 385

attendants in
Nongmung. We
divided into two
groups. Their
enthusiasm reached
higher and higher as
the days went by.
There were 16
baptisms at the end.
Baptism was done is
Kasang River as
usual.



**Baptism at Summer Camp** 

Then we departed to Putao for Kalang Camp. I have been to Kalang Valley three times before. We had to walk about 11 hours. We chose to travel by motorbikes instead. The road was tough. I fell down twice. I was not the only one who fell but so did most of our team members. Thank God for no injury. Another traveler team was riding along with us. One man slid down and

smashed his motorbike. He got injuries on his face and knees. Our team also faced the most difficult situation. One of students could not ride motorbike properly. He did not tell us beforehand and no one noticed it. When we started climbing he fell down. He could not manage the lever, gears, and brake. Everyone was with his own bike and no one could help him. Finally, we met two travelers who could help him. That's how we reached Kalang village at 4:00 pm.

Anyway, all villagers were happy to meet us. It was the first time to have such youth camp in Kalang Valley. There are 9 villages in this valley. We had 133 attendants and divided into two groups as we did in Nongmung. All adults in Kalang village tried their best to help us and prepare the food. I just cannot be silent to say about the food we ate there. It was 100% natural. Fishes, meats, mushrooms (white, black, brown), ground leaves, vegetables, walnuts, potatoes, taro, sweet potatoes, and many unnamed ones made us healthy and strong. 5 persons decided to be baptized on Thursday. As the village is close to the snow-capped mountains it was not fun to dip in water. No matter what, we rejoiced in the Lord for their baptism.

I had to go back to Nongmung for water project which is sponsored by IDES. The primary purpose was only for



**Pipes for the Water Project** 



**New Pipes for the Project** 

Gumling village alone. I bought all PVC pipes and accessories plus steels and cements. We found out that Nambandam village

and Long Ngo villages also need running water. We checked out our resources and decided to extend to two more villages.

I called two technicians for the work became larger. I gave them guidelines for the whole project. They did it with compassion and got along okay with villagers. I did two seminars in the intervals, one in Nongmung and the other one in Gumling.

Three villages got running water for the first time in their life. They thanked God and American Christians who made all possible for them. They treated us well with fresh, natural, and healthy food. They will never forget us, and we will not forget them. We were able to build great Christian fellowship through these projects.

I had one more appointment in Pakant, jade mine area. I taught three days to 70 young men and women. 5 persons decided to be baptized at the end. When look back I thank God for this summer. I have been able to participate in many places. To God be the glory! Yohan Mana

#### **Prayer Requests and Financial Needs...**

- 1. ACS General Fund is used for multiple projects as they are requested from Asia.
- 2. Evangelists Fund is used to support new workers, and new church planting projects.
- 3. Bible College Scholarships are needed for students training to plant churches. \$40 a month for four years will provide tuition, food, and housing while in class and practical training in the field.
- 4. Needs for Naga Ministry through Manasseh and Aaron...
  - a. Naga Evangelists need support to do the evangelistic work at \$100 per month.
  - b. Naga Children need schooling at Khamti. \$30 per month is needed for food and tuition.
- 5. Peter at May Zele Christian Church needs a Hi Jet small truck for transportation. The cost is \$4000 and \$1070 has already been raised. \$2930 is still needed to purchase the truck.

#### **Honors and Memorials...**

In honor of Diane Adams by M. Doylene Grimm

In memory of Ruth A. Boyd by John T. Boyd

In memory of Conrad Schaeffer by Carol Schaeffer

In memory of Erwin & Wilma Stock
by Michael Stock and the
JW & EL Stock Insurance Agency

**Correction:** Regretfully a mistake was made in last quarter's newsletter. A gift from Norman & Carol Stanley was listed as "in *memory* of" Lois C. Morse; the gift was designated "in *honor* of" Lois Morse but printed incorrectly. Our beloved Lois--the beloved wife of LaVerne Morse the founder of Asia Christian Services--is still with us and still engaged in her continuing ministry of prayer, encouragement, writing and support of the Lord's work in Asia.

Be sure to check out our website:

#### asiachristianservices.com

For the latest news and updates from Asia Christian Services

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