

Akeu; Thailand



Thailand's Fast Facts:

Number of people:
65,479,000

Main language:
Thai

Main religion:
Buddhism

of languages:
85

of languages ...
without any of the Bible: **35**
with part of the Bible: **14**
with a New Testament: **10**
with a whole Bible: **26**

Did you know?

Thailand used to be known by another name — Siam. It wasn't until 1939 that the country was officially called Thailand, which means "land of the free." In fact, Thailand is the only Southeast Asian country that was never ruled by Europe, so the name fits pretty well!

Rice is eaten at every meal for most people in Thailand. They eat it with lots of different side dishes, soups and salads. One of the foods Thailand is most famous for is curry, and it's often made to be really spicy. But it sure is delicious! For a snack, people like to eat green papaya salad (it's crunchy, almost like a cucumber, instead of mushy like red and orange papayas).

curry



Did you know that in Thailand, it's rude to

touch someone's head? That's because it's the highest part of the body, so people think that it's disrespectful. You also don't point your feet at anyone, because that's the lowest part of your body. People take their shoes off when they enter people's homes, because they think it's polite to be barefoot. They also take off their shoes when they go to the temples.

There aren't very many Christians living in Thailand. Most people are Buddhist, and quite a few are Sunni Muslim. That leaves only a tiny number of people who believe in Jesus! As more languages get the Bible, more people will learn about how much God loves them. And hopefully they'll realize that if they want to be free, just like Thailand's name means, they can be when they believe that Jesus Christ is God.

Romans 8:1-2 says, "So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death" (NLT). We are free in Jesus, and we can pray that more Thai people will find that freedom too.

You can pray ...

Akeu is a language spoken in Thailand and three other countries in that area of Asia (including China). There's exciting news for Akeu speakers. The translation team finished editing the New Testament in Akeu last year! Now they just need to print it. Once the books are all printed, they can share them with people who speak Akeu. You can pray that the New Testament is printed quickly so people can know that God loves them and speaks their language. And most importantly, so they can find freedom in Jesus!