



we **serve**
magazine

**CHANGING
LIVES
FOR BIG
DESTINIES**

Summer 2021

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Situation: Sunisa and Sudarat share a celebration picture. Sunisa graduated from Chiang Rai Vocational College with her Associate's Degree and continues toward her Bachelor's, and Sudarat is entering her 2nd year at Chiang Rai Rajabhat University.

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Contents /

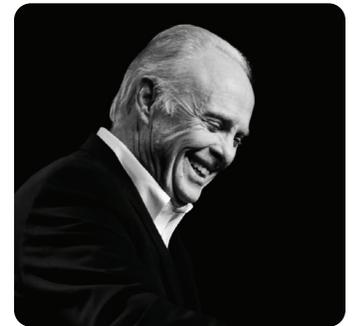
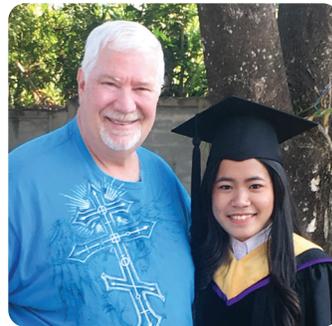
Summer 2021

features

- 05 Ushers At The Bridge**
The bridge from her village to her destiny
by Dr. Mark Rutland
- 06 Great Leaders Are Great Learners**
Education opens doors to a prosperous future
by Rev. Ronny Brannen
- 08 Legacy Changers**
Determination, hard work, love and support make graduation a reality!
by Fay Inman
- 12 God Gave Me The Opportunity**
From a little girl who had no hope and future, God has given me everything I need
by Nuanjan Vang
- 14 Expectant Faith**
Help others, take a risk, expect a miracle
by Travis Rutland

ad features

- 07 Become A More Effective Leader Today**
- 07 West Africa Leadership Seminar**
- 11 We Believe In Accountability And Transparency**
- 13 Banso Well Project**





Ushers At The Bridge

The bridge from her village to her destiny

BY DR. MARK RUTLAND

Imagine a remote village, primitive, poverty-stricken and cut off from all possibility or a better future. Now imagine a little girl in that same village, a high-risk little girl, parent-less and hopeless. It is Global Servants' conviction, the very basis of all we do, that God has a destiny for that child that does not include cruel privation and sexual abuse. However, without a bridge out of that village she is doomed to poverty, ignorance and exploitation.

That bridge, that seemingly impossible causeway to her destiny is education. In the 21st Century, a semi-literate child trapped in the choking heat and hopelessness of that village cannot begin to fulfill God's plan for her life.

Someone challenged me on this very proposition. "What if God's plan for her life is life in that village?" I was so stunned by the question I could barely answer calmly. "For that to be the case, we would have to believe that poverty, ignorance, violent sexual abuse or even being "sold" into child prostitution is sometimes the will of God for a little girl, and such a god would be a monster."

The bridge from her village to her destiny is education. There are universities and trade schools in Thailand and Ghana, but for her, even high school is a bridge too far. Forget college. Don't even think about law school, medical school or seminary. Global Servants/House of Grace has ushered hundreds of such girls across the bridge of education and into fruitful lives on the other side. Among our hundreds of alumnae are attorneys, teachers, missionaries, and businesswomen; literally hundreds, of wonderful success stories.

As the former president of two universities in the United States, I know what a challenge it is to be the first in the family to go to college or even trade

school. Even in America sometimes no one at home understands, or approves and absolutely no one will help. That is multiplied by infinity in the mountains of Thailand or on the edge of the Sahara.

The little girls at House of Grace are usually not just the first in the family to receive a higher education. They are probably the first in the village or even in the region to go beyond elementary school. Or to become a Christian. Or to realize a destiny more significant than lugging water from a nearby stream or dying sick and old at 45.

That is the reason God called Global Servants to launch the Houses of Grace. We are persuaded that God has a big and good destiny for village girls. The ministry of House of Grace is simple. We guide girls to the three bridges of faith in Jesus, hope for the future and an education that will make a difference. We tell each girl who comes to either of our homes that we will pay every penny at any school, college, or graduate school in her country that she can get into. We show her the bridge, motivate her to cross it, and we pay the fare.

The bridge is there. The destiny is hers and the glory is God's. The future for House of Grace? The next village. The next little girl. The next big destiny. ◀

DR. MARK RUTLAND is the Founder of Global Servants. He is a New York Times Best Selling author, educator, charismatic leader, businessman and a nationally recognized figure in Christian higher education. Dr. Rutland has been married to his wife Alison for more than 50 years now. They reside in the greater Atlanta area. For more information about Dr. Rutland please visit (drmarkrutland.com) and follow him on Twitter ([@drmarkrutland](https://twitter.com/drmarkrutland)).

