

"It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it." ~ Isaiah 55:11

GRADUATION SUNDAY...

We had a full house the Sunday after our Vacation Bible School outreach. The 'Simbahan jeep' was overflowing as about 200 people came and packed into our 'little barn' for our annual graduation service. It was a fun packed day with lots of smiles from the kids as they received their ribbons and awards. The kids also performed some of the songs they learned from the VBS. The next day we took all the volunteers (*about 30 of them*) to Mag Aso falls as a way of saying thank you for all their hard work!



CHRISTIAN RADIO HIMAMAYLAN...

Last Friday we had our first ever 'Christian Radio Himamaylan' pastor's meeting at the local Baptist church here in town! We have been broadcasting on the radio here for almost 8 months, but had been limited to praise and worship. We were cautious of our on air content as we were still working to acquire a license from the Philippine government and because we wanted to open up the radio to all the Bible teaching churches here in Himamaylan.



All the local pastors who attended were VERY excited to hear the vision for a local radio station. The desire is to give to them the opportunity to broadcast their teachings and also be able to air announcements for the activities in their churches. We also took the opportunity to get them to sign a petition for the congress requesting we be granted a permanent franchise and license to operate FM radio stations here in the Philippines.

Having opened up the radio to the local pastors, acquired a temporary license to broadcast from the city, as well as permissions from our local congressman to move forward with a radio franchise we will now begin to broadcast Bible teachings on the radio! Over the next few weeks we will integrate Pastor Chuck Smith, Pastor Clark Van Wick, as well as the local teachings from Simbahan sa Bukid into our broadcast schedule. We are excited to see the impact the radio will have as the Word of God goes out.

VALUES EDUCATION...

Summer has ended here in the Philippines which means two things... The rains have come again (*welcome to monsoon season*) and summer break is over meaning all the kids are heading back to school. Over the past 2 years we have built up a great relationship with the principal of the High School in San Antonio (*the main High School in our part of the mountain*). We



have been invited to teach the Values Education classes for the 1st-4th year students. Unlike the schools in the United States there is no separation of church and state here. We have essentially been invited into the local public school to teach Bible studies every week to the kids as part of their curriculum! I will be teaching the 4th year students, Jen will be teaching the 3rd year students, and Bembem will be teaching the 1st & 2nd year students.

COME RAIN OR SHINE...

For almost 3 months now we have been going to the community of Lumangog to hold a mid-week Bible study. During the summer months this was a rather easy endeavor as there was no rain and the roads were all in good shape. With the end of summer here, and the beginning of monsoon season, that all changed. The hilly dirt road leading up to Lumangog was not longer passable with the jeep. The only way to get there was to take the 1/2 hour walk down the muddy road. The people who attend the study had asked if we were still willing to come. Our answer was...



come rain or shine, good roads or bad, whether in a jeep or on foot the Bible study will go on! We had a great time, guitar slung over the shoulder, Bibles in the bag, walking in-between the sugar cane fields with the most incredible sunset as our backdrop, all so that we could go and teach the Bible to people who were hungry to hear God's word!



BUILDING A CHURCH ~ ONE SATURDAY AT A TIME...

We have been working on some much needed repairs at the church. Last month we replaced part of the grass roof - it had grown 'sky lights' that were letting all the rain into the church. We also had to repair the back retaining wall. When the church was first built - as a poultry - the back retaining wall was constructed of rocks but no cement. Over the past 2 years the wall has slowly collapsed eating away at the floor of the church. We joke that one Sunday I will take one step too far and end up falling off the end of the church.

Every Saturday morning we invite the men of the church out for a 'work' morning. About 6-10 guys show up every week and we have been slowly but surely making all the needed repairs. The back retaining wall is now rocks

and cement. It looks really good and they way we set it up it doubles as stadium seating if we ever choose to have any 'events' in the valley behind the church (*like our New Years fire works display*) - we just need to cut down the banana trees that would block the view. Our next project will be to build a retaining wall for the children's ministry building. Every time we get a good rain a 'river runs through it' making it tough for the kids to keep from getting muddy. The kids don't mind - but the parents are not as understanding :-). It seems there is always some little project to work on. It makes for a great time of fellowship for the men - and everyone seems to enjoy the work and the lunch the ladies prepare for us when we are finished.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Thanks for the prayers for my dengue fever - I am doing much better now
- The Bible Studies (*10 of them*) - for the Word to change lives
- The hearts of the people in the Bukid (*mountain*) - open to Jesus!
- The radio station - favor with the "franchise" - and the NTC
- The opportunity to teach the Bible in the local schools
- Our marriage - constantly grow closer to Jesus & each other
- Still praying for God to give us a 'Baby Hinchey'...
- Flexibility and humility - we would both be full of Jesus!



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