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SPECIAL REPORT for PHILIPPINES 2025

Dear Friends,

Ministry Update: Joan and I were privileged to be able to have a 5-week ministry in the Philippines during January and February. With a few more details to follow, here is a brief synopsis of the trip. In all, we ministered in 13 churches, 1 Christian school, 3 public schools, 1 town council meeting, presented 4 Classical/Sacred concerts and preached 43 times. All this after a 10-hour flight from Atlanta to Istanbul, Turkey, an 11-hour layover and another 10.5-hour flight to Manila!

Week #1: Our first week was spent in Brookes Point on the island of Palawan. My dear friend, Dr. Lopez, was already there where he had been working for two weeks prior to our arrival. During our time there Joan and I both spoke in the school chapel as well as three different churches. It was there that Dr. Lopez and I presented the first of two concerts. At least one teenager accepted the Lord at the end of the concert, where we ended with a collection of sacred songs and hymns followed by a brief message.

Week #2: Our second week found us in Quezon City in the northern metro-Manila area. Here we ministered in three churches in addition to a series of four message on Contemporary Christian Music (CCM) at the Bob Jones Memorial Bible College. Dr. Lopez and I presented the second musical concert for the faculty and students.

One of the unique ministries at the college was a Monday night 3-hour rehearsal involving more than 85 string players from Bible believing churches from all over the metro-Manila area. After a month of rehearsals, they present a concert at the end of February. What a unique opportunity for fellowship and music-making!

WEEK #3: Week #3 found us in the heart of the downtown business district of Pasig City. It was here that we were invited into the first public school to present an hour-long program of music and Bible message. We were limited to one grade: grade six...more than 500 of them! The pastor and helpers were permitted to give gospel tracts to each student and all the faculty received a Tagalog New Testament! The principal wants to try and get the pastor into the high school for a Bible class. His words, "they [i.e. the high schoolers] really need this."

For the concert, I was joined by the pastor's son, a former concertmaster, since Dr. Lopez had already returned home. A few days later, we were invited to visit the local government officials for a private one-hour program of music and preaching. We presented the same basic music program as before followed by a 20-minute gospel message from Isaiah 53:6. Afterward, one council member told me, "This [the program] was good for the soul!" It was so well received that Pastor Livioco has been invited to come back once a month for a 1-hour Bible study!

WEEKS 4 & 5: Our final two weeks found us flying south to the island of Cebu where we were to embark on an 8-day evangelistic meeting in one church, in addition to other ministries. The people were really excited about this as evidenced by the fact that several people took off the whole week of work so they could be there. In most cases, they had to find their own replacements. Others closed their shops early so they could come. One family provided funds for family members to travel by an overnight boat ride and a 5-hour drive by car so that they could hear the gospel! As I write, we have two services left before we return home. Numbers of hands have been raised, and God is working.

On Thursday and Friday of our 4th week, we were again invited to visit two public schools to play my violin and preach to all 9th and 10th graders. On Thursday we had six classes and on Friday we had ten! We were there from 7:30 AM until 4 PM! Grabbed a quick bit of supper and then off to a 6 PM evangelistic service. Missionary-pastor Dan Tessin preached the last three classes due to time restraints. On those two days alone, I preached sixteen times! It was a tiring day, to say the least, but a very rewarding one.

In both schools, all the students were given a copy of John & Romans in the Cebuano language. I then had them all turn to John 3:16-18 and had them read it aloud. It was a thrill for us to hear hundreds of public-school students reading the Bible

out loud in unison in their own language...including one Muslim student! I then preached from those three verses a gospel message that was summarized in a few classes for those not as familiar with the English language.

At the close of tonight's service, during the invitation, three family members of one of the ladies in the church raised their hands admitting they wanted to be saved! They have been to all the evangelistic services since we started. We have seen the Lord working in their lives each night.

After the evening service, the church helped to celebrate our 2nd wedding anniversary with a couple of cakes.

As always, it was hard to say goodbye. It seems that every time I take a mission trip, I leave a little bit of myself behind (you'd think I'd be skinny by now!). This time, Joan felt pretty much the same way. We praise the Lord for those who trust Christ and for the doors for future ministry that seem to be opening there.

Thank you for your prayers in our behalf and may the Lord richly bless you.

In Christ,

Ken & Joan Lynch, Eph. 6:19

