

meet
MARIA AMIHAN



FAITH HOUSE
THAILAND



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.

The Bible Chapel has partnered with Faith House since 2018.

MARCH 2024

PRAISE

- ❖ Praise God for the 2 nights seminar on "First Love." Joy Gentallan, fellow missionary in the workshop attended by the youth of the church and the Faith House girls.
- ❖ It was a joy to see how the girls in their university life when Maria, Gigi, Grace and Isabel were able to visit them in Chiangmai, Phayao and Mae Fah Luang.
- ❖ The staff celebrated Valentine's with the women attending the Bible study who felt honored.
- ❖ Faith House girls being continually empowered to lead Sunday School and outreach.
- ❖ The new house is in its finishing stage. Two more days and it can be occupied. Yehey!
- ❖ Ministry partners with Elpis School were able to visit.

PRAYER

- The Bible Chapel and Bbright will come for a mission trip on April 17-27. Please pray for a safe trip, good health, no hassle in the immigration.
- Protection from respiratory problems. Burning time in Maesot. Smog, haze, poor air quality.
- Aye Sandar Myint will graduate high school in 2 weeks time. Wisdom as we find ways for her to get the needed documents to go to university. Enrollment starts in April.
- Next week is exam week for most elementary and high school students. Pray they will be able to study well and pass their exams.
- Khin Mar San and Eh Doh Poe will be graduating next year. They too need to obtain their legal documents, preferably during the school break.
- It will be school brea by 4th week of March. We've lined up activities and training for the girls. Praying we will have enough trainers. Classes on guitar, cooking, Thai and English.
- We are praying for skilled people to teach technical skills to the youth.
- **Next Meeting Wednesday, April 17, 2024 @ 8:00 AM EST**