

## Dear Disciples of Jesus Christ

Upon the request of my beloved high school student, U {Mr.} Lian Kam and family from Calvary Burmese Church {Washington DC}, I have written this small book called "The Mission for Christ" {MFC for short}.

As I am not an Englishman, may I request that you pass on the English mistakes that I made. But grasp the facts that mean something to you. This book is dedicated to *you*. May God Bless You!

U Ba Thaung Tin  
And  
Daw Tara Tin

# A brief history of MFC

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## Part-1

### God's Vision

Before the training course at Battle Creek, God gave his vision to the Burmese Disciples as a preparation for MFC.

It was 2003. August 28-31, the place was at Fort Wayne {Indiana}. A vision was given to my wife and me. After visiting many Burmese churches and homes across the US, the vision to us was 6 months ahead of the conference with his word in Exodus 19.

Allow me to write a little bit of info, as the historical record of MFC. The conference was called "God's Vision", as well as the 1<sup>st</sup> Burmese Conference in USA.

The pastors, leaders, and interested disciples, both men and women, came from different states. The attendance was 53. The special speakers were,

1. Pastor Tom Pasuquette, from Vineyard Christian Fellowship Church, Columbus, Ohio.
2. The pastor Gary Rief, from the First Baptist Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana.
3. Rev Mehm Tun Than from Burma Baptist Convention.

The pastor and the members of The First Baptist Church loved the Burmese so much that they offered a place for meeting and the sanctuary to worship on Sundays.

"How can it be?" was the question that Naw Hti Mu, the pastor of the Burmese Christian Fellowship, asked me.

"We have only a few Christian families. How can we host them? Where is the money?"  
The answer was, "All things are possible. That is what the Lord said.

Need less to say though, that was the first time that the Burmese Christian leaders had come together and had fellowship, they had come from different racial groups, denominations, and backgrounds. The presence of the Holy Spirit was crystal clear. The Lord spoke to us from Exodus 19 as the preparation for MFC, to do great missions as the end time is at hand. After that God started MFC at Battle Creek in 2004 Dec 27-28.

This revelation was revealed to the Myanmar Disciples twice at Fort Wayne {Indiana} as in Exodus 19 and Matt. 28: 16-20.

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## *A brief history of MFC*

### Part-2

The days were Dec 2004, 27-28. The place was Battle Creek in Michigan State, USA. A short discipleship and leadership training course was sponsored by the Burmese Christian Fellowship Church {before it was the Chin Christian Fellowship} under the leadership of Rev. Dr. David Lai Sum, the pastor of that church. Only 2 families were invited from outside Battle Creek:

1. U Myint Htay Maung and his family from Canada. Converted from Buddhism 2 ½ years ago.
2. U Ba Thaug Tin and his wife Daw Tara Tin, from Columbus, Ohio.

Rev. Dr. Sang Awr, who was once the president and general secretary of Burma's Baptist Convention, gave those short courses. It was a very rare opportunity.

To make a story short, MFC was prepared in August 28-31, 2003 at Fort Wayne, Indiana. It first began at Battle Creek Dec 27-28, 2004 and began to function at Fort Wing on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

There is always a surplus after the budget. In all the 3 meetings, 12 baskets were left after feeding 5 thousand.

#### **Q- Is MFC an organization?**

A- No, absolutely not. It is neither an organization, nor a Christian denomination, nor a church, nor a racial or political organization.

#### **Q- Then what is it?**

A- It is the individual disciples to go and make disciples of all nations. Baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit and teaching those to obey everything Jesus had commanded us.

Jesus said, " Surely I am always with you to the very end of the ages." {Matt 28: 19-20}.

#### **Q- What is a Disciple?**

A- The word disciple comes from the word discipline. Disciple means a follower or a student. There cannot be a follower without a leader. There cannot be a student without a

master or teacher. A disciple obeys and disciplines himself according to his leader or master.

**Q- Who is the Disciple of Christ?**

A- A disciple of Jesus believes:

1. Jesus is his master, leader, his God, Lord, and Savior. Jesus is the head of the church and everything else.
2. All the Disciples of Christ are the same as sinners. They are on the same level.
3. But disciples are different in their spiritual gifts and their talents, like the parts of the body.
4. Believers in one church regardless of denomination, doctrines, colors, countries, and ethnic groups.
5. Believes in Trinity {The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit}.
6. God is the creator of all.
7. There is an Eternal Hell and Eternal Heaven.
8. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ. He is the Living God.
9. God is love. He loves us. God loved the world so much that he gave his only begotten son, Jesus Christ, and whosoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.
10. Jesus said, "Ye are my disciples." That means we are his followers regardless of sex, age, and position.

