



Seek God Ministries

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Ministry Update June 3, 2012

Dear friends and partners:

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me"; Jesus (John 14:1)

We have a ministry update from the Philippines. But, first if you are experiencing some difficult situations in your life I want to encourage you in the Lord. Many people are battling discouragement and even despair. We also go through many challenges here in The Philippines. The Bible says in Psalms 34:19 *Many are the afflictions of the righteous, But the LORD delivers him out of them all.* Could it be that afflictions help to make the righteous, righteous? It seems that the Lord is greatly developing the character of His people through tough life circumstances. We are learning to know God more, depend on Him, and trust Him like never before. This all causes us to love Him more and that is what the Lord is perfecting inside of all of us, the love of God.

The Lord has been speaking to me from the verse above, John 14:1. The word "troubled" means to be disturbed with various emotions; it is the opposite of experiencing peace. Why would believing in Jesus keep us from being troubled? The reason is because when we meditate on Jesus and His mission we experience the peace of God. Jesus' mission is to restore us into a right relationship with the Father so that we have peace with God, unity. Basically, Jesus came to rescue us from everything bad (including bad feelings) and give us everything good. Can you think of one problem that can not be solved by abiding in Christ? *He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not **with Him** also freely give us all things? (Romans 8:32)*

Two important keys to walking in the peace of God are **hearing** and **obeying** the voice of God; in other words being led by the Holy Spirit. *"If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper (Comforter), that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. (John 14:15-18)* Because Jesus rescued us from sin and the affects of sin at the cross believers now have the presence of God in us. Jesus told the disciples I am not leaving you like orphans. I am with you now and after I go to the Father I will come back and be in you through the Spirit of Truth. Too often we are focused on our needs and problems and are not tuned into Christ in us the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:27)

Jesus says, *My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. (John 10:27)* As we obey the voice of God every need is provided. He leads us into blessing and provision. *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want (need) (Psalms 23:1).* He is everything we need and He is in us. Every resource we need is inside of us. However, we must be willing to do, and give, when the Lord prompts us so that the river can continue to flow through us. Do not allow a dam of fear to rise up in your heart and block the river of life and love in you from touching others. Your greatest opportunities to be blessed by God are now. *I sought the LORD, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to Him are radiant with joy; their faces will never be ashamed. (Psalms 34:4-5 HCSB)*

There are so many other scriptures about the peace of God and all the things that Jesus rescued us from at the cross. Meditate on those things, you may need to turn the news off. Yes the world is getting darker but that is when we are to shine the brightest. *Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. (Isaiah 60:1-2)* We have to be careful about what we meditate on. *If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory. (Colossians 3:1-4)* Notice that we are with Christ now, when He appears in the future we do not go to meet Him, we appear with Him because we are already with Him.

Back to our update: First, we have had another breakthrough and conquered another goal. In the last newsletter we still needed \$15,000 US dollars to complete the transaction for the Transformation Center. A generous donor has given the \$15,000 and we have already met with the bank and received our Deed of Absolute Sale. It takes about one month for the whole process of transferring the title of the property to Seek God Ministries. The bank is working on it now. There are several taxes, fees, recordings, and various steps to secure the title. However, everything is finished on our part and we should receive the title in a month or so.



Above, Ryan about two years ago

We had some sad news about one of the street kids who we were hoping to bring to the Transformation Center when it is ready. One of the kids told me "Ryan is dead". The news really affected me. Just a few months ago he was asking to go home with us and I told him we are not ready yet. Now, I wish I would have done more. That was not the first time he asked to go with us, but I did not know it would be his last. Ryan had a mom but he was very neglected and the mother used him to beg and bring money to her. The mom is very poor but that is all we know about her.

Ryan came to his mom's place and passed out. He died in the night. We don't know for sure what happened but the kids on the street think he overdosed on alcohol and sniffing glue, which is very possible. He was 12 or 13 years old but small for his age. In the three years that we knew of him he did not seem to grow, which is common here. Kids do not just grow from good food and vitamins they also grow from love. Ryan was neglected in every way. **On the right Ryan and our son Joshua about two years ago.** Joshua also wanted to bring Ryan home with us. The news has affected our whole family and we have decided to do more if at all possible, especially for the ones who are asking us to help them escape from the life they have on the street.



It is the beginning of rainy season in The Philippines and we have been experiencing some heavy rains already. We have some leaks and problems with the way the rain gutters drain. Our priority goal at the Transformation Center is to secure it from further water damage. We could use more funds for repairs and for monthly expenses. There is still so much work to do on the house before we can take in kids.

Recently we had some friends visit us and teach some things about gardening and making use of the resources we have at hand. One of our big goals is to purchase the farm lot directly behind the

Transformation Center. There is a lot of we can grow there, it is fertile ground and now we know how to organically make it much more fertile. We also have an abundance of water and sun. It really makes sense to take advantage of the resources here to produce food. We believe we can produce an abundance and also sell some for income also.

Below, the farm lot behind the transformation center.



Everyone knows there is a coming food shortage in the world. Now is the time to prepare. Not only that we want to make it part of our training here for the kids. It will be a place they can work and learn how to grow fruits and vegetables and take care of farm animals.

The Philippines has an abundance of nutritional foods and natural medicines that are grown here. We live next to a rain forest and we are always learning more about the awesome plants the Lord has blessed us with in this region. We believe we can purchase the farm lot for 1.5 million pesos, which is about \$35,000 US dollars currently.

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. I am really amazed by the partners the Lord calls to help us. The Lord is the one building the Transformation Center and this ministry as He speaks to people and they respond. We love you, and pray God's blessings on you and your family,

Gary, Suzzette, and Kids
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Goals: more monthly support for ministry; \$35,000 USD for farm lot; \$23,000 US dollars for transport van; funds for remodeling the Transformation House possibly \$50,000 for completion but we can work in stages as funds become available.

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)

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