



The Mindanao Report

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Two Years in the Philippines!

Time sure does fly fast, but we are glad to be ministering in the Philippines for two years now! Pictured above is a pulpit an American friend of mine made for us with a nice native feel to it. It is very professionally done, as he has over 60 years experience in construction and woodworking. He even helped us draft a design for our house! We met in an S&R store (same as Costco in the states, they even have Kirkland brand) and I saw him in the frozen section and I felt very strongly led of the LORD to talk to him. His name is Roger, and he is 74 years old. He says he is, "steeped in Roman Catholicism" although he hasn't talked much about his faith and he doesn't go to church. He will talk some, but mostly I am able to insert Bible verses, testimonies, and things going on in our ministry into our conversations. Please pray for Roger's salvation; that God would open up his heart to talk about spiritual things. He is building a house in El Salvador, so he will be a close neighbour!

Soon the new school semester will start at Happy Land International School (owned by Koreans), and I will continue teaching Bible two days a week in 6 classes! I am excited to get back to work on this, and we have teamed up with a friend of mine who recently became a missionary, brother Samuel Rodriguez! He will also be ministering in the school and teaching the younger grades! He is an old friend from our home state in Michigan. He married a Filipina from Cebu, but they had to go to Dubai in order to have their wedding (due to Covid). Later they came back to the Philippines in Cebu where we were able to meet them and their beautiful little girl Isabella! Now she is pregnant with twins! Who would have thought that a couple of American missionaries would team up with some Koreans in order to win a bunch of Filipino kids to the LORD JESUS? That's the Lord! Glory to God!

We also had a major problem with the van, the cross bearing (u-joint) was loose on the drive shaft which made it not very safe to drive. The shop said they couldn't get the part except from Manila and it would take 3 months! But since my car is a Hyundai, I asked my Korean friends if they could help and their mechanic friend had the part and got it fixed for FREE! Hallelujah!

But for the time we endured the trial of not having a van I was forced to commute back and forth to the mechanics shop. But this setback gave me a good opportunity to witness to a taxi driver named **Nelson**. He was very excited when I spoke to him in Cebuano and we talked casually for a few minutes and then I preached to him for about a solid 15 minutes and he listened very intently. He said he lives close to our area even though he is working downtown (1 hr drive) he said he would like to come and hear the preaching sometime!



This month has been very fruitful for opening new doors of ministry! I set out to gain permission to preach in government buildings, businesses and schools. The first place I visited was the police. The head commander was not there that day and I was told to come back tomorrow. The following day I asked verbal permission to come and give devotional to the officers, and he said yes! I also submitted a formal request to the mayor to preach anywhere in the city and it was also approved! I now have opportunities to preach to the Police (pictured above) once a week, the local medical centers (once a week), and I even preached in a bank (pictured below)! The two on the far left and the one directly behind me are the bank guards, and I have been talking to them, witnessing, and building relationships with them ever since we moved to El Salvador.

The language is coming along good and I have been able to extract much from an old dictionary and put it into an Excel spreadsheet for learning. Then I go over the words with brother Alex (my language teacher) to make sure each definition is correct, and then start making example sentences. Although I may learn the common use of the words in every day speech, I am primarily looking for application to make the preaching CLEAR. It's hard enough with language barriers and the fact that they themselves mix their dialects all together, but in preaching we want the message from the word of God to be clear to them.

We hope to have some Cebuano Bibles shipped to us soon, as we need it! We also need more King James Bibles for our English students at Happy Land, as they are being taught more through verse by verse, and it is helpful for them to be able to mark their Bibles properly. All they have now are the corrupt new versions to work with, so that makes our job a little more difficult. But nonetheless there is much work to be done before Jesus comes, so let's press on!

In Christ Jesus - The White Family