**Q- As a disciple of Christ, how can I teach and preach without going to Bible School?**

A- When a disciple has that question, please read 1 Cor. 12: 12-50 very carefully.

A- Know yourself, who you are, and know what you believe. A disciple believes all are common in sin, but different in their gifts and talents. When you know who you are and why God sent you in this world, say, "Praise the Lord." Amen.

B- Whenever a disciple has a question, all the answers are in His Word, the Bible. Read the Bible and be it, think it, and meditate it. The more you dig the mine, the more precious metals you will find.

C- Those that go to Bible school are all not teachers and preachers. In the same way, some who do not go to Bible School become full time pastors, preachers, and teachers. Example, Je. Benergee, Pastor Joel Osteen in USA, Mr. Rene Roy Pastor of Christ Church, close to Myanmar Baptist Convention HQ, these 3 are people who are pastors without going to Bible School.

D- Jesus never commanded anyone, who wanted to be a disciple, to go to Bible Schools

E- You may know knowledge about Jesus and God than other people, but what we need is to know and see Jesus personally.

F- Jesus said to his disciples, "Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you." Disciples need to go to church, home groups, and Bible study groups to understand how and why we have to obey everything Jesus had commanded us.

Go to Bible school, if you can, but don't be discouraged if you can't.

**Q- I am a Disciple of Jesus Christ. Why, when, where, and how must I make disciples of others?**

A- Good question.

Why? It is the command of Jesus Christ to make disciples of others. It is not a choice.

Where? 1/ Your home.

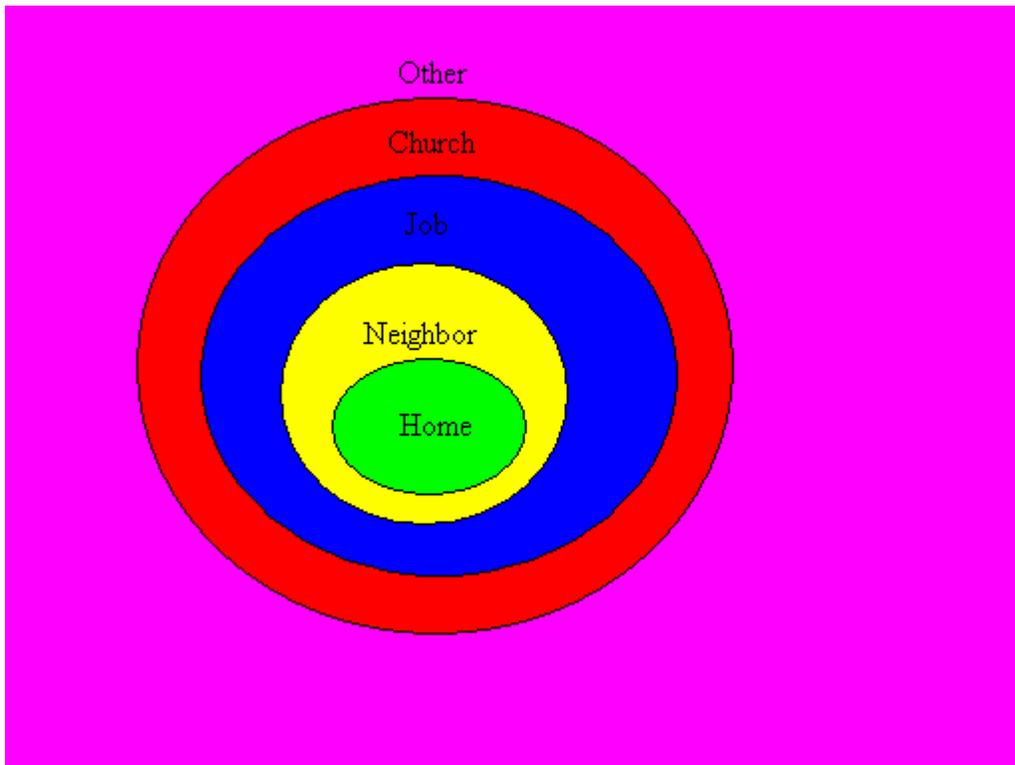
2/ Your neighbor's home.

3/ At your job.

4/ At your Church.

5/ At other places.

Look at diagram on the next page.



