

Ordinary People, Extraordinary Faith

# Lester Chua

Age 39, Lawyer

As part of AMC Missions Month 2023, we bring to you inspiring stories of church members who have answered the call to share God's love with the nations.

## Making sense of what God is doing in Myanmar



*When travelling to Myanmar for work, Lester (far left) is intentional about seeing how he can partner with local ministries. Here, he is meeting up with a group of Christian students at a cafe in Yangon.*

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Over the years, I have been on short-term mission trips to East Malaysia, Cambodia, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

But more recently, I had the opportunity to work in Yangon, Myanmar for 3.5 years from 2016 to 2019. Currently, I also travel there regularly for work trips.

Back in 2016, I was posted to Yangon for a work secondment, and the Lord spoke clearly through certain signs and the words of several fellow believers to say that He wanted me to see what He was doing in Myanmar.

In the two months I was there, I visited various local churches and Christian ministries in Myanmar and witnessed many wonderful things that the Lord was doing in the country.

## TESTIMONY BY LESTER CHUA

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*Back in 2018, Lester attended a conference for Christian lawyers in Pyin Oo Lwin, Myanmar.*



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Eventually, another opportunity came up for me to sign on for a longer secondment for two to three years. Again there were clear signs from the Lord that He wanted me to take it up. So I did.

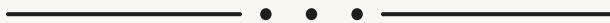
I currently try to spend at least two weeks in Myanmar for each of my work trips, so it allows me one or two weekends to meet up with friends and get involved with some ministries.

For my recent trip in late August, I managed to carve out some time over the weekend to travel up to Shan state (the part of Myanmar that borders Thailand and China). While there, I met up with a few missionaries to find out how they are doing and give some updates on legal issues.

I also met up with a group of local Christian lawyers to encourage them and explore practical ways to help them through their challenges, as well as gave a short sharing in a local church during their Sunday service.

This trip reminded me of Jesus' words to His disciples in Matthew 9:37 that "the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few".

## TESTIMONY BY LESTER CHUA



Due to COVID-19 and the current country situation, many foreigner “workers” have returned home, and many local “workers” have lost their lives or fled the country.


Yet, for the few who have stayed behind, they observe a new openness to the gospel amid the worsening social and economic situation.

Apart from the paradigmatic “short-term mission trip”, there are many other simple and practical ways to get involved with missions. These include helping to organise collections for clothes, books or other needed items; teaching a language or a skill; or meeting up to pray for a particular country of interest.

My hope is that, as a church community, we can spur each other on and find creative ways to use the gifts, skills and talents that we have been given to contribute to mission efforts in the various countries around us!

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.

- Matthew 9:37



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Stay tuned for more!