Great Leaders Are Great Learners

Education opens doors to a prosperous future

By Rev. Ronny Brannen

I have always heard that “Leaders are Learners.” We, at Global Servants, do not believe that this is limited to our House of Grace girls in Thailand and Ghana. Yes, our girls at the House of Grace must remain in school while living there. These young ladies need to get an education to make their big destinies come true. In Anwomaso, Ghana, we also have a school that has about 390 students from the surrounding areas. Education can open the door to a prosperous future.

As I said, we do not limit the educational opportunities to our work in Thailand and Ghana. I also get the privilege of being a part of the National Institute of Christian Leadership, otherwise known as the NICL. Dr. Rutland, our Founder, has taken his years of experience in turn-around leadership as the pastor of a Mega-Church and as the President of two Universities, to develop a graduate-level leadership course. This course initially started as a part of a master’s degree program at Southeastern University, and now it stands on its own. There are now several Schools that give Master’s degree credit for the completion of the NICL.

It began as a program to assist pastors in their education and help further their leadership skills in the life of the Church.



The NICL has developed into a leadership seminar, not only for pastors, church staff, and church leaders but also for denominational leaders, business leaders, and executives. The NICL will deal with topics such as:

- Balancing leadership and management.
- Strategic leadership principles for growth.
- Principles of board management.
- Budgeting and finance.
- Staff management.
- Volunteer management.
- Effective communication of vision and message.
- And so much more...

Over the years, we have had more than 1,200 leaders graduate from all over the U.S. and many other countries. They learned not only leadership principles but also practical applications to face the struggles of these times.

Another exciting element of the NICL is that it is not only offered in Georgia during a year, but it is now available as a private NICL for your Church, your denominational districts, or your business. In a private NICL, Dr. Rutland will come to your location and teach the NICL personally for your group, no matter the size. We have already done several private NICLs in previous years. In 2021, we are doing one in Maryland and another in Alabama. We are already in conversation with others for 2022. ◀

REV. RONNY BRANNEN is the Chief of Staff at Global Servants. He is a retired Methodist Pastor of 39 years, and the past Chair on the Board of Directors for Global Servants. Ronny holds an Associate of Arts degree from Reinhardt College, Bachelor’s degree from Georgia State University, and a Master’s of Divinity degree from Emory University. He has been married to his wife, Darlene, for 42 years, and they have two daughters and four grandchildren.



Become A More Effective Leader Today

Whether you want to expand your influence, grow your Church, re-launch your ministry, or even earn credit hours towards your Master's degree, the NICL will give you the preparation, training, and tools you need to make this a year of growth.

You can find out more about the NICL by visiting theNICL.com

by contacting Ronny Brannen
ronny@globalservants.org

or by calling
(678) 541-5670 or (888) 823-8772



West Africa Leadership Seminar

Global Servants has believed since our inception that there is power in educating people around the world. Most people recognize our Founder, Dr. Mark Rutland, for his leadership training here in the United States, but his teachings and example are not bound by our borders. Global Servants invests in the education and leadership development of our staff and pastors all around the world. The

photo featured below this article is a leadership seminar our West African staff held at our offices in Anwomaso, Ghana, in April of 2021. The success of Global Servants' work overseas is directly attributed to the support of donors and ministry partners, making seminars like this possible. To learn how you can create educational opportunities such as this available for others worldwide, email Tyler Ellis at tyler@globalservants.org.



Legacy Changers

Determination, hard work, love and support make graduation a reality!

By Fay Inman

The girls at House of Grace understand education is a privilege that most girls from their villages are not afforded. Due to lack of citizenship, tuition, uniform cost, transportation, need to support their families, or the idea that girls are not valuable enough to educate, many girls do not receive primary education. This lack of education increases their vulnerability to traffickers. At House of Grace, we empower every girl to reach her full academic potential. **Knowledge gives children the power to dream of a better future and the confidence needed to pursue it.**

In Thailand, the school year is traditionally from May to March. March is a time of celebration. In 2020, our girls went back to the villages for what we all thought would be a typical two-week

school break. We aim to keep the girls connected with their cultural heritage and extended family if they have a safe environment to visit. After the girls left for break, the Thai government and essentially the world locked down because of Covid-19. The girls were in their villages for much longer than expected. According to UNESCO, “19 million girls in developing countries may never return to the classroom after COVID”. At House of Grace, we had a 100% return rate! When the world predicted school closures would make girls victims of gender-based violence, sexual exploitation, adolescent pregnancy, and forced marriage, the girls at House of Grace were unaffected, thanks be to God.

