

meet
MARIA AMIHAN



FAITH HOUSE
THAILAND

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her story

Maria Nelma Amihan is from the Philippines and originally worked in pharmaceutical sales. In the 1990s, God used the time she spent volunteering at her local church to stir her heart toward the country of Myanmar, which has the longest-running civil war in the world. Maria's initial attempts to follow her calling fell through, and so she sought God's direction, as she strongly felt that is where He was calling her. Then Maria was directed to the border of Myanmar, in Maesot, Thailand, where she saw the migrant children in such desperate conditions and knew that was where she was to fulfill her calling.

In 2002, Elpis Ministries was formed to begin to teach the children to read since they were not allowed to attend a Thai school. What began as a literacy program developed into a migrant school of 35 children, and today the school has 310 students!

Due to desperate conditions, many of these children's parents were not able to care for them, and so many were being forced into human trafficking. It was because of this that in 2004 Maria and her team changed course in their ministry and Faith House was born. The team initially identified two girls who were high risk and provided them with care, schooling, life skills, and the saving message of Jesus Christ. Upon entering Faith House, many of these girls were malnourished, sickly, insecure, and distrustful, but through the years Faith House has changed the trajectory of their lives. Faith House now cares for 30 girls, and many of them have become community leaders, Bible study teachers, and worship leaders. Someday, these young ladies may return to their homeland, and they are now equipped to reach Myanmar with the Gospel and continue the work that Maria began.

APRIL 2023

PRAISES + + +

- + It is good indeed to sing praises to God for His has and amazing work. The husband of the woman whom we rescued threatened to kill us, then suddenly showed up in church in repentance, and prayed to receive Christ. Hallelujah! Please pray for restoration.
- + Two girls graduated in Maesot Technical College last March 7 and are now working.
- + Four girls graduated in High School and one girl graduated in middle school last March 14.
- + There are 8 additional girls in Faith House. Four of whom are from the war zone.
- + There is a Thai pastor who is interested in using Living Grounded in their church.
- + There is a coordinator of a mission agency who is interested in using Living Grounded to new believers. Hallelujah!

PRAYER > > >

- > Pray for Suwanan, our girl who is trapped inside Myanmar when war broke out in her village.
- > Please pray for the Bible Chapel Team as they travel to Maesot, Thailand.
- > Please pray for the coming Counseling Training for counselors and pastors on May 1-5, 2023. Safety for the trainers and also that people that needed this skill will be able to come.
- > Please pray for our new girls that they will be accepted as new students in migrant schools.
- > Maria, Gigi, will be traveling to Bangkok to attend a retreat for missionaries. They are bringing Namfon and Ajima as second generation missionaries. May the Lord seal this.
- > There is more intense fighting in the border of Thailand and Myanmar. There's a new batch of more than 4,000 refugees flocking to Maesot and Maeramat.