If your spouse or children are not believers or are disobedient to you or a teacher at school, make them disciples. This is likewise, to your neighbor, to your co-workers, your boss, and your brothers and sisters at church and anywhere else.

When? 1/ The answer is NOW!!

2/ Whenever the door of opportunity is open. No procrastination is allowed.

3/ When you go anywhere.

How? 1/ Make yourself a good disciple. Take time to pray and read the Bible everyday without fail. Take time to go to church, home groups, bible studies, discipleship courses, and Sunday school participation in church.

2/ \*\*\*Do not make them disciples without the love of Jesus Christ. \*\*\*

3/ Tell them how much Jesus loves them and how much you love them {Rom 10 14-15}. Tell your spouse, children, and co-workers that you want to be in Heaven in the presence of God eternally.

4/ Show your love, not only by words, but also by deeds {Col 3:17}

5/ Introduce them to your pastors, disciples, and friends. Invite them to the Church services and activities.

6/ Plan your vacation to go to your friends churches to pray for them.

7/ To minister them, give testimonies about the love of Jesus Christ. Spend your money on that mission, not on trips to the beach or hotel fees. At the beach you can get short time happiness, but on the way back you will find peace and joy with your family.

**Q- What is the difference between a disciple and a Christian?**

A- Christianity is not a religion but is a relationship between God and man. Jesus never said his disciples were Christians. The name Christian was given by the pagans to his disciples.

**Q- Why do you have a committee of 12 disciples?**

A- All of them are disciples chosen by Jesus Christ out of the Disciples. But they are not the apostles as in Luke 6 12:13. They are not the office bearers. They are the head servants of Jesus Christ and the people. They are not to be served but to serve.

**Q- How do they serve?**

A- Make the disciples communicate with one another easily. They visit the Christian network, exchange addresses, numbers, emails, and fax all over the world. They share their testimonies, their problems, and encourage each other. As iron sharpens iron, the disciples sharpen one another. They send their prayer topics to the committee to pray together {groups}. Help the small disciple groups like in Buffalo, NY, Utica, NY, and Burmese speaking disciples at Dallas and Fort Worth to be established and to plant new churches. It urges the disciples to be a part of the church; it makes the church and disciples to be conjoined. It breaks through the walls of misunderstanding, the walls of denominations, and the walls of racial prejudice. The best way to break these walls is to wash their feet as Jesus did to his disciples and try to participate in church programs and activities; try to let them contact each other till they find the reality.

Q- Can or will MFC help the disciples and the churches financially?

A- MFC likes to help them, but never raise the funds for that; only giving what the churches and the disciples need through communication, news, and the internet. The disciples are the individual. They go and travel on their own expenses, finding the cheapest way to travel. They give from their own pockets whenever they are touched by the Holy Spirit. To give, disciples are rich in the spirit of giving and serving. But poor in worldly materials and some disciples are rich in both.

The MFC committee drains the budget for only one year for the expenses of the meetings and to help the minister to travel and help the small disciple groups. No balance

for the next year, the committee raises the budget from their own pocket. They go to the meetings with their own expense.

## Introducing the committee members of MFC

Here are the big servants of Jesus Christ, chosen by him to serve you. You can contact them anytime. Leave a message if they are not ready to receive. Nothing can separate us from you. Surely, your message will be answered.

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*Here are the movements of MFC from June 1992 to*

Part-3

Let us write down what my wife and I have seen and heard with our own eyes and ears. In 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 3:21, it says, " The Lord continues appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his words and Samuels words came to all Israel.

At first, we thought that God revealed his word to the Burmese people who migrated from Myanmar to the US. Later on, we come to understand that the Lord continued to appear at Fort Wayne on June 4<sup>th</sup> 2005, to his disciples through his word, {Mat 28:16-20} to tell the disciples of the world.

How awesome it is to see and hear how awesome the Holy Spirit works with the disciples of MFC within a couple of months after June 4<sup>th</sup> 2005.

Rev Phillip A Hone the Burmese evangelist and his wife went to Toronto and Ottawa {Canada} right after the seminar of June 4<sup>th</sup>, they plan to have the nearest meeting of MFC with Pastor Saw Ler Htoo to be held at Camp Fraser on May 26-27 in 2006. They also plan to see a small group of disciples at Utica {NY} to how they can be established and go to the Myanmar border to tell the good news.

There is a small group of Burmese disciples at Buffalo {NY}. They were refugees that came from Thailand refugees camps. They were insurgents who rebelled against the Myanmar military. Before, they were Buddhists and evil spirit worshippers. They were newly converted. That culture and tradition is still rooted in their hearts.

