



# Seeds of Hope

DECEMBER 2010

*Our Purpose: "To present Christ to all we meet, to heal disease and all manner of suffering and to love sincerely and deeply those whose lives we are privileged to touch."*

Lillian Dickson, MSI Founder

## Dear Friends,

It is my privilege to serve as the president of Mustard Seed International. Why do I volunteer my time and efforts? Because I want to help sow seeds of hope in a world desperately in need of a Savior. For over sixty years MSI has sent laborers into the fields to minister to lost and suffering people in some of the poorest and darkest places on earth. With the financial and prayer support of MSI friends, our small band of volunteers here in the States seek to facilitate the ministry of our "front line" missionaries and indigenous staff in those far away places.

You too can sow seeds for the Lord by praying for, volunteering and supporting this Great Commission ministry. Daily,

we have miraculous opportunities to be a witness among people needing to hear of the love and compassion of Jesus. In Romans 10:14-15 (NLT) we find these questions: *"But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tell them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent?"*

Being a laborer for Christ and a sower of seeds can take on many forms. Not everyone will be called to far away places to share the gospel – some are called to be senders. However you choose to participate, may God bless the seeds you sow for the salvation of many souls.

At this particular time, it is not an exaggeration for me to say that your

gifts to MSI, whatever the Lord lays on your heart to give, will help MSI continue to bring light into places of spiritual darkness and see lives transformed for eternity. Thank you in advance for your generous support.

As you seek Jesus, whose birth we celebrate, may His blessing be upon you and your family.

Bill Deans  
Volunteer, serving as President

P.S. Please feel free to call or write me directly with any questions or comments concerning MSI.



## The Life and Legacy of a Friend...

**"This is how we know what love is. Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers." I John 3:16**

Timo, the founder and visionary leader of an MSI sponsored Youth Center in Southeast Asia, took his family to the beach in September. While there, he saw three young women being carried away in the riptide. He immediately jumped in the water to save them, but in the process he did not survive.

Timo leaves behind his wife Ruthy and their five children, Sasa, Noel, Justian, Teo, and Paul. He was the definition of genuine, Christian humility. Timo made a habit of

praying for the youth of his community from 9pm every Friday night to sunrise. Hundreds of people, especially teenagers, in the region are grieving his loss.

We encourage you to pray for those God has called to be on the "front lines" of Christ-honoring evangelical missions. They serve in some of the most hostile places on earth and are not immune from sorrow and death. Please remember to pray for Ruthy, their children and all those young people touched by God through the life and ministry of Timo.



# Raising Up A New Generation of Leaders

As I grow older, I increasingly recognize the need to develop leaders. Leaders aren't necessarily dynamic people with big personalities. They aren't necessarily highly talented or smooth communicators. Leaders are people with a deep and resolute commitment to God and live with an undeniable sense of calling. Their love for God and passion to advance his kingdom are contagious. Everything we are doing in Mustard Seed hinges on visionary people who live with the courage to shoulder responsibility for ministry.

Through the years, we have seen God raise up some remarkable leaders who have taken Mustard Seed sponsored ministries to amazing places. Some of these people have inspired me to the core.

- ♦ **I think of Arum, who built and developed a beautiful school in the face of persecution.**
- ♦ **Daniel almost quit after a year of running a school that had a rough beginning, yet that school is now thriving and growing.**
- ♦ **Samuel has united a staff of teachers at his school and seen them accomplish some powerful breakthroughs.**
- ♦ **Elizabeth suffered a crippling injury to her knee, and yet her commitment to the girls in her dorm and the students in her science classes has never wavered.**
- ♦ **Rasinus and his new bride, Elok, have brought a breath of fresh air and excitement to their new assignment at a Mustard Seed school in the highlands of Papua.**

Because of leaders like this, Mustard Seed ministries are reaching never before seen levels of effectiveness and impact in the lives of many, many people across Southeast Asia. Yet, we also need your prayers as never before. One site leader, named Timoteus, drowned while swimming to save three women who had been swept out to sea. Timoteus' tragic death widowed his precious wife Ruthy and left his five children without a father. His youth ministry is left without their visionary leader. Another site leader named Wenny is suffering with colon cancer. I ask for your prayers for her and her husband, Bamban, and their three little daughters.

The future of Mustard Seed rests on the quality and endurance of our leaders. Would you commit to praying for them? Pray for their physical, emotional, and spiritual protection. Pray that God would meet all of their needs and watch over their families. Thank you for your friendship and partnership with Mustard Seed.

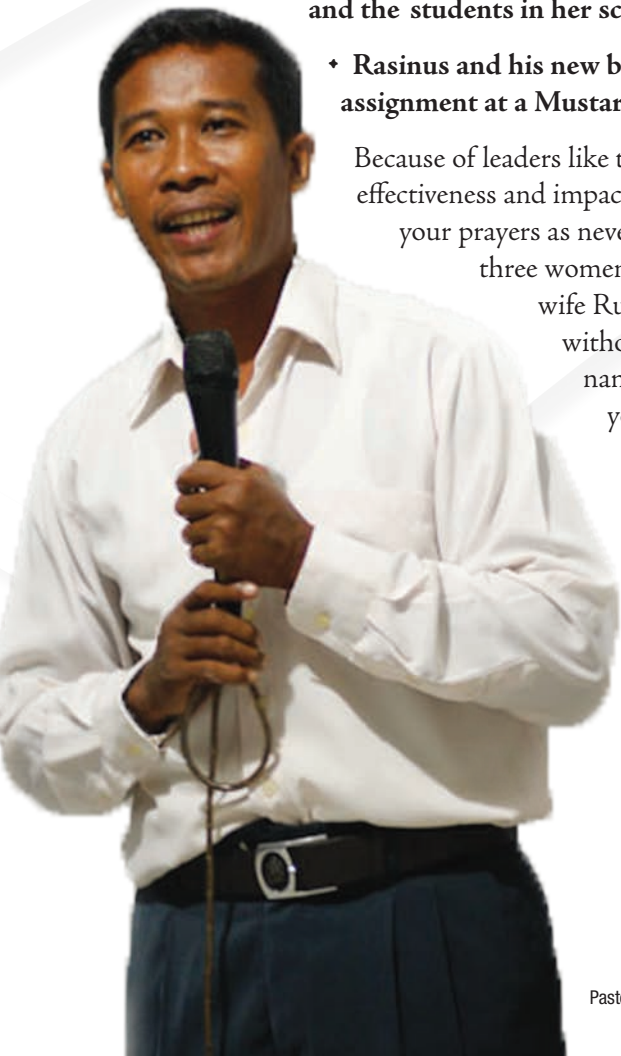
*Paul*

MSI Southeast Asia Field Director

Pastor Rudy, a Muslim-background believer now leads and trains other pastors.



God is doing amazing work through his servants at MSI sites around the world! Many were encouraged and inspired at the recent MSI Southeast Asia Mission Site Leader Retreat.



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