

August 2011

Inside this issue:

Gratitude for Philippine Ministry	1
Prayer Requests and Praises	1
Getting Serious in Serious Times	2
Edmondsons' Itinerary	2
Become a Ministry Partner	2

Prayer Requests and Praises

Praise God for

- Fruitful ministry in Philippines
- 934 prayer supporters!
- Approx. 54% committed financial support
- 6 new supporting churches this year
- Our new daughter-in-law, Savannah

Pray for

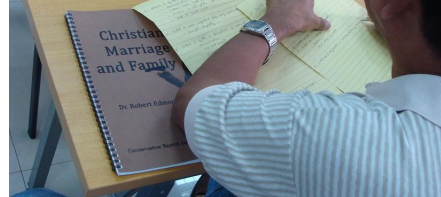
- Preparation for upcoming Malawi ministry
- Preparation for upcoming India ministry
- Growth in monthly committed support
- Open doors to present GTN in U.S. churches
- Discernment in Scheduling



Gratitude for Philippine Ministry

“Thank you for bringing us this life-changing teaching from the Bible” These were the words of one pastor who attended an “It Only Hurts on Monday” seminar recently in Bacolod, Philippines. Our third ministry journey to the island nation was very productive. We broke our own record for the amount of material presented. Our feedback suggests that God is greatly using the three different seminars we taught.

After ministering in the Family Bible Church in metro Manila, I presented a week long intensive course on “Christian marriage and family” at the Conservative Baptist Seminary, Asia. Filipinos face a troubling set of marital challenges in their culture making this a highly relevant and needed topic for believers. Basic biblical principles apply across cultural lines. Our students thanked us and said that they were greatly helped by the class.



From Manila we traveled to the Visayan islands where, after preaching in Lapu-Lapu, we made our way to San Carlos for a Timothy Leadership Training course on pastoral care with about 20 pastors. These leaders will receive Timothy courses on a range of topics over the next three years. The goal goes beyond training these pastors. We want to help them become trainers of other pastors. One

man thanked us for the basic common-sense nature of the material and for making them dig through the scriptures to find the answers. “You are not just teaching us, you are teaching us how to learn and how to teach others!” I was thrilled! That’s EXACTLY what we are trying to do! During our stay in San Carlos, we had a 6.4 mag. earthquake. Thankfully, it was centered some distance from any cities and did little damage. I told some of the pastors they were doing earth-shaking work.

After completing the course in San Carlos, we moved on to Bacolod on the other side of the island. There I taught our popular seminar on pastoral survival skills “It Only Hurts on Monday.” We inaugurated the Jehova Raphe Miracle Center, teaching the first seminar to be held there. The class attracted twice as many pastors as expected. It was standing room only.

During a break, pastor Jun Cordova spoke to the assembled pastors. Pastor Jun has stage 4 Lymphoma and has taken his last chemotherapy treatment. His remaining days are likely few. Yet I couldn’t imagine a more joyful or peaceful face as the veteran pastor told his friends about his “special pain and special praise.” God has accomplished things in his ministry during his illness (often because of his illness) for which he has been praying for years. One of those answers to prayer was the newly completed training center and our presence there to offer needed training to pastors. God has answered Pastor Jun’s prayers and he has been privileged to see it. Although he loves his family and ministry and wants to remain, Pastor Jun is undeniably excited about the prospect of heaven. We were moved and challenged as this man of God placed the brevity of life into perspective for us. We could only wonder at the sovereign wisdom of God that brought together a seminar on persevering in ministry with such an encouraging word from one who has done so.

God has given us a great privilege to equip and encourage precious leaders like these who are taking the gospel forward in the Philippines. All of you who support us make this possible. Thank you!



Getting Serious in Serious Times



Nothing is beyond God's control including the times we live in. **God has a purpose for allowing our lives to be touched by economic calamity.** I'm convinced that there are spiritual lessons He intends for us to learn. Here are five spiritual lessons for your consideration:

Lesson #1: Wealth is fleeting. *"Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle"* (Prov. 23:5). Our wealth is not our own but is placed in our hands for a short time as a trust from God. It is not given to us for our security, but to use in a way pleasing to the One who owns it. A godly man recently told me that his investments had lost a six-figure sum in value. Ironically he had been considering giving almost that exact amount to God's work but had decided to hold off. Now it's gone anyway and he regrets holding so tightly to what was, in the end, so fleeting.

My friends, these days are sent from God. Think about that. God has a purpose for allowing our lives to be touched by economic calamity.

Lesson #2: Time is fleeting. *"What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."* (James 4:14) Experts are predicting economic recovery could take a decade or more with no guarantees, a big chunk of our short lives. Life is beautiful and exciting while it lasts. But it is fragile and temporary. How lame is it to waste time on frivolous or selfish pursuits or waiting for the economy to turn around when you can use the time God has given you now to serve a purpose bigger than your life! Today is the day. Tomorrow never comes.

Lesson #3: Spiritual opportunities are fleeting. *"As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work."* (John 9:4). We are in a period of great spiritual opportunity! More people are being saved around the world today than ever before. The numbers are staggering. Yet the world is changing fast around us. Look at the news and you will see what I mean.

We have no idea how long the opportunity to train Christian leaders around the world will last. Many doors remain open but for how long?

Lesson #4: Serious times make serious people. *"Enjoy prosperity while you can, but when hard times strike, realize that both come from God. Remember that nothing is certain in this life."* (Ecc. 7:14). My friends, these days are sent from God. Think about that. Instead of passing our fleeting time blaming politicians, we should be asking, "What is God trying to teach me through this adversity?" I'm convinced that God wants us to begin trusting in Him again and not in our wealth. Life is not about bigger TVs and bigger houses in which to put them. Nor is it about creating a personal pile of wealth so you can be at ease. We each have an eternal purpose and in serious times God calls on us to take it seriously again.

Lesson #5: Serious Christians make a serious difference. *"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these"* (John 14:12) When the disciples marveled at Jesus' miracles He assured them that they would do greater things. Indeed the eternal salvation of one soul is a far greater thing than feeding five thousand or making a lame man walk. You and I

have that opportunity. The work we do training pastors involves nothing less than the eternal destiny of perhaps thousands of souls. That's why, when I ask for your financial support, I do so without apology. I'm not begging. I'm OFFERING you an opportunity as a serious Christian to make a serious difference. I pray you will take the opportunity seriously. I believe God Himself is honored by the serious Christians who make room for His work in their financial lives. If the times we are in encourage many of us to evaluate our priorities, to commit our time and money to eternally relevant matters like training pastors around the world, then we will look back and call these days blessed.



Global Training Network

The Edmondson's Itinerary

- August 31
Payson, AZ
- September 18
Salome, AZ
- Sept 30-Oct 15
Malawi
- October 17-19
Prescott, AZ (tent.)
- October 20-24
Floriss, IA
- October 30
Sun City West, AZ
- November 7-17
India (tent.)
- November 20
Quartzite, AZ



Your generous monthly giving is vital to this ministry.

Our ability to train more pastors is directly linked to level of monthly support.

__ \$250 __ \$200 __ \$150 __ \$100 __ \$75 __ \$50 __ \$25 __ \$10 ____ \$ other.

"Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account... And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:17, 19)

Support accepted at:

Global Training Network
7558 W. Thunderbird Rd. Ste. 1
P.M.B. 449

Peoria, AZ 85381

(Please include a note indicating that your gift is preferred for the ministry of the Edmondsons.)



You may give online at:

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Go to the "Support" page and follow the instructions for gifts preferred for the Edmondsons. You can also download an auto withdrawal form if desired.

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