



SOUTHEAST ASIA Special Report

SUMMER • 2025



Kompot Province, Cambodia

SOUTHEAST ASIA Special Report



Ellis and Bob Craft in Myanmar in 2020.

*We are called by
God to train and
equip local believers,
enabling them to
reach the unreached
and bring them
into fellowship with
Jesus Christ and
His Church, through
the power of the
Holy Spirit.*

Dear <FirstName>,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Trust this message finds you well.

Years ago, I remember my father, Reach A Village founder and president Bob Craft, telling me incredible stories of his ministry efforts in Southeast Asia. His approach to listening and working alongside national leaders with a passion for reaching their nations resulted in great success.

I did not expect to be involved in international ministry as an adult, but the Lord was working in my heart from an early age. Growing up as a Missionary kid in Thailand and the Philippines, I have always loved Southeast Asia. Soon after graduating from high school in the Philippines, I began studying at Moody Bible Institute and later at Moody Theological Seminary.

As Reach A Village grew, my father needed to step into more executive duties. God's timing was perfect in that I could step into ministry and get to know the phenomenal partners we serve on the field. It has been a role that I have cherished, and with people for whom I have immense respect and love.

I'm thrilled to use this opportunity to introduce you to our dear partners and help you understand more about their ministries across the seven nations we serve in this region. These leaders and their teams are extraordinary, passionate, and committed to the cause of Christ.

Thank you for partnering with us in prayer and financial support. I'd like to close by echoing the words of Paul from Philippians 1:3-5, "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now." God bless you!



In His Service,

A handwritten signature of Ellis R. Craft in black ink, written in a cursive style.

Ellis R. Craft
VP of International Ministry



*“He said to them, “Go into
all the world and preach the
gospel to all creation.”*

MARK 16:15



THE PHILIPPINES

In the Philippines, school doors are open for the Lord! Right now, thousands of trained volunteer teachers are bringing the Gospel message to thousands of children in public and private schools through The Philippines Values Education Program (PVEP). Christian values are taught based on the Word of God. The ultimate purpose of the ministry is to reach students with the Gospel and guide them to commit their lives to Jesus Christ for His purposes and glory.

This ministry began in 2007 because a woman wanted to give Bibles to a classroom as a Christmas gift. The principal allowed it, but only if she would talk about the Bible first. With this small step, the Values Education ministry was born.

Our ministry partners in the Philippines have formal agreements with the Department of Education to carry out this mission. In 18 years, more than 1.7 million students have been involved in Values Education classes, and more than 570,000 have given their hearts to Jesus. Students also come to know and love their volunteer teachers, forming meaningful relationships that have a long-term positive impact.

This ministry is making a tremendous impact in rural areas where tribal religions and spirit worship are common, and poverty and unemployment are widespread. Ministry leaders are also planning to expand this ministry into areas that are predominantly Muslim.



Melissa, a Values Advocate and Grade 6 Advisor at Gloders College in Puerto Galleria, Oriental Mindoro

REACHING SCHOOLCHILDREN

*The number of new believers reported per country is based on our FY 23-24 Ministry Results.

**The population and percentage of evangelicals information is from the website of Joshua Project.



Pastor Aaron

Pastor Aaron is a young PVEP leader and volunteer teacher. When he was a student, Aaron was a much different person. He used drugs and alcohol, caused trouble at home and in school, and was a thief.

One day, a pastor serving as a PVEP volunteer teacher came to Aaron's class and shared the Word of God with the students. Seeing the light of God's love, Aaron began reading the Bible on his own. God captured Aaron's heart, and Aaron looked for opportunities to teach others about God and the Bible.

Today, seven years later, Pastor Aaron eagerly reaches out to other young people with the Gospel.



Reach A Village provides Bibles for Pastor Aaron and thousands of other volunteer teachers to give to students through PVEP.

35.872
▶ 35,872 New believers*

118.806.000
▶ Total Population 118,806,000**

11.33%
▶ Evangelical 11.33%**

MYANMAR



Life in Myanmar is challenging and growing more difficult. Some people have electricity for 4 to 8 hours per day. Many young people have fled Myanmar.

