

## House of Refuge in Myanmar

September 2023



Children at House of Refuge gather for devotions each evening.

Global Outreach began supporting House of Refuge in March 2015. At that time thirteen children lived in one small house with Pastor Cyrus, his wife Rebekah, and their two daughters. Over the years we have helped fund additional dwellings, install a water purification system, purchase additional land for their main campus, establish a farm, and most recently provide funds to purchase land near the city to establish City of Refuge.



One hundred-thirty foot drainage ditch has been completed.

The plan for City of Refuge is for the older children to move there and continue vocational or university studies. They will also be allowed to stay for a few months after completing their studies to allow them time to secure employment and obtain housing and other items needed to be self-sufficient after leaving City of Refuge. A pastor and wife will also live on the campus and provide oversight and care of the students. They have received a gift from another organization that allowed them to purchase one hundred

truckloads of dirt to fill in the land. They are now ready to proceed with building a water tower and tank. They also need to build at least one bamboo house which will serve until they are able to construct permanent buildings. A bamboo house can be constructed for \$2,000. Currently, nine students have completed secondary (high school) education and two of them have opened small businesses. One girl has completed nurse's aide training. Six students are waiting to be able to attend Korean language school which will allow them to apply for a work visa in Korea.



Eleven new children joined House of Refuge in June, 2023.

Pastor Cyrus informed us that he would be accepting eleven new children for the current school year. He said that thirty children applied, and he went on to explain why he accepted the children pictured above: "Most of them are from battlefields where no schools are open since 2020 because of the war, (ongoing military coup) they are homeless, living in refugee camps. Some of them have no parents." We helped him purchase additional beds, school bags, uniforms, and umbrellas for the new children. This brings the total number of children at House of Refuge to forty-four. Cyrus and Rebekah work very hard to care for these children with very limited staff assistance. When we asked if they need additional help, he admitted they do. One hundred dollars a month would provide a full-time helper. Please let us know if you would be interested in supporting this need or helping with vocational training expenses. Each student needs about \$50 per month for language school.

## House of Refuge Ministry



Pastor Cyrus (white shirt) with family in front of old house.

In addition to raising forty-four children at House of Refuge and working to build City of Refuge, Pastor Cyrus is always looking for opportunities to evangelize his neighbors. At Christmas they give small gifts and provide a meal and worship service for the surrounding community. Recently he shared pictures with us of a very poor family that



Pastor Cyrus (left) with family in front of new bamboo house.

he was able to help by building a new bamboo house for them. He continues to work with them and believes they will soon come to accept Christ as Lord and Savior. Please pray for this outreach ministry.

## Testimony from Bangladesh



My name is Aungko. I have two sons and one daughter. My husband died five years ago. I work at Jhum cultivation (slash and burn) and have a small cashew nut garden. It is not enough to care for my family so sometimes my eldest son and I go to different areas to work. We have been Buddhists

since our grandparents. We worship idols every day and offer blood sacrifices if we get sick. One day my mother, youngest child, and I, all got seriously sick. We did pig blood sacrifice, but our sickness got worse. My father was talking about his disappointment with Buddhism. During that time the Pastor came to our village to share the gospel. We called him to come to our house and my father shared our situation with him. Then the Pastor shared about Jesus' love and His miracles. He asked if I believed Jesus would heal me and I said yes. Then the Pastor laid his hand on my head and began to pray. During the prayer I heard someone speak to my ears that my sickness was already healed in the name of Nazareth Jesus. As soon as he finished his prayer, I felt my body completely healed. It was so astonishing that I couldn't express it. Since then, I realized that Jesus is the healer and Almighty God. Then I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and personal savior. Praise God! My parents are still thinking about it. Please pray for them so that they may follow me. I am attending Bible studies and church services now. Please pray for me to learn more about Jesus.

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