

Reiner Hennig

Missions in Kanchanaburi Province

Thailand

Newsletter 11 - 12 2025

Lum Sum, December 18, 2025

Dear friends,

I am very grateful for your prayers and your solidarity with me. Now I would like to tell you a little about what has happened here since mid-October 2025.

Passion

God's passionate love

As I thought about Christmas, I was struck by this: "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16) When Jesus became man, He was the perfect expression of what God is and what God wanted. Jesus, the Son of God, through whom God had created everything and who was thus greater and more powerful than the entire universe, who carries the entire universe with its approximately 100 billion galaxies, each with approximately 100 billion suns, through His powerful Word, more powerful and stronger than everything and everyone, in an eternal and unclouded relationship with God the Father and in absolute unity with Him, decides to let go of all this out of love and become a defenseless embryo in the womb of a young woman who was engaged but did not have this child from her fiancé. She deserved to be stoned to death as an adulteress or to live in shame forever. This was only avoided by the fact that Joseph, her fiancé, was prepared to accept this young woman as his wife. And a short time later, this young family had to flee to Egypt because King Herod saw this child as a danger and was determined to kill it. Jesus, the perfect wisdom of God, then had to learn to walk and speak as a child and later to read, write and count. He came from the purity and clarity of heaven into this world characterized by sin, guilt, corruption and death. When He was allowed to go to the temple of God in Jerusalem with His parents for the first time at the age of 12, His parents, who had wrongly assumed that He was returning with the traveling party, only found Him the day after next in the temple in the circle of the scribes, whom He questioned. To His mother's reproaches, He replied: "Did you not know that I must be in what belongs to my Father" (and probably also: "where my Father is present in a special way"). This

was His calling, He was drawn there with power, and then, always aware that He was supposed to be something else, He had to live in His parental home for 18 years under the command of His parents, who ultimately did not understand Him, and learn the trade of a carpenter and then practise it. When God the Father finally called Him to His service at the age of 30, He experienced the powerful work of the Father, but was completely dependent on God His Father in everything. He had to see how depraved and rotten much of the inner life of the most pious and influential was, and how, despite all the good He had been and done, He was met with sheer hatred, which ultimately brought Him slander, persecution, torture and death in disgrace. Jesus, the Son of God, sacrificed His life for a world that absolutely did not deserve it. And even as the completely innocent and pure One, He took upon Himself the hardship and guilt and the curse that lay upon it in order to open a path to God the Father that was also open to the worst and most corrupt. He gave everything for this world. What made Him do it? It was love.

As disciples of Jesus, we too should live this passionate love of God.

This was not a love that only gives in order to receive the same in return. This was not a love that holds back so that it does not become too much for her. This was a completely unreasonable love that did not ask what it cost her, but gave everything to pay the cost so that the one she loved could live. It was a passion that had gripped Him, that was about doing what God wanted at any cost. Jesus said to His disciples: "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you, that you also love one another." (John 13:34) So we are to love as Jesus did, and He walked this path of love so that we can walk it too.

How can we live this passionate love?

Our human capacity for love is simply not enough, even if we convince ourselves that people are ultimately good and lovable. At the latest, when we are confronted with a truly malicious enemy who has seriously harmed us, we are at the end of our love. What solution has God given us? We read in the apostle Paul's letter to the church in Rome: "For the love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us." (Rom. 5:5). We can simply let it out to whoever we meet. It is only blocked if we have decided not to forgive someone (Mt 6:15; Mt 18:21-35), to refuse to love someone (1 John 4:16) or not to let go of a particular sin that God has shown us (Is 59:2). If we are too weak, that is not a problem for God. We must decide to forgive, to love, to be forgiven for this sin and to decide not to do it anymore. God will then be very happy to help us to follow through with these decisions. This perfect, passionate love of God is then fully available to us and we can live it.

What effect does this passionate love have?

This love causes us to love God more than anything else. It causes God to become much more important, better and more beautiful to us than anything here on earth. It convinces us that God's ways are much better than anything we plan, and that we are therefore happy to walk with Him, even if the path leads us into hardship, suffering and death. It looks to the wonderful, glorious goal that God has with our lives, and for which all the steps we have to take here are worthwhile. (2 Cor 4:17; Heb 12:2) It leads us to respond to everything God commands us to do, but also to everything He asks us to do or very quietly and tenderly suggests us to do. We love God so much that we can no longer refuse Him anything. Through this perfect love, our trust in God grows more and more. "Perfect love casts out fear." (1 John 4:18) Since many psychological problems are defense mechanisms against certain fears, this perfect love heals us, sets us free to see things as they really are and to face them appropriately. We come to peace with God in the midst of this peaceless world. We become a refreshment for many people in need, but also an offense to the enemies of God. And God causes us to be able to walk confidently and victoriously through all difficulties and attacks. (Rom 8:37) When we live perfect love, we live in what we were created and called to do. There is no better and more effective way for us to live in our calling, and this way has positive effects that go far beyond our personal lives..

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Many things continued as described in the previous newsletter.

