



Seek God Ministries

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Ministry Update September 27, 2013

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (Matthew 28:18-19 NKJV)

Dear friends and partners:

As I am beginning to write this update, the sun is shining. It may only last a few minutes, but it is a welcome break from the rain we have been experiencing. We have just gone through another round of flooding in our region, much of it in the same places as about a month ago. In a nearby city, the flood was considered by many to be their worst ever. The water came up so fast that many were not able to save anything but their lives. The water was muddy and the people were left with about a foot of mud mixed with garbage to clean up. There were also people killed in mud slides in some areas.



We experienced more water damage at the Transformation Center. We simply do not have the finances to keep up with the repairs that are needed. We do the best we can putting temporary band-aids where we can, trying to minimize the damage. However, sometimes the rain seems relentless. As I am writing this, a typhoon is forming to the west of us and another one is beginning to form over the ocean to the east of us. Neither storm is coming toward us however; they can have a big affect on our weather, especially rainfall. Sometimes the storms cause big monsoon rain clouds to park and remain over our region for days and that is what has been causing the flooding. We are asking you to agree with us in prayer for the rain to stop here and that we would have a drying out period of good weather so that people can recover.

We have another prayer request also. We need a new van, it does not have to be brand new but at least a late model that is reliable would be a great blessing. Our current van needs frequent repairs to keep it going. It is old, nearly 20 years old. We have been struggling to keep it going for more than two years now. It is a constant challenge in our lives. All of the places we minister require travel and we need to be able to get supplies and transport kids. The van has been very difficult to start for months, and getting worse. I was not able to start it yesterday. So far, I have not been able to start it today. It is Friday here, the day we prepare for Kingdom Celebration. We need the van to get food and transport it to Kingdom Celebration so we can feed the kids there. Our van has been a major tool in our ministry. It takes us to the street kids so we can minister to them. Without transportation, we are greatly hindered.

Below Raysun 10, and Raymond 12



Raysun and Raymond are with us at the Transformation Center. I have mentioned them in a previous newsletter. They are part of Kingdom Celebration and have been for a few years. Last week we had wonderful KC, several kids were really touched by the presence of God and Raymond was one of them. We are seeing many of the kids going to a new level in their relationship with the Lord. Kids are falling in love with Jesus.

Raysun and Raymond have been drawing a lot of pictures since they came to the TC. They keep asking for paper and giving us back drawings that show them included in our family. They also write things like, "I love Jesus", "I love mommy and daddy", meaning Suzzhette and me. They also tell how much they "love family". They are obviously hoping that we would take them in a permanent way.

If we were set up to be able to provide long term residential care we would take them, and some other kids we know who are in need also. These two are good kids and I believe they have great potential including some talents.

This week I have been again concerned about our financial situation. When I was wondering how bad things might get I remembered how we have always had food and shelter.

The Lord has always taken care of us in so many ways. We have so much to be thankful for and we are very thankful to those who are supporting us in the ministry.

This is an example of how your perspective affects your attitude: I was battling some despair on a rainy day this week, thinking about all we need to make good use of our properties. Then I looked at Raysun and Raymond and realized they feel like they are living in heaven. They are so happy to be with us. The home they came from is a typical squatter house in The Philippines, which is more like a kids play fort in the USA. Their house does not keep the rain out. Recently their roof blew away in a storm; they are using a vinyl tarp we gave them as a roof now. They often go hungry, especially when the rains are heavy because their family depends on what they can find to sell for recycling. Many times, we have seen Raymond and Raysun walking along the road or highway carrying sacks over their shoulders, as they look for bottles, plastic or anything they can sell. That is how they make some money to buy rice and survive another day. In spite of their hardships, I have never heard them complain about anything. They are thankful.

When we only see things from our own perspective, we miss the big picture. We were both living in the same place, eating the same food, experiencing the same environment but I was focused on how much we need to do and how far we need to go, they were focused on how far they have come. They are thankful and happy. When I think about how far we have come I am also thankful and happy.

Below is a drawing from Raymond. I think it tells a lot. The house being hit by lightning is their house. You can see how violent the wind and the rain are. It shows a flood with debris in the water. In the boat is Raysun, their seven year old sister, and Raymond is the one holding the umbrella. The umbrella is being blown by the wind and difficult for him to hold. Raymond has a sad face. I think the boat represents being rescued from the flood. It is interesting that it is just those three in the boat. I think that Raymond feels some responsibility for Raysun and his sister to help them escape the storm.



We are very excited about what God is doing in Kingdom celebration. Below is a recent picture.



I mentioned in the last newsletter that I had backed up over one of our cats in the driveway, but it had survived. The kids all prayed for the cat right when it happened. It was really a miracle because there was no doubt the van tire went over the cat. It has been about six weeks since that happened and the cat continues to improve. I saw it jump today about four feet to get up on the stairs banister.

A big Thank You to all our partners. *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)*

Goals

Note: the list below is in priority order according to the needs of the ministry and the number of lives that are affected

1. More regular monthly support to continue the ministry and be able to help more kids. **Update** with our expenses and cost of operation our needed survival support is now at \$2,500 US dollars per month. When we get more than that we are able to do more than survive like do outreaches, maintenance on the buildings and other needed projects. Our goal is to get our support up to \$7,500 per month so that we can work on the transformation center and be able to take in children in need.
2. \$25,000 US dollars for a Toyota 15 Passenger van, our current van is a 1994 Toyota; it is 19 years old and has served us well for six years but is now requiring expensive repairs more frequently. We need transportation for so many things we do in The Philippines including outreaches to street kids.
3. \$35,000 USD to purchase the lot behind the Transformation Center to use as a mini-farm for raising produce for the ministry, to feed the poor, and for possible income. **Update** the bank who owns the lot has warned us that they have two offers on the property for commercial development. They now want 2.5 million pesos for the property which would be \$62,500 US dollars at 40 pesos per dollar. I am not sure if that price is true, we feel that we could get it for less with cash, but we do know people are interested in buying the big lot. It will be a loss if we are not able to obtain the lot because the Transformation Center would be surrounded on four sides and it will limit what we can do at the Transformation Center.
4. Funds for remodeling the Transformation Center we possibly need \$70,000 USD for completion but we can work in stages as funds become available.

We are so thankful for the Lord's provision and we are so thankful for YOU. All of you who have prayed for us and given financially to help us get this far, 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

This is our mail address for donations in the USA... Seek God Ministries 1165 W Ironwood Dr Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814-2604 USA	In the Philippines you can send donations in Pesos to: Seek God Ministries PO Box 140 Subic Bay Freeport Zone Philippines 2222
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