All of the girls who live at the home come from hill tribe villages in northern Thailand attending village schools their entire lives.



These schools are elementary schools, taught in their tribal language and extend through the sixth grade. The girls at House of Grace are usually older than their new classmates because their village education is not comparable. However, most girls catch up academically very quickly. All employees at the home have a university education and tutor a specific subject. There is also an abundance of older sisters to help the girls excel. When our girls complete the sixth grade, most are bi-lingual because school is taught in Thai, not their tribal language. When they graduate in twelfth grade, most of the girls understand English and Chinese as well. This year all five of our sixth graders will be starting middle school in May. A sixth-grade education surpasses the academic accomplishments of most people in the villages. Until recently, Thailand's citizenship was a prerequisite for education, and most tribal people are not Thai citizens.

In Thailand, education is only mandatory until the ninth grade, and qualifying for additional education is difficult. We are excited to announce, all ten of our graduating ninth graders will be attending the tenth grade. High school,

grades tenth through the twelfth, can be a university prep school or dual enrollment in an Occupational/Vocational certificate program. We have girls pursuing both options.

We are happy to announce; five girls graduated the twelfth grade, four with vocational certificates of dual enrollment and one with a university prep diploma. All of our high school graduates have their Thai citizenship and can further their university education if they desire. Also, two young women will graduate with their undergraduate degrees, Supansa with a Bachelor of Arts with a Japanese major and Sunisa with a degree in Hotel Business Management/ Administration. In Thailand, the university graduation ceremony is one year after you complete your classes. Traditionally the King of Thailand gives diplomas to each university graduate. Therefore, the girls that graduated from university last year will receive their certificates this year. As we know, the university is not the only pathway to financial independence. **We celebrate these girls and their determination to accomplish something most members of**

their families and communities have not. Because of sponsors' and donors' generous support, the young ladies at House of Grace can continue their education as far as they desire.

We are happy to announce, House of Grace partnered with the Akha Bible Institute (ABI), the only full-time Bible school in the Akha language. Siriluk, an intern from ABI, has graduated with her Bible degree and will begin working on staff at House of Grace in April. We are excited about this partnership and will welcome another intern this school year. We continually work to connect girls with their tribal heritage, appreciate their culture, and maintain a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We have House of Grace alumnae: lawyers, nurses, teachers, translators, business owners, directors of non-profits, state workers, missionaries, and many more occupations. We have alumnae living in Korea, Australia, Switzerland, China, Japan, and the USA. This network of alumnae serves as mentors to our graduates and a professional network for employment. »





In Ghana, the school follows a western schedule of August to May. With school closures and online learning, the academic calendar was adjusted and, at times, challenging. The girls at House of Grace Ghana attend school at Trinity Foundation until completing the 9th grade. High school is 10th-12th and based on a British dormitory-type educational system. The BECE (Basic Education Certificate Examination) is usually administered in June with results in August. That test was delayed last year; however, test results and school placement are complete and we are proud to announce that all of the 9th graders at Trinity Foundation School passed the BECE. We have one girl from House of Grace entering the ninth grade and another graduating the 12th grade this year.

High school graduation will occur in June. Since House of Grace - Ghana was established in 2012, most of the girls are in primary grades. The same educational challenges faced in Thailand are evident when girls arrive from the villages in

West Africa. Trinity Foundation School is far superior to the village schools, and the girls catch up quickly. All know or learn Twi (Ashanti language) when they arrive. English is the national language of Ghana, and all classes are taught in English. We have tutors for all subjects, and the girls spend extra time studying their academics. At a young age, everyone in Ghana understands the value of education. In 2021, we will have three girls sit for the BECE, and five will test in 2022. Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change

the world." We believe the transforming power of the Holy Spirit releases families and communities from the cycle of poverty, sometimes education is the tool He uses. We know God directs their path and believe according to, Jeremiah 29:11 For I know the plans that I have for you, says the LORD, plans for peace and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. We are so proud of all of the girls at House of Grace. ◀



FAY INMAN is the Advocacy Coordinator at Global Servants. With over 20 years of experience as an advocate nationally for girls. Through Girl Scouts, Partnerships for Success, a program of Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities and multiple non-profit agencies, she has championed the rights of the marginalized and financially disadvantaged. Fay has been married to Kenny for over thirty years, and they have two daughters: Kennedy, Gussy and a son-in-law Jared, and new grand-baby Ophelia Fay.



