

PHILIPPINES



2016



Adventure Community Church

26632 NE Stella Street

Duvall, WA 98019

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WEEKLY QUIET TIME—JULY 17, 2016

MISSION TRIP—PHILIPPINES

DAY ONE

He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." Mark 16:15

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Psalm 105:1



DAY SEVEN—STORY

Jeremiah is a pastor on Negros Oriental. He has had a very tough life. When he graduated from high school he ignored his parents advice on life and ended up living on the streets while he was half way through college. He soon realized that life on the streets was not enjoyable and he wanted to finish school. He couldn't go to his parents for help, but he ended up with a scholarship. What he didn't know was it was a scholarship to a Bible college. He decided to go anyway because of his desire to finish his education. During his time at school he asked Jesus into his heart.

After graduation, God called Jeremiah to serve in ministry on a predominantly Muslim island. During this time he pastored a church and experienced great hate from the Muslims. He even escaped several assassination attempts on his life. On one occasion, God moved a young boy's heart to ask about Jesus while he was holding grenades meant to kill Jeremiah. Eventually he was #1 on the Muslim hit list and his colleagues begged him to relocate to Negros. He is now a pastor for Fruit Bearers Ministry.

Prayer Points:

We can pray for Jeremiah's new prayer group

We can thank Jesus for his family being reunited

We can pray that he has been removed from the Muslim hit list and won't be hunted remotely

~ Spencer Matthews

DAY SEVEN

*so is my word that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.*
Isaiah 55:11

“And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” John 12:32



DAY ONE –STORY

During our trip we had the chance to go to several deaf schools, at one of them I was able to meet a young man named Riuben (age 17). He enjoys soccer a lot and I gave him a soccer ball that I brought with me. Our team had the opportunity to talk to individuals one on one, and Riuben was the kid I felt the Lord telling me to talk to. I wrote to him on paper because my sign language is not the best but I did the signs I knew. I was able to give him some time to tell me about himself and I showed him that there are people that care about him. He told me that his family lives in different cities and work a lot. He also told me that he and a friend attend church.

I asked him if I could pray for him, and if he had any prayer requests. His response was that *I was his answer* to prayer and that he only wishes blessings to me, however I still prayed for him. The teacher told us that the days we spent with them were some of the most memorable times in their whole life, and that they will never forget the time they spent with us. Riuben could use some prayer though. Deaf kids get very lonely and isolated. They can feel as if they are on their own.

Prayer Points:

Pray that Riuben would always feel the Lord's presence and his isolation would not bring him down.

Pray for his family coming to the Lord because I don't know if they are believers and he mentioned that he goes with a friend to church and not his family.

~ Bear Hansen

DAY TWO

Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:15-16



DAY SIX—STORY

Sometimes, God romances us in ways only He can do. Six years ago, I found myself as a sophomore in High School on a mission trip to the Philippines. The Lord met me there and changed my life. Through a vision of two lightning bolts coming from heaven and meeting on Earth to create double the effect, Jesus spoke to me about the impact I both could and would make when I partnered with him. The amazing part about this picture from the Lord was that during his words, I was watching an amazing tropical thunder storm.

Six years later, I found myself back in the Philippines again: older, hopefully wiser, yet still in **desperate need** of the Lord's romance of my heart. As though the Lord was leading me, I began to walk down to a beach on the ocean front. Remembering the vision I had received before, I prayed and asked God that I might see tropical lightning again, before leaving the Philippines. No sooner had the words left my mouth that a flash caught the corner of my eye. On the corner of the island, where the only place it could be seen was at the edge of the sand where my feet were planted, was a lightning and thunder storm. Immediately filled with the Joy that only comes from the Romance of Jesus, I remembered what an impact I can make when I join with the Lord and was awed by his huge heart for me.

~ Kelsey Grant

Prayer Points:

That we would, as a church body, be more sensitive to the Lord's romance of our hearts and be able to recognize his pursuit of us.

That the impact on both the Filipinos we ministered to and our team that went would remain permanent and established in the Lord, changing us and rippling out to change others.

DAY SIX

The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and the one who is wise saves lives. Proverbs 11:30

But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.
2 Timothy 4:5



DAY TWO –STORY

When we headed out to build the basketball court, we didn't know the story behind what God had already done. When the family heard that a group from America was coming, purely to bless them, God immediately started stirring in them. The father was estranged from the mother and grandmother of his children, and there was a lot of animosity festering. We weren't given the exact details of how all of this came to pass, but God started stirring in them, and the family all came back together, and they were able to forgive each other, and all live with each other now. The father got up early every morning to prepare the land for us to work, just to bless his family and community. They all are now working together to make their community and family be the best it can be, and to grow God in themselves and others around him.

