



Mindanao Moments

Real Hope & Transformation in Christ

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"The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become." - Henry Martyn

Hope Mountain Impact

Hope Mountain is a place, but it's much more than just a place. Hope Mountain is where God is doing great things in the lives of needy people in a multitude of ways. Here's a wonderful example:

A Salaam A Likum is an Arabic term meaning, "peace be with you." It's also the name of one of Hope Mountain's partners that ministers to M's and tribal people in Mindanao. Patrick and Shari Bailey are missionaries overseeing this unique ministry and have become good friends.

In June, the staff of **A Salaam A Likum** was asked by 25 Bajao kids from Isla Verde and 40 from Santa Cruz if they could have a youth camp.



Bajao homes in Isla Verde

The Bajao tribe are the very poorest in all the Philippines, most being illiterate. They sell used clothing and pearls, and beg to make a living. Most of the Bajao are animist, they live in little houses located over raw sewage—their homes are without bathrooms or running water. The Baileys had been teaching among these young people and Shari said, "the Bajao youth wanted to go to a quiet place where they could learn the Word of God that they kept hearing about. But there was no way they could afford to go to Hope Mountain for a youth camp, in fact, they couldn't afford to go anywhere!"

Shari shared how Hope Mountain made it possible for a youth camp to become a reality for these extremely needy kids: "For 2 hours of work a day, Hope Mountain was offered to them. They could sleep in a bed, the first time for many (most sleep on mats on bamboo floors). **They were ELATED!!! They did have something to give ...their labor!!! And they offered it up to the Lord each day as thanksgiving for the BEAUTIFUL, QUIET place they were able to stay in.** Not only did they work 2 hours a day, they worked up to 4 hours a day and were VERY grateful to the people at Hope Mountain who allowed them this opportunity to have an intensive study of God's Word and learn of His love for them and His plan for their salvation. They started at 5 am—they did gardening, cleaned up the grounds, cut food for the animals, cleaned rabbit cages and cleaned dormitory rooms. And they did their work with JOY and THANKSGIVING!

While at Hope Mountain, the Bajao youth sat under the skillful Bible teaching of Pastor Melchor and other staff members of



were able to discuss and reflect upon what they had heard.

These precious Bajao youth were filled with joy as they understood God's love and what Christ had done for them.



So what was the result of these three days? 23 of the 40 young people from Santa Cruz, who heard the Gospel for the first time, made the decision to commit their lives to Christ and to be baptized. In fact, when they left Hope Mountain,

they went to a near by beach for a baptismal service. Three of the youth baptized were M's.



In summing up these three days at Hope Mountain, Shari said, **"80 lives were transformed—65 youth and 15 staff members."** She went on to say, **"They are begging to go back next year!!! Thank you, Hope Mountain for the unforgettable experiences and life-changing times these kids (and staff) had. In your beautiful, quiet facility these kids really heard the love of God in His Word.....and they will never be the same!!!"** At the beach where they were baptized they wrote in the sand to the Hope Mountain staff, **"THANK YOU!"**

God's peace had come to these Bajao youth through the Love of Christ! Praise the Lord for His Goodness and Grace!

A Salaam A Likum

PRAISE

- We praise the Lord as we continually see the Lord working in the lives of people. And we praise Him for giving us an opportunity to partner with numerous Christian groups like *A Salaam A Likum* who are actively involved in bringing the transforming message of Christ to desperately needy people.
- Praise the Lord for leadership the Lord has raised up for Hope Mountain. We are extremely thankful for our Board President, Leo Parreño and the faithful members who are doing so much to make Hope Mountain a fruitful ministry.
- Praise the Lord that **Brian Shiel** and his son, **Nate**, were with us in August. Nate was with us for less than a week and returned to the U.S. to begin his senior year in H.S. Brian remained with us for 2-1/2 weeks and helped with some maintenance and renovation projects. **Brian and his wife, Patty, are WorldVenture missionary appointees and are scheduled to be on the field next summer to be part of the Hope Mountain ministry staff.**
- Praise the Lord for the way God is working at Hope Mountain. We're amazed at what He does to touch lives and to provide for our staff and all the needs.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for **Neva Carson** (Gloria's mother) as she goes through a huge transition after the death of Bill. Pray that the Lord will give her strength, and peace, and that He will meet all her needs.
- Pray for our niece, **Shauna Hetrick**, as she begins her first year of college at Northern Arizona State University. Pray that she will find Christian friends and that she will be involved with Campus Crusade for Christ's ministry there.
- Pray for **Hannia Freeman**. Hannia has been appointed as a career missionary by WorldVenture and is currently continuing in the process of developing her prayer and support base, and getting more education before coming to the field as an agriculturalist. She is currently working out the details to do an internship with ECHO that provides training in organic tropical agriculture. Hannia's desire is to come to Mindanao and to be part of the Hope Mountain ministry team.
- Pray for **Ryan Goeken** who working on a masters degree in sustainable agriculture at Iowa State University. He has served with us at Hope Mountain as an agricultural intern and is considering serving as a missionary in the future. Pray that the Lord will give Ryan clear direction as he seeks God's will for the future.
- Pray for **Mike & Ghed Miguel**. Continue to pray that they will develop a strong prayer and support base, and they will be able to be in Mindanao by December of this year. We desperately need their help.
- Pray for **Brian & Patty Shiel** as they continue to develop their prayer and support base. Pray that they will be able to be in Davao City by next June or early July so their children can begin school at Faith Academy in August.
- Pray for **Duane & Prinie Stark**. They are currently doing Bible and theological education in local churches in Davao and Duane is using his computer expertise helping pastors and churches.
- We are in the process of hiring an **Office Assistant** for Dess Ventura, the Hope Mountain Assistant Manager. Pray that the right person can be found. We need a person that is a committed Christian and has good communication, organizational and people skills.
- On October 3-7, the WorldVenture Mindanao Ministry Team will be hosting the **CBM (WorldVenture Philippines) Annual Retreat**. Pray for Sandy Eckelberry as she oversees the preparations.
- In November Hope Mountain will be hosting a **Mission Festival** called **Bukid sa Paglaum** (The Mountain of Hope). Partnering mission and other ministry groups will be gathering to present their ministries, do demonstrations, sell livelihood products and enable the larger Christian community and the public to see what God is doing in Mindanao. This festival also gives the various organizations and groups an opportunity to network with one another for expanded ministry in Mindanao. Pray that all the details will come together and that this will be a great blessing to all that will be involved. This is the first time this has been done. **Pray that Bukid sa Paglaum will become an annual event that will contribute to the expansion of God's kingdom.** Pray for Gloria as she coordinates this event.
- Pray for numerous repair and renovation projects which are in progress or need to be started at Hope Mountain. The needs are never ending and there are always needs for workers and resources.
- We're taking a **short vacation** (Sept. 13-19). Pray that we'll get some needed rest, we're pretty exhausted.
- Pray for continued health, strength and safety, and **above all, that the Lord would be glorified in our lives.**



POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS—TRANSFORMED LIVES!

Thank you for being partners with us!

Love in Christ, *Timothy & Gloria*