

Christmas 2008 Newsletter

Merry Christmas!
from
Seek God Ministries

Thank You for being our friend and partner in the ministry. We have been able to do some Christmas outreaches in the Philippines that have touched the hearts of some of the kids here, thanks to your help and prayers.

At the elementary school near our place we were able to share the love of Jesus and the gospel message to all the kids at their big Christmas party. We were warmly received by the administration and the children. The teachers had made a list of the kids most in need in each class. We gave out gifts and New Testament Bibles to 220 of the poorest kids in the school.

At the Kingdom Kids Christmas party we had about 90 kids show up. They all had a lot of fun and we had gifts for all of them.



Kingdom Kids Christmas party, most of the bigger kids are missing from the picture, there were a lot of activities that day.

The Kingdom Kids also had their first Christmas concert, which we held at the elementary school. It was a good experience for everyone and especially the kids. The kids sang songs, performed skits, and the Kingdom Kids band led worship. All the kids performed very well.



Christmas Outreach at the public school





Some of the bigger kids performing a skit



The Kingdom Kids Band

One of the good things about Christmas in the Philippines is that it is not just a day; it is more like a season. It starts early, like in October for some people, and goes through New Years day.

We are one day ahead of most of you so we actually celebrated Christmas yesterday. It was a special time for us because Anthony, a boy we took off the streets 11 years ago celebrated Christmas with us. It was actually at Christmas time in 1997 when we first met him. He was living in a kind of park near a busy street in Manila. I thought he was about 8 or 9 years old at that time but it turned out that he was actually 11, he is now 22. Anthony was alone, surviving on his own at the time. When we asked who takes care of you? He said, "I take care of me".

When we first met Anthony he was smaller than Joshua is now. Joshua is our 9 year old son. Think about that he was in Manila, a huge city, alone, and taking care of himself as a little boy.



The picture on the left is Anthony the night we took him off the street at Christmas time in 1997. The one on the right was taken the next day. We saw the Lord do a quick work in him.

One night when I was having dinner with Anthony I looked at him and thought he must pray when he was alone and looks up at the stars at night. I knew that he slept on the seawall beside Manila bay. The concrete would hold in some of the heat from the day and it helped keep him warm at night.

So I asked him what he prayed at night. He looked up at me and with a very serious look said, "I pray God help me". When he said that immediately the Lord spoke to my heart and said when Anthony prayed for help I sent you to come and help him. Then I had a scary thought I almost did not come to the Philippines on that trip, I had excuses. I am very thankful that I obeyed.

Many times in the Philippines we have been the answer to someone's prayers. There are still many kids like Anthony who need help. Some need to be rescued, some need a meal, some need clothes or shoes, and they all need to experience God's love. That is why we are here and that is why you are helping us to help them.

Anthony was the first street kid that God used to really touch our hearts. Some of you have read some of his story on our web site and you may have been wondering what ever happened to him. I know that I need to update the story with more details; it is one of the things on my to-do-list. The short story is God has taken care of him and answered our prayers for him. The Lord miraculously allowed us to stay in contact with him through the years.

Anthony has a call of God on his life, which we have known since he was a boy. He is now expressing his desire to be used by God in ministry. In the future I believe Anthony will be helping us rescue other kids like him from the streets. Currently he is a salesman at a cell phone store at a big shopping mall in Manila. He was given one day off for Christmas and traveled here to spend it with us. He is a part of our family. We have always accepted him as such, and we wanted to adopt him but the laws in the Philippines made it seem impossible when he was a boy. However, we know that the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of adoption, has bonded us to him.

Everywhere we go we look for poor kids in need to see how we can touch them with God's love. Most of the time they come to me before I even see them, I know it is God who sends them to us. Often they are hungry. We feed them. We talk to them and listen to them. We try to get to know them and their situation to see how we can best help them. We often pray with them.

The picture below shows our family along with Anthony. It was taken on Christmas evening here.



Anthony, Gary, Suzzhette, Joshua, Alianna and Shekinah.

*A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families;
(Psalms 68:5 – 6a)*

For now we pray God's blessing on you and your family. We hope your Christmas is special and your New Year is bright in God's love.

We are now praying about and planning to do some outreaches into some very poor areas of Manila and possibly Angeles City. We will be working with some churches in those areas to impact very poor children with God's love. Pray that the Lord will guide us to the place and people He wants us to go to.

We love you. Thank you again you for being our friend and partner.

Seek God Ministries
www.SeekGod.org

He who has compassion on the poor lends to the Lord, And the Lord will pay back what he has given. (Proverbs 19:17)

If you sense the Lord calling you to join with us, pray and ask the Lord what He would have you give. You can send donations to our address in the USA at:

Seek God Ministries
P O Box 100
Otis Orchards, WA 99027

If you want to send your gift electronically you can use a credit card, bank card, or a personal check. Just go to the web site at www.SeekGod.org and click on the **Make A Donation** button. It will take you to our secure PayPal connection.

In the Philippines you can send donations to:

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