CHARITY NAVIGATOR

Four Star Charity

In March of 2021, we received a 98.16% overall rating, placing us in the top 10% of charitable organizations. Global Servants is proud to receive this four-star rating (exceeding industry standards and outperforms most charities in its cause) from Charity Navigator for sound fiscal management and a proven commitment to accountability and transparency. Charity Navigator is America's premier independent charity evaluator. Four out of a possible four stars indicate that we adhere to good governance and other best practices that minimize the chance of unethical activities and consistently execute our mission in a fiscally responsible way.



We Believe In Accountability And Transparency



Enhancing Trust

In 2019, Global Servants was accredited by the ECFA (Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability) and we remain an ECFA member. The standards set a high bar for organizations—often far above the minimums required by law. An ECFA member must annually engage an independent CPA to audit, review, or compile its financial statements and be willing to provide a copy of its latest financial information upon written request. ECFA certification allows us to go beyond what is required to demonstrate accountability and reflects our willingness to be transparent in all we do.



God Gave Me The Opportunity

From a little girl who had no hope and future, God has given me everything I need

By Nuanjan Vang (Litnatikun)

Reflecting to the time when I was 13, I lived at a Hmong village far away from the city. My family was poor, and I had many siblings who had no hopes of getting further education. After I finished 6th grade, I was hopeless and had no direction or purpose in my life. Every day was spent working on the farm and wondering if there were any chances for me to get further education. However, one day I heard about an opportunity to study more and I was picked to go and live at the House of Grace.

I was incredibly happy and joyful with tears in my eyes. They told me and other two friends that we would have to travel from Phetchabun to Chiang Rai, taking an overnight bus to get to House of Grace. We did not have any money to buy the bus ticket at that time. My mother went around the village and asked for money to borrow and we finally got enough money and went to Chiang Rai together with my two other friends. That was the first time we had ever traveled outside of our village, so we were curious and scared. We did not know what was going to happen to us at that time, but we really wanted to go to school so we went despite knowing so.

When we arrived, Pastor Bounmark came to pick us up from the bus station and took us to stay at House of Grace. I went to school and learned many new things from House of Grace. Pastor Bounmark took good care of us and showed a heart of love and care for all of us there. He taught us the word of God and would take us to church two times a week. I learned more about who God is and saw the wonderful different lives of believers. God was working in my life and opened my heart and I accepted Jesus to be my personal Savior. I was baptized and received a new life that Jesus gave to me. Pastor Bounmark was a good example of how a servant of God should dedicate his life to serve God whole-heartedly. I have learned many good things from his life, and I want to be a servant of God who will love and care for others just as he had done.



From a little girl who had no hope and future, God has given me everything I need. Along with redemption, He provided me with a good husband who loves Him and dedicates his life to serve God. God has called me to serve Him full-time among the Hmong people in South East Asia alongside my husband and I value that as a special blessing. Even though the work we are doing faces hardships, persecutions, and many dangerous circumstances, God is still good to us and helps us every time. God gave me the opportunity to study more in seminary and is using me as a Bible teacher at Asia Bible Seminary.

This is all from God who loves me so much. He is using me and gives me the chance to present His love and hope to others just as I had hoped to do that day when living at House of Grace. I am very joyful and thankful for all that God has done in my life. God is always good to me and has been working in my life ever since I accepted Him to be my personal Savior. I believe that He will continue to love me and be with me as I am serving Him in this world until we see Him face to face. ◀

NUANJAN VANG (LITNATIKUN) serves alongside her husband as a full-time missionary focusing on all Hmong ministries in South East Asia through ReachGlobal, the international mission's arm for Evangelical Free Church of America. Nuanjan also serves as a Bible teacher and curriculum writer at Asia Bible Seminary in Udonthani, Thailand. Nuanjan received degrees from: Chiang Rai Vocational in Art in 1995, LPN Nursing from St. Paul College in Minnesota, USA in 2001, Bachelor in Christian Studies at Bangkok Bible Seminary, Thailand in 2019, and a Master of Divinity degree in Pastoral Theology at New Sky Seminary, Chiang Mai, Thailand in 2021. Nuanjan is married to her husband, Benjamin, and they have three children: Meiyu, Jangjeng, and Mercy.