U Myint Htay Maung, the disciple of MFC, and his family were also insurgents and Buddhists who were converted 2 ½ years ago. They are looking after them from Ottawa {Canada}. On Sundays, they cross the border and lead the worship service giving testimonies. U Myint Htay Maung invites pastor and preachers to give communion and teach them about the Bible.

From August 27-29, we went to Fredrick, MD. U Myint Htay Maung's family, his wife Tin Mar Win, and the 2 children, 7 year old Christina and 5 year old Matthew, were with us. We spent the night at James and Annie's home. Our mission was to praise and worship with the families, witnessing, sharing, praying, and encouraging each other. Participating in the church is our purpose.

From 8pm to 11pm, we worshipped and gave testimonies. On the following morning, Sunday, we took an early breakfast hosted by James and Annie. We stopped at Lian Kam's house for lunch and proceeded to Calvary Burmese Church in Washington DC.

In that worship service, Pastor Saw Ler Htoo, a committee member of MFC, gave 20 minutes, to U Myint Htay Maung, to testify. The Holy Spirit was upon us. After his testimony, pastor told the congregation to go to U Nyi Nyi and Daw Cho Mar's house on Monday.

They listened to testimonies of U Myint Htay Maung and why he became a disciple of Christ, from a Buddhist.

After the service U Kyin Oo {86 years old}, who was the president of the church, told me that he had never heard of such an incredible testimony in his Christian life. The next evening, he asked for a ride and tried his best to come and listen to the witnessing and testimonies. Actually, Monday was their working day at Oshuwa. But for Christ, they dedicated that day for him.

In New York there was the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Calvary Baptist Church. Right after their jobs, on Friday's evening, U Myint Htay Maung's family and disciples from Buffalo, NY, went to New York to participate in the celebration.

Altogether 23 were in their team. They arrived early in the morning. They participated the whole day in the celebration. 8 children were with them. The whole group was hosted at U Stanley Uk's house from 10pm to 2am. They gave testimonies, and out of the testimonies they gave, let me tell you about U Kyaw Wana's story.

He was a Carnal Christian when he was a refugee in Thailand. His present wife was his girlfriend. He took her not as a real wife, but as fun. She became pregnant. He proposed her to abort the child. He compelled her to take strong abortion medicines for up to 3 months, but in spite of that, the baby continued to grow. At that time, his wife was a Buddhist, and her culture and tradition was absolutely against abortion. However, he was penniless and he borrowed money and bought expensive abortion medicines. They went to a doctor for abortion, but the doctor told them that the baby was too big to abort, and abortion was no longer possible.

His wife always cried that she loved her baby and that she did not want to kill it. But one thing she knew, was the word of the Living God, "Ask and it will be given to you." She heard it from the pastors when they were in the jungle. She prayed with tears by herself.

One day they were in great trouble. His wife was badly ill. They had no money to go to the doctor. At that time, he knelt down and prayed. The loving God always welcomes the sinners when they come back to him. His very stingy and self centered aunt stayed at a distance. She did not want to lend them money because she knew they could not pay her back. In that evening she saw their situation and gave them 500 dollars on the spot. She told them to run to the nearest doctor. They knew about their aunt and told her they would pay her back. To make the story short, the wife gave birth to a healthy baby and was recently baptized.

## **The lessons that we learned from the refugees**

Whatever the Lord says will surely happen. Obey and do it. It will happen. Neither angels nor men can prevent it.

U Wanna tried to kill his son Hain Wanna, but God let him live.

U Wanna tried to cover his sins like covering a dead elephant's body with a goat's skin. God knows the inner hearts, but God still loves us unconditionally. Know our sins and repent. Go back to Him as you are. He will surely accept us. He will forgive and forget our sins.

The Word of God can change us. U Wanna's wife prayed earnestly without knowing much about Him. She was changed. She was born again. She was baptized recently at Buffalo. Their son, Han Wanna, was given back to the Lord as Hannah did to Samuel.

We saw with our own eyes and heard with our ears because we were with them. They could sleep together on the floor on carpets and the hosts were abounding in brotherly spirits to host them. 3 questions confused our thoughts, out of the testimonies.

- 1- Can a carnal or nominal Christian be a disciple?
- 2- Can a traditional Christian be a disciple?
- 3- Can a religious Christian be a disciple of Christ?

