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## February 2007 Newsletter

Never have there been so many opportunities for Christian ministry to flourish in Vietnam – even in the face of difficulties and continued opposition from our spiritual enemy. On a positive note, the recent change in religious tolerance and acceptance of the right of freedom of religion by the government has been promising. The Mennonite, Seventh Day Adventist and Methodist churches have been officially recognized by the government. In addition, at least two churches, including the CMA and Assemblies of God, held youth rallies (pictured below) at Christmas time where thousands of people listened intently to the gospel preached. The result was several hundred newly converted to Christ.



Internet access in Vietnam is more widespread than ever which has made access to Bible schools and Christian literature more available for those who are searching. Unfortunately, in spite of the increase in government tolerance of Christian churches' activities, the age-old problems of interdenominational competition and jealousy, as well as acceptance of cults and pseudo-Christian organizations, has crept into

Vietnam as it has in other countries where freedom of religion is expressed.

Nevertheless, the scripture from Isaiah 43:18 and its relationship to Mission Vietnam is more appropriate than ever before. God has given us the keys for opening special kingdom work in Vietnam.

Hear the voice of God as He encourages us, "Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past; see I am doing a new thing; now it springs up. Do you not perceive it?" ("Pay attention!" as Wade Franks would say) "I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wastelands."

We can see God's hand at work in many ways such as:

- Increased tolerance by the government for the church
- The opportunity to establish the first church on Phu Quoc Island
- The opening of the first Christian orphanage in Khe Sanh – not to mention a Christian orphanage for Montagnard people.
- And the continued success of The JOURNEY

We have been presented the opportunity of a lifetime – but we must seize the lifetime of the opportunity. As God called Esther, I believe He is calling Mission Vietnam. "For if you

remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14)

I am convinced that if Mission Vietnam doesn't move forward, God is perfectly capable of raising up another ministry to fulfill His plan and our ministry may, in fact, perish. Yet, who knows whether Mission Vietnam has come to the kingdom for "such a time as this"? I believe that it has! God has shown me that He has given us the keys to these opportunities. We must not fail.

## **Phu Quoc Island Project Report**

We've just received information from Dr. Anh in relation to acquiring a church building on Phu Quoc Island. To begin with, we must understand that when the government approves a location for the church that location can NOT be changed in the future. Therefore, if we rent a building for use as the church and later that building became unavailable for renting or purchase or if we wanted to build a church elsewhere, the government will deny us permission. Once the government gives its approval we cannot change locations. Consequently, the people of the island think it will be best to purchase property and build a permanent building.

After much research by Drs. Ngoc and Anh, along with the pastor on the island, they have located a large parcel of land which is for sale. There is room to build a church and to plant a large garden for growing produce to sell which will bring in revenue for the church. The owner has agreed to give the church a discounted price of \$55,000. This is an island where most of the land is owned by the government and is not for sale. The land that is for sale is bringing premium prices and is being bought up by private industry.

The land for the church must be paid for in full prior to erecting a building. Dr. Anh already has \$5,000 donated toward this project. REAP has almost \$12,000, so we only need \$38,000 for the land. A prefab building, which will seat 200 people, can be purchased for \$10,000-12,000.

We need to make this a matter of prayer and find a way to secure the land while it is still available. Other possible facilities have been located too far from the center of population. The proposed property is ideally located approximately about one mile from town and would be ideal for a church.

*Join with us today by sending your best possible financial gift to make this church a reality. One hundred percent of your gift will go to the project stated and eternal dividends will be reaped.*



*REAP International/Mission Vietnam is a ministry of Dave Roevers and Roevers Evangelist Association and is a non-profit, inter-denominational evangelistic ministry.*