# Theology  

Making Biblical Scholarship Accessible

This document was supplied for free educational purposes. Unless it is in the public domain, it may not be sold for profit or hosted on a webserver without the permission of the copyright holder.

If you find it of help to you and would like to support the ministry of Theology on the Web, please consider using the links below:

Buy me a coffee https://www.buymeacoffee.com/theology
https://patreon.com/theologyontheweb

PayPal https://paypal.me/robbradshaw

A table of contents for Honeycomb can be found here:
https://biblicalstudies.org.uk/articles_honeycomb.php

## Meet Samoeun Intal

UON Seila



Mrs. Samoeun Intal

My father was a favorite son to his mom and family. His mother sent him to the temple to become a monk. But he left the monkhood and migrated to Vietnam to enlist as a soldier, where he was trained by the French military. Then he returned back to serve Cambodia. From there he was sent to fight in World War II. As a soldier, my father kept moving from one place to another to train soldiers.

I was the youngest of six children in my family. Whenever my father traveled about, I was the one who always traveled with him. On one occasion I attended a soldier's funeral and saw a military parade to honor the dead: Many people and high-ranking officials' attended the funeral. : My heart was so thrilled at this spectacle that I wanted to became a soldier to use my life in a valuable way. I'll never forget what my father told me: "Life is more precious than anything else. If you have everything and don't have life, everything is nothing."

In 1975, when the Khmer Rouge gradually surrounded Phnom Penh (the country was so dark by war that I wished to get away at that time), a family friend jntroduced me to a young Filipino who became my friend. He worked as an airctaft mechanic. I went with him to Kampong Som during the Khmer New Year but we never returned back to Phnom Penh as Cambodia fell to the Khmer Rouge We fled to Thailand by boat with a lot of foreigners. In Thailand I married him and then moved on to the Philippines. When If first arrived there, I began to ask myself: "How will I use this precious gift called life?" One day I felt a strong call from the Lord to serve other precious lives by sharing with them the hope I had in the Lord Jesus.

My first contact with Christianity had been in a private English class in Cambodia during the early 70's when I was in junior high school. One day arl I did not know came into my class and asked if she could sit in the vacant seat next to me. I had never seen her before, but I didn't object. She began to tell me about Jesus, his power and who he was. Although I understood little of what she said, I was interested and a seed was planked. I never saw that girl again.

In 1976, a year after coming to the Philippines, while studying English I began to feel lonely and detached. 1 longed for someone who really cared, for some real love, like the unconditional type of love some people receive from their parents. I had yet to know anything close to real love. The people in the world didn't care. They only cared about themselves. If you wanted to get their attention you had to have something to offer
them, not like the loving parents who always gave without expecting much in return.

During this lonely and depressing time, I watched a television evangelist preaching the gospel, but could only understand some of what he said. One evening in my English class my teacher, who was a missionary with Summer Institute of Linguistics, told me about a Khmer woman who worked for the Far East Broadcasting Company. At the same time, my teacher told her about me. This lady reached me and I went to visit her at the FEBC headquarters.

She shared for over an hour the good news of Jesus' work on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. But once again I understood little. She asked me if I realized that I was a sinner. This infuriated me. How could she presume anything about me? She didn't know me. She didn't know that our parents were devoted Buddhists who taught us always to do good! She then turned in the Bible to Romans $3: 23$ which read, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." That scripture penetrated to the depths of my heart, and I began to question myself. Am I clean, holy, and righteous? I thought about it for a while and somehow I couldn't say that I was really righteous or sinless. I had to acknowledge that I was a sinner of sorts. So right there in that office, with the other Khmer woman, I called on the name of the Lord for forgiveness of my sins. Somehow, I know very clearly that I would come back and work for that radio station.

God was carefully nurturing the seed he had planted in my heart, and as it grew I began to get a clear picture of God's plan for Cambodia. Over the next seventeen years that seed blossomed into a mature vision for my people that included establishing a facility inside Cambodia.

Cambodia was a prioritized nation from which to apply for immigration to a third country such as the United States, Australia, Canada, or France. But I turned down my application for immigration to one of these countries because I wanted to serve Cambodia instead of going abroad.

FEBC started Khmer language shortwave broadcasts from the Philippines in 1957. My own work with radio began nearly two decades later as a language assistant. My main responsibility was to edit scripts written by missionaries who had been forced to flee Cambodia when the Khmer Rouge came to power. These scripts were then broadcast from the Philippines into Cambodia. After four years of editing and broadcasting, I began to produce script myself. Although I had been able to escape physically from Cambodia, I could not escape mentally and emotionally from what my brothers and sisters were experiencing there during the twentyfive years of war. Although this could help me write heart-toheart, it was often too painful and I wanted to quit. God always helped me to see what great opportunities there were in the radio ministry. This helped carry me through the difficult times.

In 1993, the Cambodian government granted FEBC permission to open an office and studio in Phnom Penh. When we first applied for a permission we did not volunteer our identity as Christians. Later that same year, our family pulled up stakes and relocated to Phnom Penh in order to train Khmer nationals to produce programs inside the country. But we still broadcast from the Philippines.

In 1995 we made clear to the government our identity as Christians. We established good contacts with the government and gained favor from them. FEBC submitted an application for setting up a radio station inside the country. The government offered us a station, but implementation of that offer was delayed due to the military clashes of July 1997. So we proceeded to bring in equipment to set up an AM radio station.

At last our radio equipment arrived at the port, but we could not clear customs to bring it in. We went back and forth with the Ministries of Information, Telecommunication, and Finance, but they said the government was not allowed to license a private AM station. After long negotiations, the government hinted that they wanted to have our AM equipment in exchange for granting us an FM frequency. Finally we yielded and agreed to apply for an FM frequency.

There have been further delays while we wait for the government to assign us a FM frequency. We want a high frequency, and they would rather give us a low one. We need God's wisdom to deal with such negotiations. We prayed to God for our patience to wait for God's timing on that issue. The Lord is good. He strengthens me when I felt weak.

One day I felt so frustrated. I asked myself, "Why did I choose radio ministry?" I sat on the porch of my office and watched a coconut palm tree moving. A question arose in my mind: "What makes the coconut palm tree move back and forth? The WIND! The wind is powerful. How much more powerful is the word of God in the air?" The word of God can prove itself strong if we put it on the air. It has power that can change lives. Life is very important!

Once the FM station goes on air, it will broadcast nine hours per day to a potential audience of six million people. We plan to broadcast in English in the future to help meet the English educational needs of this generation. After building trust with the government we also want to broadcast in Chinese and ethnic tribal languages in Rattakiri and Stung Treng.

We plan to set up substations in Kompong Thom, Kompong Chhang (working with Rev. K. P. Chhon), and other provinces as the Lord's will and blessing us. Please remember us in your prayers, and ask for God's provision as we serve Him.

[^0]











## 




















 ตูกส็ 4



























 กิริยยาดั้อร FEBC 4
























内的がตต










## 





















จีช์ชุตต






 FM นิโ్షสชริตู 4
































[^0]:    [Editor's note: Two days before this journal went to the printer, Rubledo and Samoeun's oldest son Abraham drowned in a tragic accident at Kampong Som. We dedicate this first issue of Honeycomb to Abraham's memory, and encourage our readers to remember the Intal family in their prayers.]