## Gospel trip to Fort Wayne and Indianapolis,

Dec 23-Jan 4,06 U Myint Htay Maung and his family decided that rather than spend their vacation at the beach, they would give their time and money for gospel work.

They lead a group of disciples from Buffalo to go to Fort Wayne and Indianapolis to go tell the tidings of the great joy of Jesus during the holidays.

The gospel team consisted of 24 people including 10 children and Buddhists. They left on Dec. 23, right after their jobs. My wife and I joined them at Fort Wayne. We enjoyed Christmas Eve with both Christians and non- Christians. We prayed for the sick, gave testimonies, and shared the good news. They asked to pray for the problems they faced at home. Most of the problems they faced were caused by the difference of culture, language, and social status. Once, they were oppressed by a dictatorship, now they are free. It is hard for them to adjust themselves, when they come to such a free country. They freely drink alcohol that is much better tasting and much cheaper. They earn more than in Myanmar, and some even become addicted to drugs and alcohol. Homes and families were broken. There were nearly 2000 Burmese refugees in Fort Wayne. They were in need of peace. We saw tears while we were praying for them. "Do not be afraid. We bring you tidings of great joy that will be for all the people. Glory to god in the highest and on earth, peace to men on whom his favor rests." The news was taken to them by new converts from Buffalo.

How great it is, Christ is using simple disciples to make disciples at Fort Wayne. On Christmas Day, the 3 Burmese churches came together to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, proclaiming that the disciples and churches are one with Christ. Many non-believers were invited to hear the message and the disciples U Ta Wa and U Wanna gave testimonies. The team left Fort Wayne at 5pm, after the Christmas celebration. It was a dark, snowy evening. A van and 3 other vehicles moved slowly, like a convoy. The group used walkie- talkies and the drivers frequently talked to each other with them, so that no vehicle should be set apart from the group. They also contacted the host with cell phones. It took 1 ½ hours more than usual. Praise the Lord that we arrived safe and sound.

The host, U Val Thang and his wife were very cordial to the team. He is the pastor of Matu Baptist Church and the Vice- President of MFC.

We celebrated Christmas night with the Matu Baptist Church till 2am in the morning. But we had to get up at 6am to go back to Buffalo. Some of them had to be at the factories at 9pm.

After having a big breakfast that was served by the host, we had the morning devotion. The host U Val Thang, the pastor of Matu Baptist Church, gave a word of thanks to the team and said that if new converts came from a distance, regardless of the harsh weather, why shouldn't we go and do 10 times what they've done, as the Lord commanded us.

We stayed at Buffalo for 2 days, and then we traveled again to Rockville, MD to participate at the Full Gospel Baptist Convention from Dec 29-30. On Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, we participated at the Midnight Service of Calvary Burmese Church. Pastor Saw Ler Htoo requested the team to take part by giving testimony.

Saw Pan Kyaing gave an incredible testimony while his youngest son was moving around him. He said, "I was born and brought up as a Buddhist. I lived in the Monastery for 5-15 years in the position of a monk {Ko-Yin}. My wife and I had many difficulties in the deep jungles as insurgents. I married her against the rule of the insurgent army. The rules were {1} No soldier, male or female, is allowed to marry without completing 7 years of service. {2} A soldier can only marry after 18 years.

San Pan Kyaing broke both of the rules and was imprisoned for a couple of years. After that they gave birth to a boy named Saw Tha Byait. They loved him very much and wanted him to be well educated in their culture and religion, and become a monk, but they lost hope in their son. Lastly, they were converted by a Roman Catholic priest.

The cream of his testimony was that without any reason, they had a car accident on their way to the Convent.

The car hit an electric pole and tumbled down to the side of the road. He looked at his 2 sons. The older son looked ok, but the younger son was under the car with half of his head outside. He was partially dead. At that time, he was at his wits end. Then he cried out, "Lord Jesus! If you are still alive, let my son live."

The child was in intensive care for a couple of weeks, but lived.

The Congregation gave their hands at first. The pastor thought that the little boy, circling Saw Pan Kyaing, was just bothering him, but they realized he was a witness to his fathers testimony.

### **Why do my wife and I take time to record these events?**

In Matt 27: 63-64, the words of the chief priests and Pharisees were, "Sir, we remember what that deceiver once said while he was still alive,' after three days I will be raised from the dead,' so we request that you seal the tomb until the 3<sup>rd</sup> day. This will prevent his disciples from coming and stealing his body and then telling everyone he came back to life, if that happens it will be worse off than we were at first."

