

Bringing Hope to the Philippines

March 21st, 2009:

This has been a good month for Liz and I. An update on the effectiveness of mayonnaise to remove lice. Lice-1, mayonnaise-0. However, we reverted to a more drastic food treatment to remove lice. A potent mixture of rubbing alcohol, vinegar and lots and lots of cayenne pepper. So far it seems to be doing the trick. I am not sure what we would be using next if that one does not work. If anyone has any ideas let us know.

Liz is downstairs right now having a meeting with all of the mothers and some of the fathers in the feeding program to discuss primary health care with them. The purpose of the meeting is to help them understand what primary health care is, how they could get involved if they wanted, and to get an idea of the main concerns that the parents have about their children's health. She was worried that no one would show up, but at least 20 people came. This is very encouraging as it shows interest in primary health care at the grass roots level. I am so proud of her. There is no one else doing what she is doing in our area right now.

Liz is now almost three and a half months pregnant. It still does not really feel real to me yet, but we are excited and a little frightened at the same time. I know it will change our lives, but I am not really sure how at this point. Pray for us as we go through the pregnancy in a foreign culture and climate.

I have had the opportunity to preach once a month here in House of Jubilee and once a month in Cabantian. I decided to do a series on 2 Peter 1:2-9 called 'How to be Fruitful and Useful'. The seven qualities that we should see in our life and that should be growing. Next month I will be speaking on knowledge. I am doing my best to

speaking as much as I can in Cebuano, but I am sure it comes out funny most of the time. I am learning lots by being forced to try to speak. I get lots of laughs, I hope it helps keep their attention at least.

We have opened a new feeding program in another community not far from here called Rosemary. Currently, we are feeding 50 kids every Saturday. We have seen God open doors in the local government and the school that is nearby. The local government officials have been assisting us in gathering the most needy kids and the school gave us a room to use. Our plan and dream is to have a feeding 4 days a week there, but for now we are doing what we can. Thank you to those who are praying for and supporting the feeding program.

This week there was a tough situation with one of the families in the feeding program. I can't say much more right now, but it has really affected me emotionally and made me think how comfortable my life is and how in some ways I have blinded myself to what is happening to some of the children that we work with everyday. I guess we can't be an emotional wreck all the time, but we should never be comfortable when we know people are being abused, neglected, sick or oppressed. It is just not right that these things are happening, especially to children.

A special note to Valley Church:

Valley church, I miss you guys. I am so deeply thankful for your support. Liz and I feel continually blessed by you guys. I know I say it all the time, but I can't help it, I feel compelled to say thank you. We likely won't be home for awhile, maybe in 2010. We would love to hear from you and if there is anything you'd like to know, please let us know.



Me preaching on March 8th.



The first feeding in Rosemary.



Now that is one serious tooth brushing session.

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