

HIMAMAYLAN

APRIL 2011

"Children are a gift from the Lord..." ~ Psalm 127:3

SUMMER IS HERE...

The Filipino summer is upon us meaning HOT days, no rain, and no school for the kids. We were invited at the end of the school year to teach a day long Senior's camp at the local High School. We spent the day with them sharing about the hope of salvation, purity, and the plan God has for their future. Mixed with a healthy share of fun and games it was a blessed day of encouraging the kids to follow Jesus as they move on into a new season of their lives!



On April 9th we had our first ever national meeting for Philippines Network of Gospel Broadcasters. We currently have three stations in various regions of the Philippines we are working with, and there are three more set to come online in the next few months. The pastors from the other stations came to discuss the vision and future direction of the network as we move forward to see the Gospel spread all over the Philippines through the use of low power FM radio!



For the past 2 1/2 we have been living just a few miles down the road from the church in town. It is not far - only about a 10 minute drive - but it is far enough to keep us out of the daily flow of life of the Bukid. We have been praying for over a year about building a home close to the church. We found a place just across the valley (picture on top - the church is the brown roof top in the distance on the right). There are still some legal issues we have to work through in acquiring a land title so we can build, but Lord willing we will break ground in the next couple of months!

A HELPING HAND...

Roger Bates came out in January with the team from Calvary Chapel Bible Fellowship. He so enjoyed his time here in the Philippines that when the team returned after two weeks he almost did not get back on the plane! After a short 'visit' back to California he took the 17 hour ride across the pacific and came back to Himamaylan to serve at the church for 6 months. With his extensive background in construction he has already proved invaluable with the summer camp. With plans to help 'fix' things up around the church, teach the men from the church some practical construction skills, as well as help build a house for us in the Bukid he will be a busy man. The Lord has also given him the desire to help with teaching some of the Bible studies - especially while we are gone for a month in August at the missions conference at Bible Fellowship.





SUMMER CAMP...

Bembem, our Children's ministry pastor, has been praying about putting on a summer camp for the kids at the church for almost 2 years. After months of planning and preparation the Lord answered his prayers as a group of about 50 of us set out for a local beach about 2 hours to the south of Himamaylan for a 4 days kids camp! The site was simple and beautiful - surrounded by cliffs and the azure blue water of the Sulu sea. We set up tents and home-made bamboo tables on the coral white sand beneath green palm trees. The Lord blessed us with beautiful weather - sunny with only a few hours of rain one afternoon. Several of the ladies from the church came along to help with the cooking - fresh fish from the local market.

Every morning and evening Bembem taught through the Calvary Chapel camp curriculum on 'God's Love'. Then in the afternoon we had Chapel service going through **Romans 6-8**. After going through **Romans 6** several of the kids chose to get baptized in the ocean! Every afternoon we had loads of games for the kids to play. From basketball bowling and frisbee golf to face painting and swimming in the ocean there was never a dull moment. Every night the kids gathered around the campfire to share memory verses and enjoy some graham crackers and marshmallows ~ smores! The kids (and adults) all had a GREAT time hearing God's word and enjoying His creation. We have included two pages of pictures at the back for you to enjoy.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- The Bible Studies - for the Word to change lives
- Upcoming events - Vacation Bible School / Church Baptism
- The people in the Bukid (*mountain*) - to be open to Jesus!
- Strength for those families who are standing up for Jesus!
- The radio - favor with the 'franchise' - and the NTC
- Roger - the Lord would bless his time here
- For a trip back to the States this summer for a conference
- Our marriage - grow closer to Jesus & each other
- Still praying for God to give us a 'Baby Hinchey'...
- Flexibility and humility - we would be full of Jesus!



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