



Seek God Ministries

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Ministry Update November 30, 2014

But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. (Colossians 3:14-15 NKJV)

Dear Friends:

It is the end of Thanksgiving weekend in America. We also celebrated Thanksgiving in The Philippines with some close friends visiting from the USA and with some of our good friends in The Philippines. It is refreshing to take some time and reflect on the Lord's goodness and faithfulness. November, is very special to us this year, because we have reached a milestone. It was seven years ago that we arrived in The Philippines and began a great adventure. On the right is our kids and Suzzhette looking at the plane that was about to take us across the Pacific Ocean, seven years ago. We really did not know what to expect. Looking back, we are so thankful for the Lord's guidance, protection, and provision.



We are also very thankful for YOU, those who have prayed for us and who have sowed financially into the ministry. What we have been able to do has happened because you have answered the call with us. As each of us responds to the call of God in our heart with obedience, God is glorified and we all are positioned for blessing. I used to say that we came here by faith, which is true, but now I know it was not by our faith, it was by the faith of God, His faith, His plan. As we walk in obedience we often can only see the next step and many times it is not totally clear. However, if your heart's desire is to do the will of God and you seek His will when making decisions, He will guide you with His peace. That is how we got here and that is how you have participated with us.

When I look back over the last seven years I am amazed that we were able to do so much, it was obviously God doing the work. Many have been touched by Jesus and given their lives to Him. We have provided thousands of meals to poor and hungry kids; and given hundreds of items of clothing. We gave multitudes of shoes and flip-flops to kids with bare feet or who were wearing ragged foot wear. We have rescued a few kids from the streets and taken them in to our home. We have done many outreaches for street kids, feeding them, praying for them, bringing the love of Jesus to them. That is one of our favorite things to do.

We have helped poor kids continue their education and stay in school with assistance, and we have helped a few go on to college. Some have now graduated and are working. We have seen many kids in our Kingdom Celebration program grow up before our eyes. We have also seen our own kids grow up here. They became fluent in the language and are now an important part of the ministry.

Below, on the left the kids are singing the "Revelation Song" in a church before we came to The Philippines. On the right the kids now, leading worship. They all sing, Joshua plays guitar and Alianna plays keyboard. They still sing the "Revelation Song" and every time they do the presence of God fills the room.



One of the ways you can really mark time is by seeing the growth and changes in children. In the pictures below on the left is our family after we arrived in The Philippines and on the right our family now.



It has not always been easy in The Philippines. However, we have seen God's protection in spite of some challenges. We had two vehicle accidents (not our fault) both of which could have been much worse. In one, we were hit by a bus; some of the bus lines are known for dangerous driving in The Philippines. In the other, it was almost a head-on collision on the expressway. There were no injuries in either accident. Just driving in traffic here can be a challenge but the Lord has kept us safe. The only time we have had to go to the hospital was when Joshua broke his arm.

We have seen the Lord do many great things in answer to prayer and by seeking first His Kingdom and His righteousness. One of the amazing miracles is the Transformation Center building. It is a work in progress as we try to renovate it and make the best use of it we can. We are hopeful that we will get to a level of consistent funding to make it a rescue center for street kids. We are in a region that has human trafficking. We see it firsthand. We know what makes a kid vulnerable to that and how to help them make the right choices by having hope in Jesus.

As we look back with thankful hearts we are also looking ahead to new and greater things, touching more lives with God's love. We have actually seen the needs increase over time in our region. We are seeking the Lord for wisdom about how we can do more with what we have. Our experience, contacts, and properties can help us move ahead as the Lord provides.

Besides our ministry in The Philippines, we continue to reach many around the world through the Internet. We just received this testimony from a woman in South Africa:

This is only from God, I was so lost, but I just picked up my phone, and just needed some encouragement and prayer so I searched and immediately I found you, wow thank you I'm speechless God is good. I was just searching and there I found your ministry and I'm so blessed now, tears flow thank you.

We now have God.net online and it is setup to be mobile friendly for tablets and phones. It also is easy to print an article or email it to someone, or save it as a pdf file. We continue to receive over 1000 visitors per day to the SeekGod.org site and we believe as more content is added to God.net it may reach multitudes more than that. Again, thank you partners, together and with God's help we have been able to do much with relatively little cost.

As we look forward one thing is extremely clear. We need a new van. Our old van continues to become more and more unreliable. It is affecting our ability to do ministry. We thought we could do some major repairs and get some more use out of our old one but now that looks like a wasted effort. It seems we are always needing more repairs.

We are praying for a new Toyota HiAce van. They are very common here and very reliable. A new commuter model with a 5 speed manual transmission starts at 1,238,000 Pesos, which is about 30,000 US dollars depending on the exchange rate. On the right is a picture of the van we hope for.



We continue to do the best we can with the funding that comes in. We are doing some small projects on the Transformation Center to make it more usable. However, we realize that we need to give priority to obtaining reliable transportation because it affects everything else we do.

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.

[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.

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)