Prayer Points:

Pray that God would continue to heal this family and keep them together.

Pray that the basketball court will continue to bring others together and someday be a place for them to hold their church services (once the permitting is done).

~ Mike Madeira

DAY THREE

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. Romans 1:16

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" Isaiah 6:8



DAY FIVE—STORY

There is a town about an hour away from Dumaguete called Tanjay (pronounced Tan-HIGH). There is a school in that town called Tanjay Elementary School. We were running a little bit behind schedule that day, so our time there was short, but the Lord had a surprise waiting for us. After the students performed the Lifehouse drama, the teacher at the school introduced us to a blind boy named Paulie. Paulie had a song prepared for us. We gave him a microphone that was hooked up into our portable to speaker, and he began to sing. As his voice began to come through the speaker all of the students became silent. We could not understand his words because there were in his native language, but the power that his voice held let us know this was no ordinary song. His voice was beautiful and clear, and it cut through the rushing and scurrying mindset of that day, like a dolphin through water. His song gave us all a break from our own thoughts and covered the entire room in peace. When he was done, he received a great applause both from our students and the Filipino students. The teacher came up and explained that the song that he sang was about God's rescue and aligned perfectly with the message of our student's drama.

Our group was truly blessed by Paulie and his song. There were many great things that happened on our trip but this is one of my favorite moments. It was a very stark reminder about God's heart for his people. Paulie may have been blind, but God's love for Paulie, and Paulie's love for God were evidently clear through his voice and song.

Prayer Points:

That Paulie would not feel alone, especially in big groups. This is a very common experience for deaf and blind students, as they find themselves with no one to notice them in crowds.

That Paulie would have opportunities to sing about God in front of more and more people, and through Paulie, Filipinos would be able to see how God loves and uses those that society has written off.

~ Garat Grant

DAY FIVE

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. "Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." Matthew 9:37-38



DAY THREE –STORY

While visiting the deaf school in Mabinay I saw a 3-year old boy running around us with excitement that we were there. I later came to find that this boy, named Jon, had just recently started going to this school and is deaf, has cataracts in both eyes and is blind in one due to the cataract. He showed his emotions through wanting to snuggle with people and was such a charmer. Any time he saw me he would run up to me, grab my legs and made me put my arms around him. He loves attention and made me smile every time I saw him. Fruit Bearers is now supporting him through Garat and Kelsey but he will need surgery done on his eye in order to see out of it again and surgery to stop the cataract in his other eye from causing complete blindness. His family doesn't live very close to the school and they are living on only 500 pesos a month which in US money is about 27 dollars. That's very hard to live off of when you have a family to feed every day and for other care needs they may need. God has definitely blessed them by having people step in and help them out but Jon and his family will definitely still need your prayers.

~ Lydia Hansen

Prayer Points:

- Pray that all the necessary surgeries that need to be done for him to see again would go well and that he would be able to see out of it better than ever and that there would be no complications.
- Pray that Jon would be able to learn sign language quickly so he can communicate with friends and family sooner. And that he would do well in school at he just recently started.
- Pray for God to provide for the family even outside of Fruit Bearers.
- Pray that the family would have a close relationship with Jesus and learn to love him even more through this experience with Jon.

DAY FOUR

Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Romans 10:17

“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:35



DAY FOUR –STORY

During our trip we met a lot of people, this made it hard to decide who to write about. On the second day that we visited the deaf school in Mabina we split off to have some one-on-one time with each deaf kid. The boy I talked to was named Johnbert. We signed a little, though it was hard since he did not understand English very well. I got to see him the next day at the bible study we went to.

Prayer Points:

My prayer request for Johnbert is that, even though he might not have understood everything I said, God would move in his life and bless him in his studies, life at home, and he would see God working in his life.

~ Zach Kobayashi

One of the things that really stood out to me in the Philippines was the people, especially their total commitment to Christ. Wes and Judy kept telling us stories about people who walked for hours every week just to attend church. One woman walked four hours every Sunday! The people are extremely generous; they give almost all their money to support the churches. They live completely for Christ, and they were a great inspiration to me.

The staff of Bear Much Fruit Ministries were also quite exceptional. One of the pastors, Jeremiah, demonstrated following God to the fullest incredibly well. In his testimony, he talked about all the dangerous situations he has been in and how God helped. When he found Jesus, he committed everything to him. His education, his work, and his energy were all used for God's glory.

Prayer Points

- Health and safety for the staff of Bear Much Fruit Ministries
- God's continued blessing on the Philippines
- Completion of the projects we were unable to finish
- Access to land to build the church
- Further access and assistance for the SPED schools

~ Alex Graf