We must not act like the Pharisees, for they were the deceivers, not Jesus.

Saw Pan Kyaing prayed, "Lord, if you are alive, please make my son Saw Pi Lay live!" I not only saw Saw Pi Lay alive, but his IQ was also high. God must have a special purpose for him.

When Mary saw and found Jesus was resurrected from the dead, she could not control herself. She ran and told the disciples. The disciples, who were with Jesus, did not believe her. Even the religious leaders did not believe.

Let us know and be careful to observe that the enemies of Jesus remembered his words better than his disciples did. The devil himself is the deceiver, but he made the religious leaders say that Jesus was the deceiver. So, Pilate assigned guards to the tomb and made it as secure as possible. We can see some churches making themselves as secure as possible by building walls {both literal and figurative}. The reason for this is that the devil has deceived them.

But, we can see that God is using the ordinary disciples to break through these denominations, doctrinal, and racial minded walls.

Dr. James Sing Za Khai was a successful medical doctor in Mandalay, Burma. At first, he was a nominal, traditional Christian. But when he was called for Christ's ministry, he joined the ministry and planted Burmese Churches in Thailand. He then became a pastor in Pittsburg, PA. Whenever he had time, he went to Canada and preached the Gospel. He was challenged by U Myint Htay Maung, who was a strong Buddhist. But because of the unconditional love of Christ and the love of Dr. James, he was chosen to be a disciple. Likewise, U Myint Htay Maung made a disciple of the refugees in Buffalo.

At the same time, they learn from the churches how to develop themselves spiritually and mentally. They also learned how to establish these small groups, setting

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the goal to plant new churches. It is necessary to teach the disciples to obey everything that Jesus had commanded them. How awesome it is that Jesus is doing the wake up call to his disciples through MFC.

Q- What are those that can't travel doing for his mission?

A- They are making disciples of their family members. Reading the Bible together and discussing the words of God and visiting and asking disciples what they don't understand. They pray for the sick and for the prayer topics they get from MFC, from their friends, and from the church. They also make disciples of their neighbors, co-workers, and the nominal and traditional Christians. They encourage them to share how they were touched by the Holy Spirit and how it changed their lives. They tell them how to send e-mails to MFC and how to make new friends and keep the old ones. They share the problems they are facing at home, work, and at church with the other disciples.

Some disciples are spreading the gospel through e-mails, phones, and cassette and CD ministries.

### **Conclusion**

Thank you to my beloved student U Lian Kam {Aroma} and family. Your request to write about "The Mission for Christ" {MFC} came from above and from your sincere heart.

We wrote what we saw with our own eyes and what we heard with our own ears about MFC.

Once we were with you and your family at the Calvary Burmese Church at Washington, DC. During the worship service, we heard with our own ears the testimony you gave.

You narrated the congregation on how you were spoiled in your High School days under my supervision at No.1 State High School, La Tha {before Central State High School}. You told us how you were punished by me with a long cane, and how I disciplined you and the students. As a Christian High School principal, I love my pupils as Jesus loves me. I don't want my pupils to be the garbage of the world.

Proverbs 13:4 says, "He who spares the rod, hates his son {pupil}. But he who loves him is careful to discipline him."

In Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train a child in the way he is to go, and when he is old, he shall not turn away from it."

Because of the unconditional love of Jesus, the love of your wife, and the love of your son, you were absolutely changed and became a born again Christian. For that reason, the Holy Spirit motivated you to make that request to us.

Now we all are disciples of Jesus Christ. We all are common in sins and no different in positions.

Let us obey His commands and go together to all nations and make disciples and baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit and teaching to obey everything he had commanded us. Be sure that he is with us always to the very end of the ages.

When God wants to do great things, he changed the names as well as the attitude by faith in him. He changed Abram to Abraham, Jacob to Israel, and Saul to Paul.

When we came to the United States of America, we called ourselves Baptists. After more than 10 years with the Vine Yard Christian Fellowship Church at Grove City, Columbus, Ohio, under the pastor Tom Pauquette, we called ourselves Christians not Baptists.

Lastly, since 2003, August 28-31, we called ourselves, the disciples. This is because Jesus called his followers disciples, not Christians. Christian was the name given by the pagans to Jesus' disciples to mock them.

So, let us believe that Jesus changed our names and attitudes through faith in him. Let us be real disciples, as Jesus wants us, to do great things to spread his gospel to all over the world. This is MFC. This is Mission for Christ.

Many thanks to my beloved pupil, U Lian Kam and family.

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