

## 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.

## recent prayer requests

### PRAISES

1. Praise God! We have reason to celebrate the graduation of 6 Faith House girls
2. Maria & Gigi are going back to Thailand. They are leaving for Manila April 23.
3. Suwanan and Khin Moe Aye graduated Grade 12 and is preparing for university entrance. Due to covid 19 restrictions no audience was allowed during graduation.
4. Fasai graduated Hospitality, Hotel & Restaurant course in Maesot Tech School.
5. Naung Naung got accepted to study accounting in Maesot Technical School.
6. Faith House has a new outreach point just near Faith House.
7. It is the dry season. The staff and the girls cleaned out the deep well which is the source of our water. One girl Say Lay Paw was so courageous to go down the 30 meters deep well.
8. The girls are becoming creative. Ajima was able to make a bag made of newspaper for her project in school.

### PRAYER

1. Please pray for Suwanan & Khin Moe Aye to be able to get in the university they want to study.
2. For Fasai to be able to find a job soon. Hotel and restaurants are not doing good these days.
3. Please pray for Myanmar. Please pray that the military will hand over the government to the duly elected officials.
4. For the safety of Maria and Gigi. Favor from the Thai Embassy to grant a visa and necessary papers for entry.
5. Wisdom for staff and teachers on what to do and teach during school break.

Thank you so much Bible Chapel Prayer Impact and Brethren for knee bending with us.