I am still very grateful for the service of my employees Khun O and Khun Saichon. Routine check-ups for heart (warfarin) every month and urology every three months continued. We buy food for the poor about twice a month.

My other upper canine tooth also received a crown.

After I had received a crown for one of my upper canines, as reported, the seal suddenly fell out of the other upper canine during a meal and I had a sharp-edged ruin in my mouth. I then went to my dentist and after 4 sessions in the city, the other canine also had its crown and my denture was adapted to the new situation.

I got a new rental contract

Our rental contract for house 2, house 3 and the chapel and garden around it ends on March 31, 2026. I was given a subsequent rental contract for it, which is limited to 1

year until the end of March 2027. However, the landlord wants to sell the property and the houses because he urgently needs money. God must provide.

My work permit and my visa as a Christian missionary were both extended by one year.

To extend my work permit, I needed a health certificate, which I was able to obtain cheaply from the district hospital. On the same day, I traveled to Bangkok, where I gave the health certificate to the CTTM lawyer who processes my visa applications and had to provide a large number of signatures. Although I had resigned from CTTM, I was able to stay at the CTTM house free of charge and had warm encounters with CTTM staff there. I waited there the following morning until the lawyer came back with the extension of my work permit and gave me the necessary documents to extend my visa for a year. I went back home and the next day I went back to our provincial capital to the immigration office to hand in my application to extend my visa. Unfortunately, one page of the application was incorrect. I had to send this page to the lawyer, who immediately had it corrected by the office that had issued it and sent it back to me. The next day I was able to apply for the extension of my visa for another year and received it without any problems on December 17th. I found the work of the office to be thorough and helpful.

Writing

The writing consists of larger, longer-term projects on the one hand and smaller contributions that God gives me in between and that I can usually write down quite quickly.

The following writings are completed:

- 1) **Why is it so easy to pray for others?** This short statement has encouraged me to take my intercession more seriously.
- 2) **When God calls us to an assignment, He gives us everything we need for it.** It contains examples from our lives and from history and brief tips on how we can learn to live it.
- 3) **Therapy from a Christian perspective.** Things to consider if you really want to help others.

4) **Passion.** God loves passionately. How can we get this passionate love into our lives?

I have a few larger projects that I'm working on:

5) **Christine's life.** This is intended to be a more detailed report on the life of my deceased wife, which also attempts to shed some light on her background.

6) **Thoughts on German history.** This is about dealing responsibly with our German history, what this history looks like from God's point of view, Germany's guilt and how we as Christians should deal with it, what is worth preserving in our heritage and how it should be used.

7) **The view of man and its significance for pedagogy.** The central statements of an atheistic world view and a Christian world view for pedagogy are compared here.

8) **On the situation in the 3rd world.** Christine had put together some material on this, but I haven't gotten around to working on it yet.

Youth with a Mission (YWAM) Thailand in Wang Krachae

My closest spiritual association in Thailand is now with Khun Arun and Khun Paeng Phummarin. They are longtime members of YWAM Thailand and have a YWAM Thailand base on their farm in a village about 30 km from where I live. Their church, Noël Church, like my Philadelphia Church International, is a house church under Pastor Preecha Kirdyoo. Their team includes Khun Paeng's mother, who is also a YWAM staff member, her daughter and two other young women, all three in their teens, as well as a younger girl. They work their farm and do service work in the village. Khun Arun also holds training courses for farmers in the area in cooperation with government agencies. They also have the opportunity to host groups, sometimes as part of a YWAM discipleship school. I have a room there that Christine and I were able to arrange as our retreat accommodation, which I can use at any time. I am there every 14 days for the service and usually preach. So far, I have used the retreat room once a month for several days, as I did last November. From December 10 - 17, 2025, a group of young adults from a Methodist church in Singapore was there. I accompanied this group from December 10 - 14: It was a very nice experience for me I was very happy about how much they understood about life as a Christian. Khun Arun and Khun Paeng see me as part of their family. I am always welcome there and they have promised me that they will take care of me if I become a nursing case. In the meantime, everyone at the base there wants me to be with them more.

How I am doing now

An important point in my life has been the struggle not to watch too many movies on the internet on YouTube and especially to get to the end of the day quickly. I'm working on it.

I am still in the process of finding a healthy balance between tension and relaxing.

Having a day off every week without any duties is very good for me.

I urgently need to carve out more time to read books for my further education and for what I'm supposed to write.

Playing the keyboard is becoming easier and more enjoyable. Not only can I hit the right notes, but I'm increasingly able to shape what I play.

I received a lot of encouragement.

What happens next?

- Standing before God.
- Intercession for the body of Christ
- Writing scripts.
- Read books
- Closer cooperation with Arun and Paeng and their YWAM base.
- Our friends in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh have warmly invited me to visit them again. I need clear guidance from God for this.
- Meetings (on request) with the Roman Catholic Bishop of Ratchaburi, who is responsible for our province, and with the head of the Russian Orthodox Church in Thailand

I wish you God's rich blessings and greet you warmly and with gratitude

Yours in Christ Jesus

Reiner Hennig

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