



Seek God Ministries

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Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) is the man whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. Passing through the Valley of Weeping (Baca), they make it a place of springs; the early rain also fills [the pools] with blessings. They go from strength to strength [increasing in victorious power]; each of them appears before God in Zion. (Psalms 84:5-7 AMP)

To our good friends and partners,

We know that there is a lot of fear and uncertainty in the world, and especially in the USA at this time. We can feel it all the way to The Philippines. I have been asking the Lord about this. To be honest I have great peace in my heart and even some excitement for the future. For those who have positioned themselves in Christ this is our greatest time. If you depend on the world's version of the news, you may not know that a great worldwide revival has already begun. This is especially true in persecuted countries in the Middle East, China, Indonesia, and throughout Asia.

I also have great hope for the United States because there are so many good Bible believing Christians in the nation and I believe they are beginning to get serious about prayer. When I saw that the movie War Room was coming out at this time, I knew it was a call by God to the nation. I believe millions will respond, turn to God and tap into His peace. I really believe revival is coming to the USA. There has never been a time when the forces of Heaven were so active on the earth as they are now. Our Father in Heaven is quickly responding to those who turn to Him and believe in Him.

There is an unholy fear that comes from our enemy and tempts us to make wrong decisions. We know that spirit does not come from God. *For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (of cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear), but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control. (2nd Tim 1:7 AMP)* We must guard our hearts against the wrong kind of fear; it will lead to a trap.

However, there is also a holy fear that comes from God. The Bible says that Jesus' delighted in this kind of fear, and so should we. *And He will delight in the fear of the LORD, And He will not judge by what His eyes see, Nor make a decision by what His ears hear; (Isaiah 11:3 NASB).* The fear of the Lord will bring joy and peace to your heart. It will cause you to focus on what your Father in heaven is saying and doing, not what you are hearing in the physical realm. The fear of the Lord will keep you in a safe and blessed place, no matter where you are on earth. I heard one teacher say that the fear of the Lord keeps you face to face with the Father. I believe it. When you want to seriously hear someone, you look at their face.

The fear of the Lord is a healthy kind of fear. *In the fear of the LORD there is **strong confidence**, And his children will have refuge. The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, That one may avoid the snares of death, (Proverbs 14:26-27 NASB).* The word for *confidence* above means confidence, a safe place, security, assurance, hope, and trust.

We are coming up on our eighth anniversary since we came to The Philippines. We came here by faith obeying the voice of the Lord, even though it did not make sense by human logic. We arrived in November 2007. In 2008, there was a big recession in the United States economy. We did not have a lot of support built up before we came and we have had some lean times, however the Lord has always sustained us. We depend on Him to speak to His people. The people who have helped us are some of the most wonderful people I know. I believe the Lord calls those whom He wants to bless to help us. Our faithful supporters have been a chosen few. We are in a lean time at the moment, but I have every confidence in the Lord because we been through so much and He has always sustained us.

We have accomplished more than I could have imagined and touched more lives than we thought possible, just by following the Lord step by step. Faithfulness in the little things positions you to produce great fruit. Much of what we are doing in The Philippines is helping the poor. We ask God for wisdom and try to do things in a way to connect people to Jesus, not wanting them to look to us, but be thankful to God. For you who have helped us, through prayer and giving, you are also helping the poor and this promise is for you...

Blessed is he who considers the poor; The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble. The LORD will preserve him and keep him alive, And he will be blessed on the earth; You will not deliver him to the will of his enemies. The LORD will strengthen him on his bed of illness; You will sustain him on his sickbed. (Psalms 41:1-3 NKJV)

THE LEAST OF THESE



This boy I will call Ryan, not his real name. Ryan is an interesting kid; he says he is 8 or 9 years old. However, he really does not know how old he is, which is typical for a kid that has been neglected here. Ryan comes to our place to asking for food from time to time and we feed him. There is a lot we still need to learn about him. From what we understand, he sometimes lives with his grandmother, who is very poor. However, most of the time Ryan roams the streets in our small town and stays with different friends, getting food from whoever he can. He does not always tell the truth and is quick to make up stories, which keeps us wondering what the truth is.