Thousands of internally displaced people live there. Villages have been bombed by the government. Recently, a church van was shot up during a skirmish.

This nation remains embroiled in a civil war that became worse during the coup in February 2021. According to Open Doors International, Christians have encountered greater violence and tighter restrictions since the coup. Believers have been killed, and churches have been indiscriminately attacked. This country is currently ranked number 13 on the Open Doors World Watch List for persecution.

In addition to the ongoing civil war and persecution, the country was hit by a devastating earthquake in March 2025. The house and church building of one ministry leader both collapsed. "I took my family and fled to a nearby soccer field," he says. "We were camping under a mosquito net. We believed this to be a safe area where we could avoid aftershocks because it is an open space with no trees or buildings."

We provide prayer support, financial support and resources to a network of 3,000 churches in Myanmar. In this nation, we are focusing on the ethnically Burmese, which is just 0.08% evangelical.

OUTREACH DURING WAR AND DISASTER

16,001
▶ 16,001 New believers

55,324,000
▶ Total Population 55,324,000

5.13%
▶ Evangelical 5.13%

LAOS



Laos is a landlocked country in mainland Southeast Asia, known for its diverse landscape and unique culture. Laos is characterized by rugged mountains, dense forests, and the Mekong River, which forms a major part of its western border with Thailand, with which it has the most trade. To the north is China, which plays a significant role in the country's political and economic development. On the eastern border is Vietnam. Laos is also known for its ancient temples, including the UNESCO World Heritage site of Luang Prabang, and its vibrant night markets in the capital, Vientiane. Sticky rice is the staple food of Laotian cuisine.

Laos is also a predominantly Buddhist country ruled by the Lao People's Revolutionary Party. The ethnically diverse population includes Lao, Khmu, Hmong, and Phu Thai, just some of the main groups.

Pastor John* leads the ministry from a central location. We work primarily with the Lao and Khmu people groups in five of the seventeen provinces. The church leaders and pastors report that persecution is part of their faith journey. In a recent leaders' meeting, all ten of the leaders present had been arrested for their faith. Please continue to pray for the beautiful people of Laos.

**His name has been changed due to security concerns.*



6,838

► 6,838 New Believers

7,669,000

► Total Population 7,669,000

2.52%

► Evangelical 2.52%

**MINISTRY
DURING
PERSECUTION**

CAMBODIA



Buddhism runs deep in Cambodia, but nothing can hinder the sharing of the Gospel there. Among the total population of 17,083,000, 96% of the people are still considered unreached by the Gospel (JoshuaProject.net). There continues to be a great need for ministry partners, ministry leaders and local believers who are willing to tell their people about Jesus. We have ministry partners serving in every province of the nation.

By the end of the Vietnam War in 1975, 80% of Cambodian believers had been martyred during the horrors of Marxist leader Pol Pot's Killing Fields. Most Christians were among the more than 1.3 million Cambodians whose bodies were scattered in more than 20,000 mass burial sites called 'killing fields' throughout the country, in what many consider the worst genocide of the 20th century. There may have been as few as 200 remnant believers who were meeting in secret among the ruins of Phnom Penh.

In 2023, followers of Jesus celebrated 100 years of Christianity's presence Cambodia. In 2024, Reach A Village's ministry partners reported 32,714 new believers.

Right now, more people in Cambodia are coming to faith in Jesus Christ than ever before. But half of Cambodia's 14,000 villages still have no church presence, and less than 2% of the people are Christians. There is still much ministry to do!



**TRANSFORMING
A NATION**

32,714
▶ 32,714 New believers

17,083,000
▶ Total Population 17,083,000

1.50%
▶ Evangelical 1.50%

VIETNAM



Vietnam is a long, narrow nation shaped like the letter “S”. It is on the eastern most part of mainland Southeast Asia, which borders the South China Sea. The country is most famous for the war fought in the 1970s. The USA withdrew troops after a long and bloody fight over 50 years ago. However, today the younger generations would know it more for its beautiful tourist destinations, including the world’s largest cave. The national dish of Vietnam is a soup called Pho, and it can be found and sampled in many cities around the world.

