



Summer 2017

"Great is our Lord, and of great power:
His understanding is infinite."
Psalm 147:5

Dear Prayer Partners,

Things have been quite hectic the past three months with travel, moving and helping family members challenged with health issues. Thank you for your patience in waiting for this over-due report!

2017 GDMissions Philippines Trip

Many of you gave sacrificially to make this trip possible, and we thank you for your prayers and financial support for Rick to serve the Lord with Grace Dental and Medical Missions in the Philippines.



Work team and Filipino brethren helpers

It was our goal to give you a thorough report, so Rick made detailed notes while on the field, but those notes did not travel well in cyberspace.

Since the notes seem to be "lost in space" at present, and we are

loath to spend any more time right now trying to access them, we will be relying on Rick's memory. [All Rick's photos also disappeared, so these photos are courtesy of Bryan Bell; thanks, Bryan!]

Unexpected Difficulties from the Start, BUT our Lord is Great!

Upon arrival in the Philippines we learned there was a

problem with licenses for our medical and dental professionals. What a serious problem! However, God used that to develop further fruitful contacts with government health officials, both nationally and locally. Ultimately, the "problem" led to the use



Dr. Parkerson & his helper Ivey

of a fully supplied mobile dental unit (i.e., dentists, hygienist, dental chairs and equipment) *provided by the local government!*

Praise the Lord that there was no opposition from the government to preaching, teaching, evangelizing and reaching the patients with the Gospel.

God's Amazing Provision!

During the first two clinic days we went to a new village. (The first day only our Filipino doctor could work; by the second day the approval came for the others. On the third day the mobile dental unit showed up.) There was a real responsiveness at the new village. An echoing school classroom which acted as waiting room where the witnessing occurred was hot, humid, and chaotic. There was a shortage that day of Christian interpreters. As Rick testified to several young women, another came along who was especially good at English so she translated and later trusted the Lord as Savior herself!

Technical Difficulties - the Lord is still of Great Power

On Sunday Rick taught the Sunday School lesson. Just before he stood up to preach, he discovered that all the notes on his phone were unavailable. (They came back after he was done preaching!) That was confusing enough, but there was further confusion. There were two translators, one to speak Tagalog and another to speak Visayan, the local language. Rick had planned to use the Bible on his phone because of the large print, but it was also unavailable. Laura, a nursing student from one of our supporting churches, had a hard copy English Bible she loaned to Rick. It was a good thing he had reviewed the sermon that morning and could remember most of it. God will be glorified in spite of such confusion and spiritual opposition, but these kinds of experiences can be unsettling!

God at Work in Hearts!

The fourth clinic was at another new village. There was a young woman who said very earnestly some thing like, "I have been really wanting someone to explain this to me." As far as we

know, she got saved as well as a middle aged woman. There was a group of about five people during that time of presenting the Gospel. Rick asked the first young man, "Do you want to trust the Lord right now?" He replied, "No, I want to do it at home." "That is fine. You can trust the Lord anywhere, but this is a very important decision. Please don't forget or neglect to do it." The other young man didn't quite seem to get it or was not seriously minded.

There was another young woman, probably in her early thirties, who trusted the Lord as a result of some intensive one-on-one work.



The fifth and sixth clinics were held in the village near the hotel. There was a really big turnout both days. A woman in her thirties was very interested, and Rick thinks she trusted the Lord. There was a young man who said he would like to have a Bible. When Rick introduced him to Pastor Lebron, he learned they were tennis partners! Of course, Pastor Lebron had been witnessing to him already, and Rick's interaction encouraged him to say he wanted to do a Bible study.

Spiritual Opposition: Great is Our Lord, "His Understanding is Infinite!"

Then, there was a group of three college-age kids, who were just peppering Rick with questions originating in their Catholic confusion. As soon as Rick gave one Biblical answer, they would ask another. Overall, it seemed that they didn't really care what the answers were, since they acted like they weren't concerned what the Bible had to say. Judging by his demeanor and the look on his face, only one fellow seemed to be genuinely considering what he heard from God's Word.

When Rick felt like he had spent enough time with them, he handed them off to Bro. Lodi to speak with them. They stayed around for hours waiting to see the dentist, so they had numerous opportunities to hear the Gospel if they had hearts to hear. We can only pray for the Lord to open the eyes of their understanding and mercifully draw them to Himself.



Brother Lodi sharing the Gospel



Pharmacist Bryce Adams

Near the end of the day a group of young men was gathering to play basketball (in flip flops, no less!) right next to our outdoor patient waiting areas. Rick spoke to three or four (they had been sitting on the bench seen in the photo); one trusted the Lord, but another

was too preoccupied with the upcoming game to focus on the message.

We have typed many more things, so we are going to split the letter into two parts at this point. This is a "To Be Continued Soon" letter. May the Lord bless and keep you and make His face to shine upon you!

Christ's unworthy servants,
Rick & Becky Enterline



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*"... My Name shall be GREAT
among the heathen,
saith the LORD of hosts."*

Malachi 1:11b

STAY CONNECTED:

