

# Bringing HOPE to the Philippines (Oct. 4, 2008)

**Itugyan kaniya ang tanan ninyong kabalaka kay siya nag-atiman kaninyo. (1 Pet 5:7)**

So, five weeks of language school are down... three more to go. Hard to believe that it's almost over. For the most part, language school has taught us how much we don't know and how culture is linked to language and how its impossible to separate a culture from its language. I don't mean to say we have not learned anything, I think we are both gaining a foundation that will allow us to really learn the language. This morning we were at HFTN to meet with some of the staff. We tried our best to speak Cebuano. I can definitely say that we know much more Cebuano than we did in the past.

Not only are we learning the language, but we are being exposed to many cultural things that we had not really understood before. For example, I have always been surprised when Filipinos I run into onto the street (whether I know them or not) will ask me, "Asa ka moadto?" which means, "Where are you going?" It always seemed odd that a complete stranger wanted to know that. I usually tried to explain in detail where I was going. I have recently been learning that this is just a casual greeting, kind of like our "How's it going?" They don't really want to know, they are just saying hi. The proper response should be, "Just there," with a subtle gesture or pointing ahead (to no where in particular).

On October 24th, we will graduate from our course and we will be back to normal life at HFTN in Agdao. As I have been praying I have been filled with a hunger to know Jesus as majesty. As Peter said in 2 Peter 1:16, "We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his **majesty**." I don't want to minister out of what I read or hear, I want to minister out of a true knowledge of our Savior.

Liz ran a deworming program for the mothers who attended the deworming seminar last month and all of their children. There are a couple pictures of it at the bottom. As I mentioned before, many of the kids suffer from worms that rob them of precious nutrients. We will run a similar program in a couple months.

As always, we have been overwhelmed by the support from family, friends, and our churches. Please know that we are deeply thankful. Our pray is that we would be able to honor the seed that you have sown.

Please pray for:

- God's anointing in our lives
- That we would be full of His love
- That we would lead as servants
- The broken and lost in Agdao



Liz preparing deworming medicine for the kids (it does not taste so good!)



Gary waiting for deworming medicine.



Liz and Lienny

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