

# March 2021

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



It goes without saying that many of us have had to cancel a LOT of plans over the past year - and the churches here in Negros are no exception. There were a number of planned missions trips from CC Bible Fellowship / CC North Dakota and others that were not able to take place. Yet I am often amazed at how in spite of not being able to do what we planned - God somehow manages to do something new and amazing!

Every couple knows how important and special it is to be able to get away with the one you love for a date night every now and then. For most of the couples at the church in Himamaylan that never happens. A night out is a luxury that most just cannot afford to take. For that reason the church

in Bacolod decided to do a MISSIONS trip to

Himamaylan to bless the church there with a Valentines dinner! About 25 people from the Calvary Bible Fellowship (CBF) took the weekend and drove down to love and and bless their sister church!

We all arrived on a Friday afternoon and took the reminder of the day to have a family camp. It was a beautiful time watching the young church bond as they laughed together (*trying to figure out how to eat a doughnut on a a string*) and coming together for an amazing time of worship around a bonfire (*yes there were also s'mores*)!

The next morning, after a corporate time of worship together, we broke up into four groups and put on a one day Vacation Bible School for around thirty of the kids from Simbahan sa Bukid (SSB). While one group was teaching the kids about the Love of God (*Valentines theme*)...



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**Origins of the Bible - Elisha Center**

the others were playing games, making valentines cards to Jesus, or cooking a huge lunch for us all to enjoy afterwards! One of the highlights was when the worship leader tried to single handedly take on a whole gaggle of kids in tug-o-war. Spoiler alert - it did not go well for him - the kids pulled him right across the grass (*with all laughing hysterically the whole way*)!



**Dinner with local pastors**

That afternoon we decorated the church - transforming it into a Romantic get away for Valentines day - complete with a full team of chefs / waiters / and entertainment! We had several of couples from CBF act out famous (*or infamous*) couples from the Bible much to the amusement of everyone. We ended the night (and Missions trip) with a time of worship and teaching from the Word!

We are excited to prayerfully do another outreach next month. The Christmas Shoe Boxes that were sent back in December have arrived in the Philippines. We expect they will be in Bacolod within the next few weeks. Lord willing we will be able to do a second Missions trip from CBF and travel down to help SSB pass out these amazing gifts to almost 1000 children in Himamaylan!



February also marked the first time we held a discipleship class at the Elisha Center (*where the church meets on Sundays*). The classes are non-denominational and open to all the churches in Bacolod. The first half of the class we cover various topics. We began the course by starting a series on the Origins of the Bible. The second half of the class is a verse by verse teaching through the Bible - starting in Genesis. The plan is to meet every Tuesday evening and continue working through various training courses preparing young believers to be grounded in the Word!

**Love - David, Jen and Hallel**

