



## Empowering a Criminal



Doan Nhat Tan grew up in Vietnam and became a Christian in the 1970s through the influence of a missionary. In the mid-70s the communists took over Vietnam and anti-US feelings were high. Since Christianity was considered a Western religion, anyone claiming to hold to these beliefs were sent to “reeducation through labor” camps deep in the Vietnamese jungle. Tan and his family were amongst these exiled Christians. During this time of persecution Tan’s nine-year-old sister and father died from malnourishment and abuse. For years each day was a living nightmare until they finally escaped in 1983.

Thirty-six years later, Tan is still serving God and is now in full-time ministry. Life after the exile has not been easy. Pastor Tan has been observed, questioned, physically attacked, and forced to live separately

### Upcoming Visits

**Dayton Chinese Christian Church**  
Dayton, Ohio  
Sunday, October 4

**Aboite Baptist Church**  
Fort Wayne, Indiana  
Sunday, October 11

**Long Island Abundant Life Church**  
Hicksville, New York  
Sunday, October 18

**MOPS at New Hyde Park Baptist Church**  
New Hyde Park, New York  
Tuesday, October 20

Click Here to  
Partner with Us  
Financially

### Our Vision

*Equipping*  
Leaders to reach Asia.

*Empowering*  
Asian churches to reproduce.

*Expanding*  
God's kingdom in Asia.

from his wife for many years. Pastor Tan has said of his ministry environment:

**“To be a Christian is to be a criminal. To be a pastor is to be a double criminal.”**

But despite the hardships, Pastor Tan remains committed to training leaders, protecting sound doctrine, and assisting the growing Vietnamese church. Currently, Pastor Tan serves as the Director of the Institute of Biblical Literature (IBL) in Vietnam. IBL offers a three-year pastoral training curriculum for up to fifty students at a time. Pastor Tan is finishing his MRE with ABTS, and is utilizing what he has learned as he trains the next generation of Vietnamese church leaders.

Stories like that of Pastor Tan’s are what we mean when we say we want to “empower Asian churches to reproduce.”

As an ABTS professor, Greg will be providing national Christian leaders with a solid theological education, so they can turn around and teach their own people.

Did you know we also have a ministry Facebook page? If you want to hear right away when we have a new monthly supporter, learn more about the ministry of ABTS, and see pictures of our pre-field ministry, then please click the link below and “like” our ministry Facebook page - “The Vrugginks - Training Leaders in Asia” - to get all the details!



---

## Starbucks Gift Card Giveaway



This month we’re having a special giveaway! If we have your mailing address then last month you should have received our prayer reminder magnet in the mail! (If you didn’t receive one, please [email us](#) your mailing address and we’ll be happy to send you one.)

[Email us](#) by October 25th with a picture of our prayer magnet on your refrigerator (or some other magnetic surface you see often) and we’ll select one person to receive a \$10 Starbucks gift card which you could use to purchase [Starbucks Thai Coffee](#)!

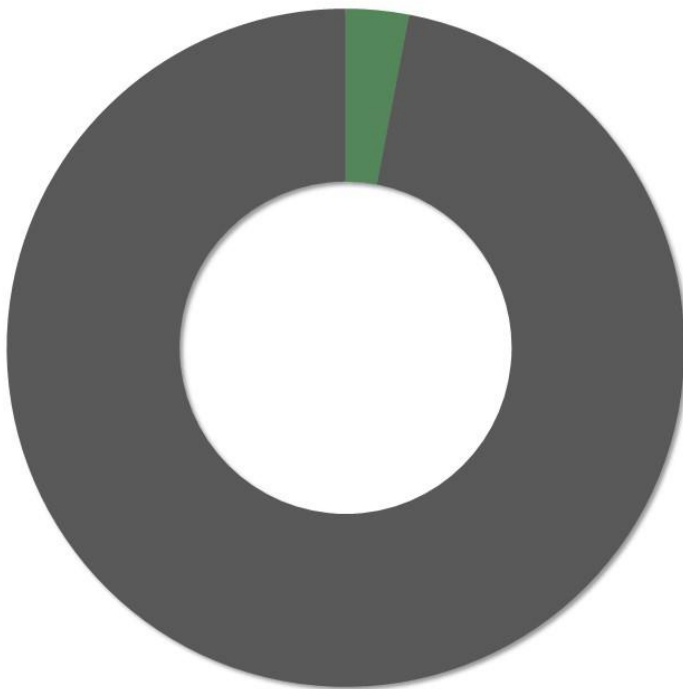
We'll post all the pictures in an album on our [Facebook ministry page – “The Vrugginks – Training Leaders in Asia.”](#) It would encourage our hearts so much to see our magnetic prayer cards hung up on all your refrigerators! We value your prayers more than words can express!

---

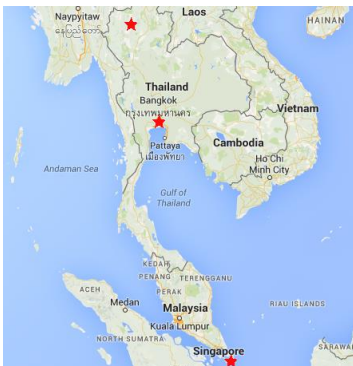
## Financial Update

Click the link above the chart on the left to see a more detailed chart of our monthly ministry partner needs.

Monthly Ministry Partners  
3% Supported



Survey Trip: 63% Funded



We have a huge praise that we have already received \$2,855 in gifts towards our survey trip so Southeast Asia! A huge THANK YOU to each of you who have given to help make this trip possible! The total support need for our survey trip is \$4,500. Our goal is to raise the funds needed for this trip by October 15<sup>th</sup> so we can get the best price on airline tickets. **Would you please pray for God to provide the remaining \$1,645 by October 15th?**

There are two ways to give toward our survey trip - online or mail. All gifts are tax deductible.

ONLINE - The easiest way to give is to click the button below and have your gift automatically withdrawn from your bank account or charged to your debit/credit card.

Give Online

MAIL – Click the button below to download a form to print and mail in with your financial gift towards our survey trip. Please make checks payable to ABWE.

Download Form

---

## Praises and Prayer Requests

- 1) Praise God for 20 new friends who have signed up to receive our newsletter and uphold us in prayer!
- 2) Praise God \$2,855 has been given for our survey trip! Please pray for God to provide the remaining \$1,645 by October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) Praise God we have 3 new monthly financial partners! Pray for God to raise up more monthly financial partners who will join with us in spreading the gospel in Asia.
- 4) Pray for our 4 church and approximately 20 home visits this month to bless others and to stir the hearts of many to partner with us in expanding God's kingdom in Asia!

Thank you for partnering is in prayer and financially to empower leaders like Pastor Tan!

*Doug + Rachel*

