



Seek God Ministries – Philippines

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www.SeekGod.org

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Dear Friends and Partners:

I want to give you an update about what is happening with the house that we are trying to purchase for a children's home / orphanage, in The Philippines. We did have some money come in at the last minute for our first dead line but not enough to change our financial position and make the bank happy. We were not able to raise the money we needed to purchase the house as of the first deadline on July 4, 2010. However, the contract has a clause for a one year grace period in the event that we failed. Unfortunately, during the grace period interest accumulates on the purchase price at a high rate, possibly 14%,

We have met with the bank two times. The people at the bank are not so friendly anymore. They are disappointed that we did not raise more money by now. They are putting a lot of pressure on us to sign a new contract that would have very high payments, (which we can not afford) or they want us to cancel the contract so that they can quickly sell the place for a lot more money. They now have buyers interested in the place and willing to pay 12 million pesos, which is almost double what they agreed to sell the house to us for. It seems that they have people willing to bid against each other for the place now.

The bank rejected my proposal with terms we could live with. Some news just came out that may have something to do with the sudden big interest in the property, in addition to it being such a bargain. Below is a news article...

Korean Invested in Morong-Subic Resort
Thursday, 22 July 2010

A new investor from Korean property developer M Castle Philippines Ltd. gave \$1-billion boost up to the Foreign Direct Investments at the Subic Bay Freeport for the 615-hectare property in Morong, Bataan which will be called Resom Resort City, Subic. Last January, the Korean firm

guaranteed a \$350,000 investment which resulted to the registration of its business at the Freeport.

Last May of this year, the company also set an additional pledge which sum to \$1 billion. According to SBMA the total FDIs in the first semester raised to over \$1.1 billion based from the preliminary figure of \$114.58 million. The resort will offer beach condo units, villas, a five star casino hotel, a marina club, a 36-hole golf course, water park, convention facility, medical center, shopping mall, and an English-language learning center. [via globalnation.inquirer.net] End of Article.

A 1.1 billion dollar resort here is a very big investment. I am not sure of the exact location of this but it has to be on the same highway as the house and is likely not far from the house, probably less than ten minutes away. I am sure this will increase the value of the house and property even more. It is likely that some people became aware of this and realized that it would increase property values.

As for us it is unlikely that we could find another place like this and especially at such a cheap price in The Philippines. Real estate prices here are continuing to go up, especially in our region. We continue to believe that the Lord led us to this place and that He wants us to use it for His glory. There are so many kids that we already know who need to be rescued from life on the streets. We can't think of the house without thinking about them. We do not like to have the bank unhappy with us and sometimes we feel like giving up. However, when we think about the kids that we could bring to that place and the ministry opportunities in a place that big we know that we must not just give up while there is still hope.

It seems that the bank may be preparing legal action to try and get out of the contract. We had an attorney look at the contract, unofficially. He thinks that the bank will have to honor it. At this point all we can do is stand and trust God. We know it is in His hands.

For now we are in the same position as we have been. If we are able to raise the money for the house before the bank finds a way out of the contract we will purchase the house. We need another 5 million pesos plus the closing cost, which totals about \$120,000 US dollars for everything. That amount is increasing as time goes by because of the high interest being added on.

We sent a registered letter to the bank letting them know that we expect them to honor the contract which we all agreed to. We also confirmed that we are exercising our right for the one year grace period. We also sent another payment for 300,000 pesos toward the purchase as a good faith gesture. They rejected it.

You may be wondering why we are concerned if we have a contract with a grace period. Three reasons:

- 1) Currently the interest rate is adding on to the cost of the house at a much greater rate than money is coming in to pay toward the house.
- 2) This is The Philippines, not the USA. Justice here is not always just. People with a lot of money can have power and influence, even over governmental authorities. In other words they can make what they want to happen, happen. We do not want to be involved in a legal fight.
- 3) Only a relatively few people have responded to give toward the house probably less than a dozen, so far. We have had a lot of verbal encouragement but the giving response has been much less than we had hoped for. Considering the long term ministry potential per dollar and the number of kid's lives we can save by bringing them to this big house we thought people would want to be more involved. However, we still have hope and believe that the Lord is calling more people to be involved and that the giving will match this great opportunity.

