



Seek God Ministries

Website: www.SeekGod.org

Email: seekgod.team@gmail.com

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Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. (Ephesians 5:15-17)

Greetings Dear Friends,

We are on our way cruising through 2015, already. I am very optimistic about this year because I sense that the Lord is doing something in His people; and it seems that people in general have an increasing desire to know God. There is a new level of sensitivity to the things of God. The Lord has really been emphasizing to me that it is critical to know and do His will this year or we could miss important opportunities. It really is time for the body of Christ to reflect His will on earth as it is in Heaven. Which basically, means walking in love.

When you live and work in a place where the needs can be overwhelming the challenge sometimes is to allow the river of God's compassion to keep flowing through you. This means doing the best you can to help the person or group in front of you, as the Holy Spirit leads. For us, those are the opportunities God puts before us. Actually, for every Christian that is the challenge in life, to allow God's love to touch the people around you or close a gate in the dam of your heart and judge that certain one unworthy or undeserving.

The problem is when you shut the gate on one stream it affects the whole river, because it is alive. Jesus says in John 7:38 "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." The next verse tells us that He is speaking about the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of love is to flow freely from the presence of God in our spirit, then through our heart and out to other people. That anointing draws people to the God of love. This does not mean that we give them everything they want but it does mean that we give them what Jesus wants.

In the modern world, there are regulations and standards, which we have to comply. Even Heidi Baker (if you know who she is) says it is not as easy as before to take in kids now because of new laws in Mozambique. These laws come from the United Nations, specifically UNESCO. They teach governments how to comply with "world standards" in their view. The regulations make the cost higher and the ability more difficult to help kids in need.

We are still in a construction phase at the Transformation Center although; we have made much progress thanks to our partners. We also need to get to a higher level of monthly income to be able to provide for children to live at the Transformation Center in a more permanent way. In January our income was about half of our needed survival budget, \$3,500. To get to a level to sustain providing a home for kids would mean at least \$7,500 per month is needed.

However, our greatest need at this time for the ministry is reliable transportation. Our van is in the shop often and it currently has a transmission problem. We are using it the best we can but it has limitations, like little power when going up hills. To get anywhere in our area requires climbing many hills. One good thing is that the van does great going downhill.

Because of the van being in the shop and sometimes our lack of funding, we have not been able to attend Kingdom Celebration every week. Fortunately, we have a pastor and his wife who help us. They live near KC. They take over when we are not able to travel. We still provide finances for the food to feed all the kids and the other expenses even when we are not there.

The kids miss us, and some of them have needs because of their family situations, such as they need help with some expenses so they can attend school. Some do not get enough to eat and often go hungry. They all need love and soak up all they can.

Some of the most desperate kids from our KC program will sometimes travel all the way to the Transformation Center to see us. It takes two jeepney rides and one bus ride to get to us, about two to three hours travel time. We discourage the kids from doing that, one reason is for their own safety. We tell them do not come there unless we bring you in our van.

Last week the kids in the picture, below on the left side, showed up at the Transformation Center. Then this week the two kids in the picture on the right showed up. We got the van out of the shop this week so we were able to travel to KC on Saturday. Note the pictures are distorted to protect their identities.



We had a great time at Kingdom Celebration with the kids. Best of all, the presence of God was tangible. The worship was good, the message touched the kids and after that, there was a time of really seeking the Lord in worship and soaking. It is amazing to see the kids enter in, they were all touched by His presence, and a few had encounters of seeing Jesus and having Him speak to them. It seems we are having revival again.

In the first part of January, we traveled to a northern province so that we could minister in the two churches we oversee up there. We had not been there for a long time because of not being able to travel long distance with the van. We had to hire a taxi van and driver to take us there, but we knew it was important to the people and pastors. It was their church anniversaries and we missed them the year before because of the van. Church anniversaries are important times for churches in The Philippines. We were happy to see both churches doing so well and reaching many people in their communities. We had a good time fellowshiping with all the people.



Above left, outside, one of the churches. Above right, I am giving a message and our Pastor Jess is helping with translation. Below, the members of one of the churches.



In Other News....

On January 25th The Philippines Special Action Force (SAF) of the Philippine National Police tried to carry out a mission against two most wanted terrorist. One of the terrorist was killed however; the mission ended with 44 of the Special Forces troops being killed. They were surrounded in a corn field and attacked by fighters of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, the largest Islamic rebel group in the country, which signed a peace agreement with the Philippine government last year. The firefight lasted hours and the Special Forces ran out of ammunition. There was evidence that some

of the Special Forces Troops were executed point-blank. The response from the Islamic leader was "Don't blame us we lost men too."



There is national outrage in the country over the massacre and many are calling for the President to resign. One of the Special Force troops was from the town where we have the Transformation Center. The funeral was big, people came from faraway to pay their respects. The widow (pictured left) of the soldier killed from here is six months pregnant. The mother made a statement that they returned her son without hands and feet. School was out for a week while people mourned.

This is not something new to this part of the world. Parts of the southern most areas of The Philippines are mostly Muslim. The nation as a whole is a majority Catholic. The Transformation Center is not in a dangerous area. We are in the northern part of The Philippines, the problems are in the south near Indonesia and Malaysia.

Prayer Request:

For those of you who have visited us you know Dennis, our faithful helper since we came to The Philippines, actually he is more like a part of our family. The Lord connected us to him and his mother when I first came in 2005. Dennis was 16; he has grown up with our family and been a vital part of helping us here. His mother also worked for us a time when we first came. His mother has been in poor health for years and Saturday afternoon she passed out. We rushed her to the hospital (we thank God the van was working that day) and it seems that she has had a bad stroke. The right side of her body is affected and she cannot talk. They did a CAT scan on her today, Monday here. We will get the results tomorrow. Pray with us for them.

[Goals to Advance](#)

We are believing God for a new van. The cost is \$30,000 US dollars for a Toyota 15 Passenger van. Our current van is a 1994 Toyota; it is 20 years old and has served us well 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.

As we look ahead, we believe that the Lord will do greater things than in the past. The body of Christ is coming together in greater unity than we have seen before. There is also a greater hunger to know the Lord, from people who do not know Him, but also believers are wanting to know Him more and have a desire to feel closer to Him. Seven years ago we could not imagine the adventure that was before us, I have that same feeling of excitement today, for the next seven years. Our desire is the same as yours to do the will of the Father.

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. (Matthew 7:21 NKJV)

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)