



Seek God Ministries

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Ministry Update May 30, 2015

My soul will boast in the LORD; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. Glorify the LORD with me; let us exalt His name together. I sought the LORD, and He answered me; He delivered me from all my fears. (Psalms 34:2-4)

Greetings Dear Friends,

It has been way too long since our last newsletter, I apologize. As usual, much has been happening here. In early March, our main ministry website at SeekGod.org began to experience problems with forms and other things. It turned out that the outdated program I used to create the website was no longer supported. I knew that day was coming but was unprepared and thought that I would have some warning before it quit working. Soon after that, I began to receive warnings from Google that our site was not mobile friendly and that would put us in a low rank on their search engine. It was clear that I needed to completely re-create the website in a new way and that meant I needed to learn a lot as soon as possible.

I can say that the Lord really gave me wisdom on how to do some things. However, it was a lot of work and very time consuming. I decided to move most of the content from SeekGod.org to our new site at God.net. We setup God.net last year with the help of a developer and it was already mobile friendly. My thought was that it may be better to shift the traffic we get at SeekGod.org to God.net because of it being a three-letter domain and it should do well in the search engines for God seekers. The idea seems to be working we are receiving over 1000 visitors per day at God.net and I believe it will increase as we add resources to the site. The Lord has really positioned us to reach a whole new generation of God seekers around the world.

Many of you know we have been praying for a new van for the ministry in The Philippines, for a long time. The Lord has answered our prayers. Gateway Fellowship, our church family that sent us out from the USA collected funds from the congregation and purchased a new 2015 Toyota HiAce van for us. It is a major breakthrough for us and the ministry here - a most-needed tool.



What seemed like a dream



... has become a reality

We just received the van a couple weeks ago and we are still adjusting to having reliable transportation again. A big thank you to our friends at Gateway and to all our partners who have contributed to our ability to continue doing ministry in The Philippines.

The Least of These

In 2008, we had just arrived in The Philippines. Seeing the needy kids in our neighborhood, we decided to start an outreach program. We invited local kids to come on Saturday and learn about Jesus. That was the start of our Kingdom Kids program. We provided lunch for the kids because many were very poor and hungry. Later we changed the name to Kingdom Celebration because the kids were growing up and adults and teens liked to attend also.



Above is a picture of Kingdom Kids in 2008 soon after we began the program. The kids have all grown a lot since this picture was taken. Our son Joshua is in middle of the first row. He is now taller than me and still growing, he will be 16 in October. Notice the little boy on the left end of the first row wearing a yellow t-shirt. His name is Jason. Jason is a special child, he had some development issues including the fact that he could not talk, he was mute. He could hear ok and understand some things but he could not speak, even when he tried to. Jason has always been small for his age in the picture above he was about ten years old. Jason never fit in with other kids and he was often made fun of and not included. However, Jason found an oasis at Kingdom Kids. There, people were nice to him and included him in activities. We prayed for him many times and when we had visitors, we had them pray for Jason also.

We did not see any instant miracles but something started to happen during worship. Jason began to be touched by the presence of God. He would have his eyes closed and tears would flow down his cheeks. He was having encounters with Jesus. It became a common occurrence for Jason during worship. Later, we were able to get Jason to say one word, "Jesus". Jason continued to develop the ability to speak. Now, he can speak in short sentences, a big accomplishment considering that he was mute for the first 12 years of his life. He still has some disabilities but he knows Jesus.

Below, Jason in 2008



Jason now in 2015



Jason also has a desire to sing so when he wants to we let him try. His favorite song is "How Great is Our God". He always wants to sing that song. However, he can only get through a line or two and then he gets overwhelmed and puts the mic down. Joshua is on the guitar helping Jason sing.



Jason is 18 years old now. He earns some money by carrying water and other simple jobs he can do. Jason is one of the least of these Jesus talked about. He is also one of the reasons that the Lord sent us to The Philippines.

In heaven, we will know Jason in a completely new way and it will be interesting to learn his whole story. Jason is an example of how people are transformed by experiencing the presence of God. The Kingdom of God is established first in our own lives and then in the environments we invite Jesus to occupy and reign in. Then He does the work.



Above, Kingdom Celebration May 30, 2015

In the picture above, some of the kids are showing their new backpacks. We gave out backpacks and school supplies to some of the needy kids. School begins the first week of June in The Philippines. June is also the traditional start of rainy season. March through May is considered to be the summer or dry season. We have had a very hot dry season this year it was great for the Mango crop but hard on the people. We are thanking God for the new van and air-conditioning every time we use it.

Having the new van opens up new potential ministry opportunities in The Philippines. Developing God.net increases our ministry impact through the internet. We are very excited about the future and we are really seeking the Lord for wisdom and what He will have us do with these resources. Good ideas are not always God ideas. The success we have seen has always come from listening to the voice of the Lord and following His will. We know that He as positioned us and given us tools to advance His Kingdom, for His glory. Our goals as always are to make disciples of Jesus and edify the body of Christ. Thank you partners for joining us in this adventure. Your support has been vital for the ministry and continues to be vital.

In the past, we received some support from other countries, especially in Asia and the Middle East. However, over the last few years countries have been passing laws to make it illegal to give money to a NGO or Non-Profit organization outside of their own country. Even PayPal is restricted. This has hurt us. If you are in one of those countries and would like to help us continue doing what we are doing in The Philippines and on the Internet, you can give money to my personal PayPal account in the USA.

You can send funds through PayPal to my personal account email: GaryRobertBallard@gmail.com this is a personal account and you can give as you would send money to a friend. Let me know if you have any problems doing this.

If you are in a country that allows you to donate to a US based organization then you can give directly to Seek God Ministries through PayPal at the website, go to <http://www.seekgod.org/> and click on the "Donation" button.

You can also send a check to the addresses below.

<p>This is our mail address for donations in the USA...</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Seek God Ministries 1165 W Ironwood Dr Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814-2604 USA</p>	<p>In the Philippines you can send donations in Pesos to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Seek God Ministries PO Box 140 Subic Bay Freeport Zone Philippines 2222</p>
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If you need information to do a bank transfer you can reply to this email or use our contact form online.

We are so thankful for the Lord's provision and we are so thankful for YOU. All of you who pray for us and give financially to help us continue. THANK YOU! We know that the Lord sends very special people to help in this ministry. The Lord is the One building the Transformation Center; He is the One producing fruit in the lives of people as each of us obey His voice.

We love you, and pray God's blessings on you and your family,
Gary, Suzzhette, and Kids

As it is written: "HE HAS DISPERSED ABROAD, HE HAS GIVEN TO THE POOR; HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ENDURES FOREVER." Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God. For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God. (2nd Cor. 9:9-12)