

# Mindanao Moments

Real Hope & Transformation in Christ

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LIVING INTENTIONALLY — "God is asking all of us to participate with all of what we have in our lives. The dreams or task may seem overwhelming, but when we intentionally bring our little lunch of fish and loaves to Jesus, he will bless it, break it, and multiply its effect for the sake of His kingdom." - "Live with Intentionality," Caroline D. Bower & Lynne Ellis, Perspectives on the World Christian Movement

# **Living Intentionally**



We continually see the impact of living *lives with intentionality*. An example of the *intentionality* is **Dess Ventura**. Dess, a Filipina, is a committed Christian, and a dear friend. Almost two years ago she made a decision to move from Manila, where she worked as a language teacher, to be part of our Mindanao ministry team. She works part-time with Sandy Eckelberry in the areas of *missions mobilization* and in *coordinating short-term missions*. And she works with us at Hope Mountain as the *assistant manager*. To be honest, we couldn't get along without Dess. She has a servant's heart, works diligently, and is *having an impact in people's lives*. Is life always easy for Dess? The answer is no! *Working here in Mindanao is extremely challenging and if we don't face at least one crisis a day we begin to think that something is wrong*. What was Dess Ventura's motivation for moving to Mindanao? She said, "I wanted to expose myself to doing something different—serving in a different culture,

with a different language so that I could serve the Lord more effectively." Dess was willing to take a big step of faith and willing to get out of her *comfort zone* as a language teacher in order to impact lives. **Dess is a person who lives with** *intentionality—intentionality that flows from her walk with the Lord and her desire to serve Him. Please pray for* **Dess**. She often carries a heavy load and, as with all of us, needs those who will lift her up in prayer on a regular basis.

## **Team Players**

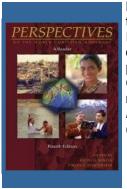
On October 14-15 our *Philippine WorldVenture team* had their *Annual Missionary Conference* at Faith Academy in Manila. We had a great time of fellowship and conducting the necessary business that goes along with serving in the Philippines. A year ago our mission began the process of *decentralization*. We've moved from a top down leadership structure to a localized structure to facilitate ministry that is more effective. We are divided into *area ministry teams*, each having a team leader. Team leaders, and our office manager meet together on a regular basis to discuss the needs of the mission and to provide oversight. The four areas are: Luzon, Faith Academy, the Visayas, and Mindanao. At our conference there was a sense of real unity in the direction we're moving and people were excited about this new structure. There's still much to do in this tran-



The Philippine Team at Faith Academy

sitional phase, so please keep us in prayer. Some of our team are on home assignment, and Russ Simon & Noel Pantoja were attending the *Lausanne III Congress on Global Evangelism in South Africa.* 

#### Perspectives



During the last two weeks of September we were in Butuan (6 hours north of Davao City) attending the new **Perspectives On the World Christian Movement** course at Living Springs International. It was an intensive two weeks that required lots of reading and writing but we came away blessed as our vision for world missions was greatly expanded. The course is designed around four vantage points or "perspectives"—Biblical, Historical, Cultural and Strategic. Each area highlights aspects of God's global purpose. **God is doing great things around the world**, but a global perspective in needed and workers need to be mobilized to go into the harvest field. It's all about God's people **living intentionally for God's glory**. We'd encourage you to check out the **Perspectives** website (**www.perspectives.org**) and find out more about this exceptional missions training.

"The Word of God will prove its divine origin by its divine power. Let's let it loose in the world! - John R.W. Stott, "The Bible in World Evangelization," Perspectives

### **Special Prayer Request**

Gloria's father, Bill Carson, has been diagnosed with cancer—a cancerous tumor in his stomach near the esophagus. He going through the preliminary procedures to go on chemotherapy soon. Please keep Bill and the family in your prayers. We may have to travel to the United States to be with him. Bill & Neva live in Kingman, AZ. Being overseas and separated from family at times like these is not easy.

#### PRAISE

• Praise the Lord for the help that we're getting from *Transformational Ventures*. We're currently in the planning stages preparing to have 3 key Christian business professionals from the U.S. to help our Hope Mountain Board with strategic planning, and also do **Business as Mission (BAM)** training in Davao City. They're planning to come for two weeks in March.

Praise the Lord for the opportunity to attend the *Perspectives* training in September.

Praise the Lord for 6 more horses for our tribal pastor/farmers. 3 were delivered in October and 3 more will be delivered in November. We continue to praise the Lord for Tribal Horse Evangelism (www.crossculturalministries.com) for providing the horses and the training for care of the horses.

Praise the Lord for providing the funds for *dental care* for some of the children at Hope Mountain. Dental care and preventative dentistry is greatly needed.

Praise the Lord for His protection, strength and health.

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

November 12-13 our Hope Mountain Board will have a retreat for prayer and planning. Pray that all our board members will be able to attend and that each member will complete their assignments.

Pray for Mike & Ghed Miguel, and Brian & Patty Shiel as they continue to make plans to serve in Mindanao. Pray that they will develop a strong prayer team. A strong prayer team is foundational for effective ministry.

A Tribal Summit will be held at Hope Mountain on November 9-11. This will be a gathering of key Christian tribal leaders to discuss how they can reach tribal people with the Gospel of Christ.

■ We are currently working through the details of having at least 3 *short-term mission teams* in 2011.

- January Construction team from Prescott, AZ to work on the renovation of one of the Hope Mountain buildings.
- March Transformational Ventures team for strategic planning and Business as Missions training
- July Child Evangelism team from Kingman, AZ

Pray for these teams as they make preparation to come to Mindanao and that their ministries will be effective. ■ Pray for **Sandy Eckelberry**. She's in Ohio for a 2-month home assignment to be with her family. Sandy is helping her sister, Lynn, is having some health problems. Pray for the healing of Lynn's heal, and pray for Sandy and her family.

Pray that our WorldVenture ministry account will be replenished. Our ministry funds are very low at this point, but we know God always supplies.

Pray for continued wisdom, safety and health.

Above all, pray that God will be glorified greatly and His kingdom will be expanded in Mindanao and

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