

February 2021

"[We] are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden." - Matthew 5:14



Calvary Bible Fellowship

2021 kicked off with a BANG - quite literally. We were able to travel down to Himamaylan and celebrate the new year at Simbahan sa Bukid with a Prophecy Update. Picking up on a tradition that we began over ten years ago - we concluded the night with a special fire works display.



First Board meeting

Being a part of celebrating New Years here in the Philippines is quite the experience. It is the biggest holiday of the year (*even more than Christmas*). Everyone - and I do mean everyone - sets off as many fireworks as they can! But the funny thing about fireworks

- as pretty and dazzling as they are - their blaze of glory is short lived and gone in an instant. What struck me was AFTER the fireworks were over - the full moon and a star packed sky was still there unwavering in their heavenly display!

It reminded me that in our Christian walk our desire should not be to live flashy. Our Christian walk is not a sprint - it is a marathon. We are called to be faithful - and consistent - as we shine like the moon reflecting the light of the SON! "Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us..." - Hebrews 12:1

Looking back over the past ten plus years - I am encouraged and blessed to see the church and believers continuing to shine brightly - faithful - as their lives reflect and point others to Jesus!



Simbahan sa Bukid



The new year provided not just the opportunity to look back on the faithfulness of the Lord - we also got to look forward to what 2021 might bring. The church in Bacolod has been slowly growing. We met with a newly formed Church Board at the beginning of January. We prayerfully choose seven elders to help lead and guide the young church plant.

One of the first decisions they made was a name for the church. The church had been called Calvary North - but the Board wanted to give it a name that better described the heart of the ministry. They settled on Calvary

Bible Fellowship (CBF). *Calvary* because the philology of ministry is defined by the Calvary Chapel movement - love the people and teach the whole counsel of God - Acts 20:27. *Bible* because what we do EVERY time we get together is to get into the Word - Romans 10:17. *Fellowship* - because we are called to minister and point one another to Jesus - Hebrews 10:24-25.

Several of the saints in the church also expressed a desire to do a feeding program for the kids in Himamaylan. On a rainy day in mid-January we made the hour and half drive from Bacolod to the mountains. Eight people from Calvary Bible Fellowship (CBF) were able to cook pancakes (*breakfast*) and burgers (*lunch*) for around 50 kids from Simbahan sa Bukid. It

was a sweet day of seeing two very different worlds (*urban and rural*) coming together in their common love for Jesus!

February is already looking to be a busy

month. We have been teaching a midweek service at Network Church in Silay in the book of Genesis for almost 5 months. The plan is to teach an Inductive Bible Study seminar as well as original language training (*Hebrew / Greek*) there next month. We also hope to kick off the training classes at Elisha Center (*where CBF meets on Sundays*) in February. On Tuesday afternoons we will teach Biblical training classes - then have a Bible study on Tuesday nights. These classes will be open to any denomination helping to equip young leaders in how to teach the Word of God. We also plan to hold monthly training seminars for pastors in Bacolod to further equip them in Biblical studies. I am extremely excited to see how these new ministries are used to stir up and impact local churches with a passion for the power of the Word!

Whether looking back or looking forward - we see the Lord had been faithful and we trust He will continue to do amazing things! I am reminded of Psalm 46:10: STAND STILL (הִרְפּוּ) - in the Hebrew literally to cause our hands to lie down - stop what we are doing! And KNOW (יָדַעַ) - literally to see - that He is God. In other words God WILL do amazing things. Not because of what we can do - but because we are looking to Him and what He will do!

Love - David, Jen and Hallel

