

"The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come!' And let him who hears say, 'Come!' And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely." ~ Revelation 22:17

VALENTINES DINNER...

Every couple knows how important and special it is to be able to get away with the one you love for a 'date night' every now and then. For most here in the Bukid that never happens. There are only a hand full of restaurants in Himamaylan and none up in the mountain. A night out is a luxury that most just cannot afford to take. For that reason every year we transform our little church into a 'Romantic get away' for Valentines day. Nothing too fancy – you still have to ignore the chickens, goats, ducks, and dogs that wander through and forgive the dirt floor - but add some red balloons, flowers, and candles and you have the making for a romantic evening for the couples in the church!

After a nice dinner of chicken inasal and rice (*a local favorite*) with red watermelon for desert - we taught on the Greatest Love Story - Jesus and the church! Eve-ry man has a God shaped hole in their heart that only God can fill - **John 4:13-14**. God courted us - **Song of Solomon 4:1-2** - not seeing us as we are, but through the eyes of His great love for us. Offering salvation to anyone who will receive the invitation to



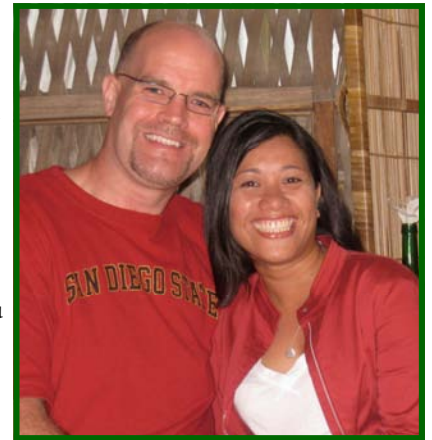
come - **Revelation 22:17**. Jesus then sealed 'the deal' by offering Himself on the cross at Calvary - **Luke 22:15**. After which He went to prepare our home for us - **John 14:2-3**. Leaving us to wait with anxious expectation for the moment of His soon return for us His bride - **Matthew 22:44**. When He will take us up to heaven to be with Him and the Marriage supper of the Lamb - **Revelation 19:7-9!** Our desire was to encourage and build up the marriages of the couples in the church through the example of the Greatest Love story. After the teaching we closed up the night with a lot of laughter as we had a wonderful time of sharing our own 'Love stories'.

As an extra blessing to me and Jen there were many hands this year that helped set up and tear down for the dinner. In years past it has been a huge endeavor, taking most of the day, to set up for the Valentines dinner - and then late into the night after the dinner to tear down afterwards. A wise man once told me 'many hands make for light work'. It put a smile on our faces

THE FAITH OF A CHILD...

A few weeks back one of the young boys from the church was climbing up in a tree - and as young boys so often tend to be - he was careless and ended up falling about 15' out of the tree. He landed on his shoulder and had obviously done some serious damage. They were in a more remote part of the mountain (*Lumangog*) and the way to the city was in very poor condition because of heavy rains and large sugar cane tucks that gouged the road making it close to impassable. They ended up having to wait more than three days before finally being able to bring the boy to the hospital.

So often people tend to think children do not understand or even listen to the things they are taught in church. This little boy in particular was know to be quite the trouble maker - seemingly oblivious and



unaffected by the teaching he heard in Sunday school. Yet when he was hurt - unable to get to the hospital - he turned to his mother and told her, 'Jesus healed the lame man mom, He can heal me too.'

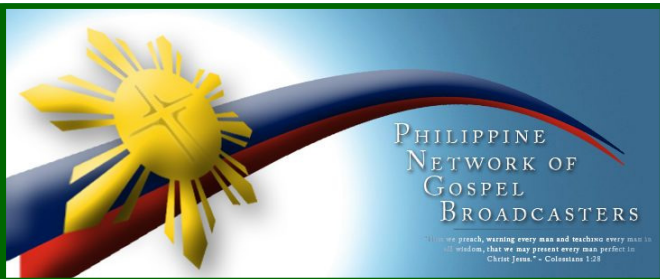
When we arrived at the hospital they took an x-ray and found he had broken his arm right at the ball joint of the shoulder - apparently about the worst place you break an arm. They informed the parents he would need immediate (*and very expensive*) surgery. It was so serious they could not perform the surgery here in Himamaylan. We were sent to the next closest city to the south - Kabankalan. We went to two hospitals there and both gave the same prognosis - both unable to perform the intricate surgery needed (*they would have to put in pins to rebuild the arm at the socket*). Prepared for the worst we made the trip the next day to Riverside hospital in Bacolod - the best hospital in the region.

We had an appointment there with a specialist. Hearts were heavy going in not knowing how long the parents would have to stay in Bacolod. Hospitals here require a family member to stay with a patient throughout the entire stay. Both the Dad and Mom of the boy had come with us to the 'Big City' fully anticipating not being able to go home - or back to work - for up to a month. The specialist took a look at the same x-rays the other doctors and hospitals had seen - and he smiled. He told the parents that because the boy was still so young - he would heal on his own within a month or so. They could perform surgery on him if they wanted to make some doctors rich... but in his opinion they should keep their money and let God do the work for free. Needless to say the Dad and Mom came out dancing for joy and praising Jesus at the news!

So often we look for God to work in supernatural ways - yet so often God works supernaturally - naturally! God worked through the wisdom of one doctor - who trusted more in the design of God than the skill of men. God worked through the life of a little boy who stepped out with the 'faith of a child' and saw God (*in spite of the recommendations of 3 hospitals*) heal his arm! It was a beautiful lesson for our hearts... Keep loving and teaching the kids - they listen more than you think and learn more than you could imagine. Expect the unexpected - with God nothing is impossible - **Luke 1:37!**

UPCOMING EVENTS...

Radio station - things continue to move forward with the radio station - not very quickly - but still forward. All 3 stations under Philippine Network of Gospel Broadcasters' are doing well (*Himamaylan City / Santacon Island - Bicol / Giayan - Luzon*). We have also been contacted by the Calvary Chapel Bible College in Dumaguete about starting up a station there as well. We recently launched a web site for our network of radio stations here in the Philippines - www.pngb.net. Please be praying for continued favor with the government as we move forward with the licensing process.



Next month we will be having our annual Vacation Bible School and Kids/ Youth camp. The VBS will be an outreach to all the kids up the in mountain. Summer vacation starts here in April. We have asked to go into the schools at the end of this month to invite all the kids to 'come back' for

a week long VBS held at the local public schools just after the start of the summer break. Then the 3rd week of April we will take the kids & youth from the church (*about 50 of us*) down to Sipalay beach to camp for 4 days. It will be a time of worship and teaching with the intent on building up the faith of the kids. Please keep both of these events in your prayers!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- The Bible Studies - for the Word to change lives
- Upcoming events - Kids camp / Vacation Bible School
- The people in the Bukid (*mountain*) - to be open to Jesus!
- Strength for those families who are standing up for Jesus!
- The radio - favor with the 'franchise' - and the NTC
- Roger - coming over in April to help us for 6 months
- For a trip back to the States this summer for a conference
- Our marriage - 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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