Actually even our regular giving to the ministry has gone down during the time since we signed the contract for the house. Also many things have come against us since then. I can think of a whole list which I am not going to name here and give the enemy glory. Also that can actually be a good sign; it seems that Satan does not want us to get the house.

Sometimes our faith feels a little weak but we continue to hold on to hope. Deep in my heart I think we need to faith-it-out, as I call it, basically

perseverance. In one of our meetings at the bank their attorney said, "Maybe God does not want you to have the house." Faith rose up inside of me when I heard that and I said, "We did not go into this lightly, we looked at the place for months before we ever made the first call to the bank, we have prayed about it a lot. When we first looked in the house we saw how it was perfectly designed to be an awesome Children's Home / orphanage. The house sat vacant for five years with no buyer until we signed the contract, we believe that God kept it for us."

That is the battle we have been going through. We do believe that the house is a God idea and a God setup. We also know kids that need a place to live and that helps keep us going. One morning we were feeling discouraged because of a meeting with the bank the day before. Then a boy came to our house, it was Joe-Joe. He is mentioned in my early newsletters when we came to The Philippines. He is a street kid who we met in the market, one of the first we connected with here, he is a tough kid on the outside, and he seemed like a hard case.

We have planted a lot of seeds in Joe-Joe over time. He came to tell us that he had given his life to Jesus. He and two other kids that we know who are living on the street got together and decided to pray and ask God in their hearts. The other two kids are two brothers that need a place to live they are on our "wish we could give a home to - list". I asked Joe-Joe did you feel Jesus come in and he said, "Yes I felt so good and happy inside, now I'm a good boy." His testimony was a big encouragement to us. We are so thankful to the Lord for the things He is doing. We also continue to get daily testimonies from the Internet Ministry at www.SeekGod.org

In the last twenty four hours we have had three recommitments to the Lord and one first time salvation, also below are five of the testimonies we received on the internet in the last twenty four hours. The Holy Spirit is ministering to people continuously around the world through the www.SeekGod.org web site. To Jesus be all the glory.

- A woman in the USA wrote, You have given me hope when there was no hope!
- A man in Taiwan said, "this is the most amazing website I've ever seen. Thanks God." He said he was searching for "God" on the internet.

- A woman from England wrote; "God spoke to me in my dream last night, he told me that he will renew me. I dropped myself to the ground and cried and worshiped him. My letter from God is the same message I had from God in my dream. I want to be part of this ministry and serve my God."

- A pastor in the USA wrote; In my research, I sometimes check the web to see what is out there. Your website and teaching is by far the BEST. Everything you say is followed by scripture. I hope to donate monthly; we just started a home church last year. Found By: website search "How to hear the voice of God"

- A 17 year old boy from the USA wrote; "Thank you so much for the help and encouragement and guidance through these tough times. I'm now moving forward in God!" Found by: "Online searching for spiritual guidance and help."

We also had some partner friends pledge to give \$1000 dollars next month. I could not help but think if just one-hundred people did that we could have the house pretty much paid for. It is really an easy thing for the Lord to do and I believe that we are coming into a break through season.

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Romans 5:1-5)

Thank You for being our friend and partner in the ministry. Because of your partnership, together we are bringing God's love in word and deed to those most in need. We love you and always include our partners in our prayers.

Gary Ballard
Seek God Ministries

There are several ways you can give. For large contributions contact us for bank transfer information. support@seekgod.org

You can donate in U.S. Dollars or Philippine Pesos

You can send checks by mail to:

In the USA	In The Philippines
Seek God Ministries P O Box 100 Otis Orchards, WA 99027 USA	Seek God Ministries PO Box 140 Subic Bay Freeport Zone Philippines 2222

You may also give safely online through PayPal and you can use a credit card, bank card, or check. The funds will be available for us to use right away. 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.

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

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