

## So What Would Jesus Do?



Back when I became a Christian in the mid-1990s WWJD bracelets were pretty popular. Even now, faced with challenging decisions, people ask themselves “what would Jesus do?” It’s often a very difficult question to answer and can, of course, lead to all kinds of speculation and projection of our own motives. But I feel like I have a pretty good sense of what Jesus might do if he was spending time in India.

A couple of weeks ago I visited a brand new Bright Hope World partner in Bangalore, India called DEAR Ministries (<http://www.brighthopeworld.com/partnerships.asp?pid=314>). Started by a wonderful and godly Indian couple called Jesudoss and Paulrani, DEAR ministers to transgender people particularly, but also gay and lesbian people. In Indian society – and indeed in most societies – these people are rejected and reviled. In Bangalore, if they get on public transport, other people will get off. They are abused and marginalised to such a degree that they find acceptance only with others living similar lifestyles.

Jesudoss and Paulrani describe how small communities of transgender people form under gang-like leaders that groom and direct newcomers into prostitution. The abused are exploited even by their peers. Those young men that identify as women are strongly encouraged by the gang leaders into having gender reassignment surgery as those that have done so earn more in prostitution – a large portion of which goes into the leaders’ hands. These people are lost and lonely and confused.

Into this world DEAR enters and helps bring people out of this exploitative lifestyle. They love and support the unloved and they help them find alternative work. They show them that the lifestyle and community they have found themselves in is not the only place where they can find love and acceptance. They provide training and support and help those that have medical problems or addictions access the treatment they require.

Isn’t that just what Jesus would do? Find the unloved and the unlovely? The misled and the wayward? With the likes of Bruce/Caitlin Jenner in the news we’re being confronted with people and lifestyles we may find repugnant. I wonder how Jesus would respond to these people. I suspect he would respond the way Paulrani and Jesudoss do.

With compassion and love. With action and gentleness. With real solutions and spiritual truth.

Fraser Scott  
*Executive Director*

### Bright Hope News

It’s been an encouraging time lately in terms of La Mai coffee.

We’ve seen some strong growth in terms of coffee sales which means we buy more beans from Thailand which provides more opportunities for the Thai farmers. It also generates funds that we can put back into development projects in the Hill Tribe communities.

We’ve also been supported by Facebook with free online advertising and our Executive Director Fraser Scott was recently interviewed on the ‘Jave Jive’ slot on Starlive TV which is hosted online and is connected with CTV.

La Mai really depends on word of mouth so if you like it, tell your friends!

Fraser recently visited our partner in Thailand that grows the coffee and heard that things are going well for them also.

The quality of the coffee keeps getting better and better (a view which our roasting partners strongly endorse) and fears over the impact of changes in coffee duties in Thailand have not yet materialised.

The impact of moving from growing opium poppies for the drug trade to growing coffee in northern Thailand is profound. It really has transformed dozens of villages and thousands of lives.

## Life Change Story – Mrs Oy



*Pictured above – John and Nok Pramuan with their daughter Nana*

John and Nok Pramuan are church planters and trainers working in Bangkok, Thailand. As a result of the work they and their team are doing hundreds of new believers from Buddhist backgrounds are coming to know Jesus and experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit.

Mrs Oy is a former practicing spirit medium who was diagnosed as having severe heart damage which caused a lot of pain and heart arrhythmia. Her neighbour, Mrs Nut, led her to Christ and taught her about the authority of the believer to pray for healing. As they prayed together Mrs Oy was instantly healed of the pain and her heart went back to its normal rhythm. What a surprise for her doctor to find absolutely no sign of heart damage on her next x-ray!

Many former clients of Mrs Oy's clairvoyance are now full-on Christ-followers, listening and learning how to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit at Mrs Oy's house church meeting every Wednesday.

Mrs Oy is only one of a number of highly influential believers. The headman of a village led Auntie Muey to Christ at his Friday meeting, and after he had prayed for her healing, Auntie Muey was able to walk without help. As a result of the dramatic changes in Auntie Muey's life, 10 of her family members began to also follow Christ. They are all prayer warriors, and are changing the atmosphere of that village.

Read more about John and Nok Pramuan (THA08) in Thailand at:  
<http://www.brighthopeworld.com/partnerships.asp?pid=117>

### Prayer and Praise

1. That these new believers in Thailand will grow in Christ and that God will bless their witness.
2. For Jesudoss and Paulrani, and the transgender people they are ministering to.
3. For Kevin & Helen Honore currently in Ethiopia, then going on to visit partners in Burundi, Uganda, DR Congo, the Middle East and India. Pray for Godly wisdom and discernment for them, particularly as they meet with potential new partners in various Middle Eastern countries.
4. Praise for a fantastic trip Fraser recently had with a kiwi businessman and a group from a church in Portland, Oregon. The team got to meet many Bright Hope World partners and was blessed with good health and good weather for the trip. It was an inspiring and uplifting time for the whole team.



Bright Hope World, PO Box 8928, Christchurch 8440, New Zealand  
Phone: (03) 341 0933 Fax: (03) 341 3363  
[www.brighthopeworld.com](http://www.brighthopeworld.com)