

January 2014

Dear Pastor and friends,

A new year has begun - new opportunities and exciting times.

## Elevate

It has been said: With a coach you go further, faster. Along with my seasoned colleague Tim Downs, we host a platform with hand-selected church-planters from across Europe. Some 25 men will gather together at the end of January for a time of reflection, refreshment and prayer. These are good men, men that desire God to be first in their lives.

For that reason they are under attack. We want to be the safe place to rub shoulders with like men. There are strategies and resources that help ministries go further, faster. So we will minister to some men that have been beaten down. This has often proven to be a crucial time of encouragement for some that have attended.

## Prayer

Our church has expressed a recent desire to pray more. Nothing encourages me more than a membership that will do the hard work of the ministry. Apart from Him we can do nothing. Prayer only expresses that dependence and He is pleased when our requests exceed our resources. It indicates that He is a great God.

## Duang

Debbie and I invited a Thai woman into our home for lunch. She is in an arranged marriage - her aunt set it up to bring her out of extreme poverty in Thailand. Needless to say, it has been a struggle.

I have the privilege of sharing a hope that endures in Christ. As she left the house she said: "I now take God with me." Because of what Christ did for you on the cross?, I asked. "Yes", she replied. There is much more to do, but God has opened an opportunity to share his Light, for which I am thankful.

There is nothing better than sharing His hope, forgiveness and grace. Because people matter to God.

Yours, in His service,

Keith and Debbie Gandy