



Christ for the Philippines Mission



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Sending Church: Midway Baptist Church - 4777 Hoffmeyer Rd - Darlington, SC 29532

Tony & Ypille Tirse

July / August 2017

Hello in the wonderful and highest Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has been blessing and showing His mighty hand to us, and we are so excited. It has been an unusually busy couple of months for us since our last newsletter. One of the reasons for this, aside from the usual ministry work and out-of-town trips for fellowships and health check-ups, is because we have doubled our soul winning and evangelistic outreaches. We were blessed to do this because we have been able to train several of our church members in personal soul winning.

There is a fresh excitement in our church because of the visitors that have been coming and the souls that have been presented the gospel by our people, who have never seen anything like this. Since our last newsletter we have seen 34 professions of faith from our outreaches. Some of them have visited our church and some of them haven't. The waters of baptism have even been excited as we have seen God provide the fruit of our labors. But the important step now, and one of the most difficult for our people, is the discipleship phase. I'm not talking about their discipleship, Ypille and I have been discipling them for some time, but now they themselves are learning the importance of discipling other new believers.

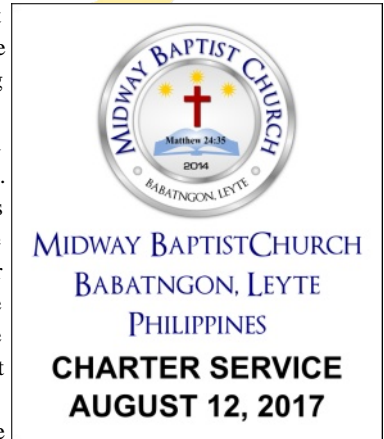
I have created a new formal, six-week course called the "EFD Soul Winning & Discipleship" course. EFD stands for "Evangelize, Followup, Discipleship." With this course our members will be well equipped and organized in not only soul winning, but making sure their contacts are followed up on and personally disciplined by them. This is a big step for them but many of them are willing and excited to do it, even as others are just observing for now.

Also we have been teaching our folks about sacrificial giving, especially in regard to missions. Now remember, most of these folks earn less than \$10USD per day for a full day's work. Yet we recently just took on our second missionary for monthly support. Our people have caught the missions vision and are literally going without something each week so they can give a little extra for missions. It is so beautiful. The first missionary we took on was our "Jerusalem" missionary, as he is in a different part of the same island and province that we are. This second missionary is way up north in the mountains of Pampanga, and he is taking the gospel to the Aeta tribal people, which are the first indigenous people of the Philippine Islands. They are still very reclusive and seldom come down from the mountains except to sell some of their crops or trade.

The missionary there is a young man named Daryl. We met him in person and visited his ministry in one of our travels. He is teaching the people how to read (most of them are illiterate) and then how to read the Bible. This second missionary is our "Judaea" as it is in another part of this country. Next we will pray about taking on a missionary in our "Samaria" if the Lord lays one on our hearts. I praise the Lord for his people here and their submissive heart to understand the beautiful sacrifice of giving to the Lord's work. It is a great thing for me to have seen this develop over the last few years.

The First Church Charter is at Hand!

Last newsletter I announced about the upcoming charter of our first church plant. After three years of laboring in the church planting ministry, seeing the souls saved, baptized, and becoming faithful and growing in the Lord, we have scheduled the charter service of the Midway Baptist Church - Babatngon for this coming August 12th. I am in complete awe of what God has done here, as just three short years ago we began going door to door, and house to house preaching the gospel and having in-home Bible studies. Now we are only a few days away from the day when we publicly declare and sign our covenant together and with the Lord to charter as one of the Lord's local New Testament Baptist Churches.



Personally I am in complete awe. I just still cannot grasp that the Lord has chosen me and Ypille and used us to do this great work. We truly are not worthy or able. But we simply, years ago, submitted to God and said, "Here am I, Lord, use me, send me." I had no idea all those years ago that this would really happen. And I'm so, so grateful to the Lord for such a great honor.

There are several things involved in a church charter service, if you have never been present at one. We will have the actual service, which will include a message from a special speaker. Those of us who will be members will stand and publicly state our intention, we will pray, and we will sign the covenant and charter. Then we will break for lunch. We will reconvene after a lunch fellowship and the church will call its pastor (most likely me!), then we will ratify our Constitution and Bylaws. I'm looking forward to a beautiful service and to be able to post those pictures on Facebook for you all to enjoy. The people here are very excited about this. We have quite a few faithful ones who have been here from the start and for them this is a great achievement as well. They understand that they have been and are a part of something very special, very holy, and very powerful as set forth by God Himself.

Again, we want to thank you so much for your prayer and financial support. Thank you for allowing God to use you as instruments of His great blessings to us and to this people. Thank you so much also for your love for our Filipino brethren.

God bless you, because He lives,
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