Banso Well Project

Global Servants is always honored when families want to partner with us to bless others around the world. We want to say “Thank You” to the Hayden family for coming together with us to build two wells in Banso, Ghana. There will also be a sanitation station constructed as a part of this project later this summer. For more information on how your family can partner with Global Servants just like the Haydens, email Tyler Ellis at tyler@globalservants.org to discuss opportunities to bless others around the world!





Expectant Faith

Help others, take a risk, expect a miracle

BY TRAVIS RUTLAND

My entire family traveled to India when I was 11 years old. One day, we visited a remote area in southern India. Remember, this was more than 35 years ago. The world was not yet inundated by technology. So, the people in this rural village were astonished to see this white, American family. The crowds grew and became more frantic to get close to us. There was a moment where it felt like it was going to become a riot. I remember as we reached the house we were staying at how overwhelmed I felt. That experience was how Jesus lived almost every moment of His earthly ministry. The crowds were always frantic to get close to Him.

In Mark 2, Jesus is in Capernaum and the crowds have surrounded the house where He is teaching. Four men are desperate to get their paralyzed friend to Jesus. In fact, they are so desperate that they tear a hole in the ceiling and lower their friend down to Jesus. What can we learn from these four men?

First, you need people in your life with needs. Christians often want to lead these sanitized lives. We don't want anyone

else's problems infecting us. But you need people in your life that have problems and issues. You need people struggling with unanswered questions. You need people that need a touch from God. If you are not seeing any miracles happen maybe it is because you have refused to surround yourself with people that need miracles.

Next, the paralyzed man's friends were willing to take a risk. They were so passionate about getting their friend to Jesus that they were willing to do anything necessary. Which apparently included ripping a hole in the ceiling of a house that they did not own. We must also take those same risks. We must get outside our comfort zone. We must be willing to go beyond where we are comfortable and embrace that scary calling of God. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus says, "Launch out into the deep!" That call is still for all of us. We must be believers willing to get involved.

Finally, in Mark 2:5, it says that Jesus saw their faith. The paralyzed man's faith is not mentioned at all. This is so important. Why? Because people who are sick or

have a disease or need a miracle are usually the ones with the least faith. I encourage you to become a person of expectant faith. My dad was the president of Oral Roberts University for a number of years. I used to attend basketball games with him. The phrase, "Expect A Miracle" is written on both baselines of the ORU gym. I agree with that. Let me make it clear, we do not demand a miracle from God. Insisting that He does exactly what we want. On the other hand, when I am sick or discouraged, I want a someone with expectant faith to pray for me.

Jesus does indeed heal the paralyzed man but the heroes of this story are the men on the roof. We cannot be Jesus. However, we can all be those men on the roof. They knew someone with a need, they were willing to take risks, and they came to Jesus with expectant faith. That is God's call for all of us. Find others to help, take a risk, expect a miracle. We do that and we let God handle the rest of it.

This is what we are continuing to do at Global Servants. We have identified people and places in West Africa and Thailand that have needs. We have invested in village ministry, like wells and clinics, that change the lives of thousands of people overnight.

We have also made education a priority and have seen individual lives transformed over time. We have taken risks to help and empower people. Above all, for more than 40 years we have operated Global Servants with expectant faith. We believe that God will provide in ways we could never think of or imagine. None of this could happen without you. We are so grateful for your expectant faith and willingness to take risks to help us. We could not do all that we do without your faithfulness. I pray that God blesses you in all things. ◀

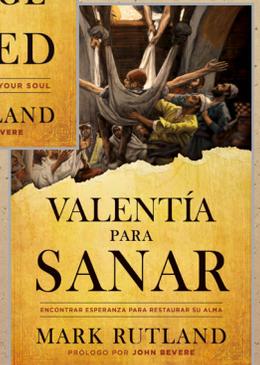
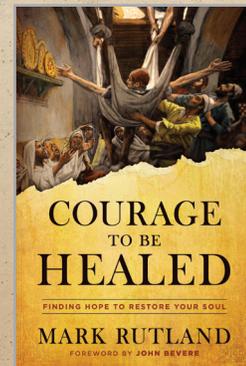
TRAVIS RUTLAND *has worked for Global Servants since 1997. He currently serves as the President of Global Servants. In addition to his role at Global Servants, Travis is the Lead Pastor at Restoration Church in Bethlehem, Georgia. A native of Georgia, Travis holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree from Southeastern University. Travis has been married to his wife, Courtney, since 1997 and they reside in Loganville, Georgia. They have three sons, Mark, Owen and Liam.*

“ In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus says, ‘Launch out into the deep!’ That call is still for all of us.”

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