



Lanna Theological Center

Sent & Serving

Stories of Impact and Faithful Ministry

The Example That Changed A Life

Behind almost every life that is changed, there is someone who was there to guide, to teach, and to patiently walk alongside them.

Often, the influence that changes a life does not come through something dramatic or highly visible. It comes through simple acts of faithfulness and through the quiet witness of people whose lives reflect something different. Whether we realize it or not, people are watching how we live, how we treat others, and whether our lives genuinely reflect the hope we speak about. God often works through those moments in ways we may never fully see.

In many parts of the world, churches are growing but trained and spiritually grounded leaders are still few. One result is that many second-generation Christian youths grow up without being deeply grounded in Scripture or personally discipled in their faith. Although they may have heard about God from childhood, many struggle to understand how the gospel connects to daily life and eventually drift away from the church during their teenage or young adult years.

Yet even then, the seeds planted early in life are often not forgotten. God frequently uses the truth learned in childhood, together with the example of faithful believers, to draw people back to Himself. When young people encounter Christians, whose lives genuinely reflect Christ, it can awaken questions, stir memories, and renew a desire to seek God again.



Suphan's story is a powerful reminder of that reality.

Like many teenagers, **Suphan** did not plan to walk away from the life he was raised in—it simply happened over time. Growing up in a Christian village in northern Thailand, he learned about God at an early age. But during his teenage years, everything began to shift. Influenced by friends and drawn into a different environment, he stopped attending church, drifted from his faith, and became involved in drugs and rebellion.

For several years, he wandered far from the foundation he had once known.

Then, near the end of high school, something began to change. He started remembering what he had been taught as a child and found himself asking a simple but honest question: *“Is God real? If so, can He change my life?”*

Not long after, a group of Bible school students visited his village for a Christmas outreach. As he watched them, he saw something different in the way they lived, served, and interacted with others. Their example became part of the turning point in his life. Through their quiet witness, God began drawing him back.

That experience eventually led Suphan to study at **Lanna Theological Center**, where he was disciplined, trained, and prepared for ministry.

Today, Suphan serves as the pastor of a church plant in a suburb of Chiang Mai.

But his ministry extends beyond the walls of the church. Together with another LTC alumnus, he has started a **soccer outreach for youth** in his community. They understand firsthand how easily young people can be drawn into drugs, alcohol, and destructive paths—because they themselves once lived there.



Now they are helping create a different path for others.

What once marked Suphan's life has become the very place where he now serves. The same kind of faithful example that once influenced him is now being multiplied through his own life as he walks alongside the next generation, helping young people discover hope, direction, and purpose in Christ.

Stories like Suphan's remind us that ministry is often much deeper than what we can immediately see. This is how God often works. One faithful life influences another. Seeds planted years earlier begin to grow. Quiet examples of faith become testimonies of transformation.

Many times, we may wonder whether the small acts of faithfulness in our daily lives really matter. We may not always see immediate results from the prayers we pray, the encouragement we give, the example we try to live, or the time we invest in others. Yet God is often working beneath the surface in ways we cannot yet see.

The people around us are watching more than we realize. A faithful example, a consistent life, a moment of kindness, or simply continuing to walk with God through difficult seasons can become part of the story God uses to draw someone back to Himself.

We hope Suphan's story encourages you to remain faithful where God has placed you. The influence of a life lived for Christ often reaches farther than we will ever fully know.