Please note the picture above is distorted to protect his identity

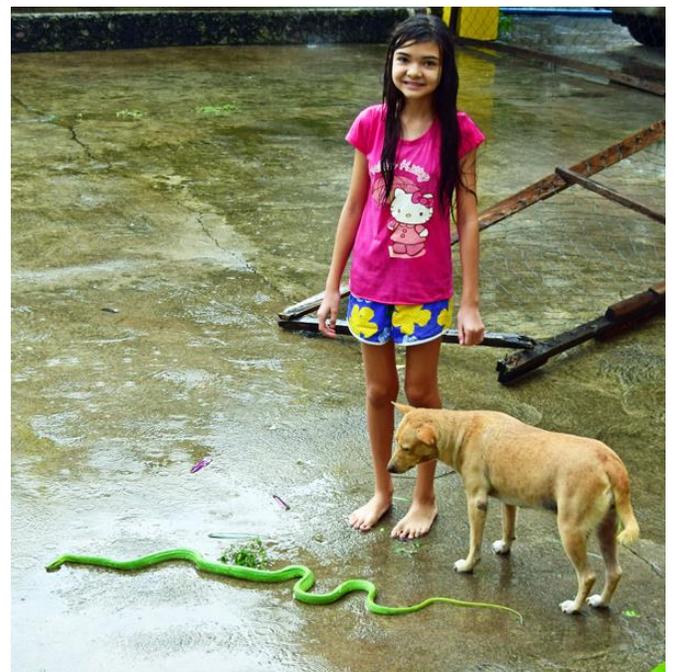
He is one of the poorest kids here. Ryan is actually quite smart and in spite of being so small may be a lot older than he looks. He is about the size of an average six year old in the US. However, the way he talks is like an older kid. Ryan is quite resourceful, you can see the gun he made out of bamboo and rubber bands; it has a trigger and shoots rubber bands. He also makes fishing poles out of bamboo and catches fish in the nearby river. He is acrobatic, and can easily do back flips

and other tricks. We know that he is one of the kids we are called to help, and it may be a long-term process. Pray for him, God has a plan for this smart kid with a wild imagination.

We live near a rain forest so we often see first-hand a selection of God's beautiful and diverse creatures. Most of the time we are not able to take a picture because we only get a quick glimpse before they disappear. This is especially true of colorful-beautiful birds and butterflies. However, we were able to get this picture of the three birds posing long enough to click the shutter.



During the rainy season jungle creatures like to move around. Recently, the two creatures below showed up at the Transformation Center, however not at the same time. The first was the green snake below, which was over 6 feet long. Our dogs alerted us when it was trying to crawl up our front porch. We later learned that it is not poisonous. Then a couple weeks ago a pastor friend was visiting when we again heard the dogs barking in a way that we knew there was an intruder, human or animal. We were outside at the time and saw our dogs chasing the big lizard around our property. It headed for our porch and as we were trying to capture him or her, it ran in our front door, which someone had left open. In the tropics we are used to the normal house lizards that hang out on the walls but this one is not someone we could get comfortable living with. It was an Asian Water Monitor and they can average about 6' long, the record is over 10' but this one was a little under 4'. While traveling one day we saw one cross the road that I believe was over 6' long. They like to hang out near swamps and they can also climb trees with their large claws and needle point nails. People have been injured when they were mistook for a tree. Their teeth are also very sharp. We did capture it and let it go in the place where we saw the bigger one before.



Above, Joshua holding an Asian Water Monitor

Shekinah looking at our green snake visitor

The internet ministry is continuing to grow in impact. We now have over 1500 visitors per day minimum and up to 3000 per day at times. The traffic is continuing to increase and we once again come up well in the search engines for people seeking God. You may remember a few months ago that we were forced to make some changes when Google changed their search formula. We switched much of our content to our God.net site to help increase traffic there. It turned out to be a God idea. Because it is a three letter domain and has a lot of good content it will continue to increase in traffic. When people are searching for God they often go to the internet. As we continue to add resources more and more people will be touched by God through this powerful tool. In addition, uncertainty in the world increases the number of people searching for God on the internet. Much of the traffic now is from cell phones and tablets from around the world.

We thank God for You! We are approaching our 8th anniversary of coming to The Philippines, it has been quite an adventure. When we consider what has been accomplished and how many people God has touched, we are always mindful of our partners, those who pray and support the ministry.

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.

If your country does not allow you to give to foreign NGO's 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.

You can also send a check by mail to the addresses below:

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

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, Suzzette, 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)