TO BE A MAN
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"And whoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that humble himself shall be exalted."
- Matthew 23: 12

I thought this is just like SULADS in the Philippines. I thought the challenge would never be different. In full trust of my experience as SULADS missionary in the Philippines, we are now in Thailand reaching the spiritually unreached Mien tribe.

Everything I thought and expected in the field is totally different. Everything is very new. The language has made me like a cripple for a month now. I want to talk to them but the words I studied and the phrases I memorized don't seem to make any sense when I come to talk to them or when they come to talk to us.

Every day here is like a life and death battle with the adversary. Realizations upon realizations flood my thought every moment. Questions upon questions of my presence in this village would try to overtake me every now and then.

With all these, I can now be diagnosed as having the number one challenge in foreign missions which is CULTURE STRESS/CULTURE SHOCK...

Stress it may be, but this experience had brought me to a higher level of faith. This isn't about the culture or whatever. Everything is all about crushing my hidden pride and ego. Crushing me until nothing is left but my surrender and humility to the one who has the master plan.

This is indeed a first time experience of a complete distrust to myself and full reliance to my Heavenly Father. Honestly, it is only in this place I have met God personally and knew my nakedness. It is only in this place I have come to realize my helplessness. It is only in this place I have come to realize the real essence of humility.

This is an experience I could never exchange together with my wife. I came here thinking I was already a man but in here I found myself still a newborn babe in my faith. In here I know God is moment by moment changing me into a man. A man who will face more mission challenges. A man who will conquer more barriers in Jesus' mighty name.

To be a man is not knowing everything you needed to know. To be a man is not always fighting the battle, but to be a man, a real man is to be fully dependent on God and God alone and His wonderful plans on which you know nothing.
"Humble yourselves therefore under the Mighty hand of God, that He nay exalt you in due time." - 1Peter 5:6