

Bringing Hope to the Philippines

February 26th, 2009: Well, a little comic relief to start off this newsletter and the adventures, or should I say misadventures of being on the mission field. Let's start off with the fact that I strongly dislike mayonnaise. I don't hate it, but I really don't like it. I don't like the smell and I don't like the taste, its just kind of weird stuff. Also, as you may or may not know, Liz is about 11 weeks pregnant. Her due date is around September 16th, 2009. To say we are excited is an understatement. A couple weeks back, Liz also noticed that she has lice. With her long thick hair, it is very easy for her to catch because many of the kids that she is around and doing check-ups on have lice. Well, normally, there is a very effective treatment that we can do that clears things up fast, but it is toxic for pregnant ladies, so we have been trying the "natural" approach. We tried lots of things and nothing worked. Then we found a website that said mayonnaise would kill the lice and their eggs if you put enough in the hair and left it on long enough. So me, the loving husband rubbed almost half a liter of mayonnaise into my wife's hair! Despite my complaints and upturned nose, I was able to persevere and get it all in... there is a picture below as evidence. Then, we had to wait 4 hours for the magical white substance to do its work. So far it seems to have been effective, but I have just one question. If mayonnaise can kill lice, why on earth are we putting it on our sandwiches?!

Mayo adventures aside, Liz and I are doing well. We had a bit of a scare with the pregnancy a few weeks back, but after a couple weeks rest (doctors orders) and lots of prayer everything seems to be just fine. Praise God for His faithfulness. She had her first official prenatal last night with an American missionary midwife and all seems to be in order.

Liz and I have had lots of visitors this month. A couple guys from Canada were in town for a few weeks and both were a real encouragement to us. My dad has also been here the last week and a half and will be leaving us in just a few days. He has been really involved and had the opportunity to preach in another community our church is reaching out to called Cabantian. I am proud of my dad for being so adventurous.

Despite being pregnant and a little nauseous, Liz has kept up with the medical stuff as best as she can. We are half way through constructing a small office and health center for her so that she can have her own space to do check-ups and run training seminars from. We are excited to see it completed so that the primary health care program will be completely reborn and have its own space to function again. Liz has also been getting two of the younger girls to assist her with the health check ups and at the same time, try to teach and inspire them to be involved in primary health care. I found out that one of the girls now wants to pursue nursing and maybe one day become a primary health care worker. It's exciting to know that they are catching the vision.

This Saturday, we will be holding a feeding for 50 malnourished kids in another neighborhood. We met with the local government and they were very supportive of the idea. We plan on doing this once a week as a way to "plant a seed" and eventually start another Tabitha: Food for Life site in this neighborhood. We are very excited about this Saturday. Please pray that we would all have wisdom and that we would find favor in this community.

That is all for now. God bless and thank you for your prayers and support!



Cling-cling (right) and her brother. I have been picking her up everyday to bring her to Food for Life.



Mayo.



Liz helping to clean Joshua's boil.



My dad preaching in Cabantian.

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