Vietnam is home to 54 different ethnic groups, and its population is approximately 100,000,000. The two largest cities are Ho Chi Minh, at 13 million, and Hanoi, at over 8 million. The country is predominantly atheist, with Buddhists and Catholics around 5% each.

There is more freedom to practice Christianity in the urban areas. The rural areas report frequent persecution in villages that have families gathering in house churches.

We have had long relationships with church leaders in Vietnam and have helped with church planting efforts on a smaller scale. In the last few years, we have been helping fund the creation and printing of evangelism and discipleship materials, songbooks, and Bibles. In January 2025, Vietnam officially launched the “Gospel of Love Ministry”. We currently have 20 church planting teams committed to sharing the Gospel and starting house churches where none exist. We had over 12,000 people hear the Gospel, 482 new believers, 18 cell groups formed, and 5 house churches planted in this short time.



*Scripture booklets in
Vietnamese*

99,355,000
▶ Total Population 99,355,000

2.16%
▶ Evangelical 2.16%

**EXCITING NEW
OUTREACH**

INDONESIA

Indonesia is the fourth most populated country in the world and consists of 17,000 islands.

It also has the largest economy in Southeast Asia and has the largest Muslim population of any country in the world with more than 80% of the population being Muslim. More than 70% of the population belongs to unreached people groups. Our ministry partners are training local believers to share the Gospel with unreached people and to disciple believers in order to start house churches.

While the country's constitution allows religious freedom, persecution and discrimination are directed toward Christians and other religious minorities. Christians are becoming more careful about expressing their religious views in public, as statements perceived as opposing Islam can lead to a charge of blasphemy. Churches face problems with building and registering congregations. Indonesia is ranked number 42 on the 2024 World Watch List for persecution (OpenDoors.org).

Indonesia's unreached people have a great spiritual need to know Jesus Christ and receive the forgiveness and new life He offers. In reality, people in this nation are dying without ever knowing the truth about Jesus from scripture, so that they can make him Lord of their lives.



**IMPACTING
UNREACHED
PEOPLE GROUPS**

398
▶ 398 New believers

279,601,000
▶ Total Population 279,601,000

3.22%
▶ Evangelical 3.22%

THAILAND

Evidence of the Holy Spirit's fire is spreading throughout Thailand. Tens of thousands of new believers who have found freedom in Christ plus thousands of ministry leaders are fueling that fire with their faith and obedience to the Word.

When is the last time you saw believers who were so excited about the Gospel that they couldn't keep the Good News to themselves? Every day in Thailand, followers of Jesus are compelled to go and tell others about their Lord and Savior. The astounding number of commitments to Christ, baptisms and new churches in Thailand is evidence of their faithfulness.

There are at least 77,000 villages in Thailand. Reaching all these villages with the Gospel may seem like a daunting task. In a six-year period (2019–2025) — through Reach A Village's partnership with the Free in Jesus Christ Church Association (FJCCA), a Thai-led church planting movement — local believers have reached 6,000 of those villages with the gospel.

"We baptized more than 10,000 new believers in 2024," said one of the ministry leaders. *"Church planting teams have started outreach in a new province."* This is in the province next to Tak province, where Bob Craft, founder and president of Reach A Village, began his missionary journey in 1979.



17,476
► New Believers 17,476

71,661,000
► Total Population 71,661,000

0.76%
► Evangelical 0.76%

**TRANSFORMING
CENTRAL THAILAND**



PRAYER Requests

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel! We hope you are encouraged to see the Lord at work across Southeast Asia. Please join us in praying for:

- Ellis Craft as he leads ministry in the region.
- Safety as our ministry partners travel to remote or hostile areas.
- More called workers and for the funding to provide more training, mobilization and Scriptures.
- Wisdom and favor with local officials for the national leaders as they seek to reach their nations for Christ.
- More opportunities to share the truth of the Gospel in difficult to reach areas.

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to give
now!



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PO Box 577 • Park Forest, IL 60466 • 833-41BIBLE

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