

Delicious to the Ears

by Carly Tirado



Rosanna hastily dried her freshly washed hands and picked up her Bible. Lunch hour was over, so people were back from tending their fields, and their bellies were full. This was a favorable time to study with her friend.

Rosanna headed towards Maizah's house just down the road where, in the heat of the day, Maizah was sitting on a wooden bed under her stilted house, legs tucked under her, her round face framed by a scarf functioning as a hijab. She smiled warmly at Rosanna, and they chit-chatted in their mother tongue, the Great River language. Maizah's kids ran around in the yard, entertaining themselves.

Rosanna opened her Bible to Genesis and began to read the story of Cain and Abel and the first murder. Rosanna had studied this story with Eric that morning during their Discovery Bible Study practice. After reading for a while, Maizah exclaimed, "This is so beautiful to listen to! The stories are so interesting."

Seeing the women gathered under the house, the neighbor across the street meandered over. "What are you guys eating? What's going on?"

Maizah responded, "Actually, we're not eating anything. But the words of the Bible that Rosanna's reading are so delicious to the ears."

Rosanna recently had the opportunity to join a discipleship training event for local believers hosted by Adventist Frontier Missions at the Pnong project in Cambodia. It was designed for baptized members interested in sharing their faith and becoming disciple makers but who lacked the experience and knowledge of how to do that. Rosanna soaked up every message from those meetings with a sincere and earnest desire to reach her people. She learned how to lead a Discovery Bible Study with non-believers, how to tell her testimony, and about the model of disciple-making movements for which we are striving. Rosanna understood that we wanted indigenous church-planting movements led not by foreigners but by the local people themselves. Rosanna is one of them.

Rosanna gave up her Muslim life to accept Jesus openly through baptism. Though she lost her son to cancer and her husband is incarcerated, she lives each day with a smile on her face and peace in her heart that comes from her personal Savior. Rosanna is sharp and perceptive and has the cultural experience to read the people she's trying to reach. She is a newer Christian herself, but she already has the desire to multiply her simple faith in others.

This morning, during Bible study in our own home, Rosanna reported that Maizah is stressed about making a living and wants to sell products in front of her house. However, she does not have a shady spot anymore since the road was recently widened, the ditches taking away her prior spot.

Rosanna presented an idea. “If people are too worried about making enough money to buy food, they will not really have the mental capacity to pay attention and feel interested in reading the Bible. They will get annoyed with me for taking their time. Can we help her move her bed to the road and put together a little bamboo roof to provide shade for her? It does not have to cost money.”

We grinned with joy that Rosanna was thinking like Jesus already—to reach people’s physical needs as well as spiritual. She also strategized, “I don’t want to go read with them every single day and make them tired of me. I want them to experience the joy and peace of reading the Bible and then have a day that I don’t come, and they will wonder, ‘Why am I so bored and stressed?’ Then they will realize that the only difference was that they did not read the Bible with me that day.” I think Rosanna is on to something!

Today, Rosanna read the Bible to five people under Maizah’s stilted house. May they taste and see the delicious Word of God through the witness of Rosanna. Lord, please protect your disciple Rosanna and work mightily through her to reach into the spiritual darkness of her own people and bring them Your light of truth. Amen.

Carly Tirado serves with her husband, Eric, as missionaries to the Great River People of Southeast Asia. This story has been shared with the permission of Adventist Frontier Missions.

World Church Prayer Requests

AUGUST 29 — SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

- **World Church:** Pray that churches and members would not be distracted from the mission by side issues, or by tearing down others. (See James 3:8-12) Pray that we would stay focused and centered on Christ and on sharing the Good News of Salvation. Time is running out, and the enemy knows his time is short. He is doing everything he can to divide us.
- **United States:** Pray for the media campaign of the Northside SDA Church. Pray that as they seek to improve their technology, it will be for the benefit of the surrounding community. Pray that the livestream and other media events will be a powerful soul-winning experience and that the media team members themselves will be revived and have a positive experience for Jesus with those they come in contact with.
- **Tanzania:** Pray for the Mbujah Pre and Primary School, an SDA institution. Only 5% of the staff and students are Adventist and the school is facing struggle as some of the parents and staff do not want prayer or worship to take place in the school. Pray that the Holy Spirit will be poured out and that it will be a place of evangelism within the community.
- **Jamaica:** Pray for the Cornwall Mountain SDA Church as they hold a week of prayer, fasting, and revival before hosting public outreach in their community. Pray for the salvation of souls and the defeat of Satan, the archenemy.
- **Canada:** Pray that Jesus will claim back the territory of Red Earth Creek in Northern Alberta. Pray that His presence will be known through His workers and that the local Adventists will be prepared to walk among the people of their community as Jesus would, as “one desiring their good.”
- **Fiji:** Pray for the Vugalei SDA Church. Their church building is located in an excellent location to reach the people located in two settlements nearby, but the building is too small for the growing numbers. Pray that God will direct and bless in the future of the church.
- **Uganda:** Pray that as the various camp meetings across the country begin, God will bless and multiply the resources. Pray that the members will be revived and reformed as they contribute to and participate in the camp meetings.