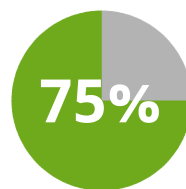


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## Please pray for the Akha village Mehter



RUTH FOX



SUPPORT PLEDGED



JAPAN, SOUTHEAST ASIA

Please pray for the Akha village Mehter as they vote in the next two weeks for a new headman, who is open to the Christian faith in his village. About 13 years ago, some Akha evangelists and I took 35 drug addicts out of Mehter village to a Christian drug rehab sponsored by American Baptists in Chiangmai. After attendance at this drug rehab they all returned to the village and said that they would think about and make a decision about following the Christian way in another six months. Six months came, and they decided to follow the Jesus way and as they decided along this path the village headman then forced them out of the main village. They were forced to live nearby but with out water, toilets, or electricity. Over the years, the Akha leaders and I have helped this Christian village with many things including an endeavor toward coffee planting which has been a successful way to income. Also, we have reached out to the non-Christian side with Sport Day outreach and many teams which came to share God's love, especially a medical team from Singapore caring for basic needs.

This past Christmas 2016, we had a wonderful Christmas outreach with over 110 young people hearing the Christmas story. We had a great meal and wonderful fellowship. The young people came from many villages some Christian and some not, but this night they heard about the birth of the Savior. The pictures posted are from this celebration. This was a very joyful event in the hills as the cool, foggy air rolled into the worship area I told the story of Jesus birth.

Now we see the opportunity for a new headman to be voted into the non-Christian side who is not threatened by the story of Jesus. Please pray for this opening.

In the past, very strong leaders and a spirit doctor have opposed the Christian story being accepted in the village. In the recent years, many people from the non Christian side have said that they are open to the Christian faith. In reality it has been the spirit doctor who is the real doctor. So, we want to pray for him.

In addition, please pray for Aso the pastor, on the Christian side, that he will be a person of courage as changes are about to occur in a place that has been very strongly against the Christian faith.