



Missionary Greetings from the Rundles



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(1Co 16:9) For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.

(Rev 3:8) I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

Dear Praying Friends:

As I have reflected upon the multiplied blessings God poured out upon Brother Mike (Olson) and me in our most recent trip to the Philippines, I was reminded of God's faithfulness to His "many exceeding great and precious promises" He demonstrated in fulfilling the promises above. In this prayer letter I would like to share with you how God made these promises real to us in our January trip.

Rejoicing in God's Faithfulness in the Philippines

Really, 1 Corinthians 16:9 is a two-edged promise. Just as God opened up a great and effectual door of ministry opportunity to Paul, so He will do for all of His faithful servants. However, He also promises that such opportunities open His servants to adversity. Our adversary, the devil, is attracted to growing ministries, and he seeks to create havoc. But in Revelation 3:8 God has promised not only to open the doors but to not allow any man to shut them, when we humbly recognize our dependence upon Him and are faithful to obey Him.

His Promises Made Real in Negros-Occidental: Over the past several years Mike and I noted a marked decline in attendance from an average of over 100 pastors to an average of 35 pastors attending our Bacolod modules and seminars. A high spot was our Homiletics module in 2008, with 85 pastors in attendance, but that was an exception. We could not put our finger on it until meetings with pastors last spring uncovered a leadership problem among our Filipino counterparts, which was causing many not to attend. The offending leader's angry response to our overtures to solve the problem imperiled our ministry in Negros-Occidental, threatening to shut it down—ADVERSITY was in full throttle.

Perplexed and frightened (After all, we are human!), we began seeking God's wisdom for a solution, gathering our American leadership team around us in prayer. Anything and everything we tried to do to solve the problem seemed only to make it worse. Consequently, we did the only thing we could do, back off and just pray, and ask our friends to pray.

Initially, the offender resigned, and we appointed a new VLCPI Coordinator to promote the seminars. On my July trip to the Philippines, we had over 70 pastors attend the module! We began to discover that, not only had the offender lost our confidence but also the support of the pastors. Then he managed to get himself reinstated by infecting two other Filipino members of our board, and he tried to actively shut the ministry down. All we could do was pray. **Well, that's the first and most important thing we can do—WATCH and PRAY!** (Colossians 4:2-3)

Wow! God answered, the trouble-maker resigned, along with his two friends, and the ministry was intact. While we are saddened by the way men who had become our friends allowed Satan to gain the advantage (We will miss them in many ways, and continue to pray for their restoration.), God was faithful to His promises, demonstrating His faithfulness in powerful

Committing the "Faith-Full Word" to Faithful Men (2 Timothy 2:2)

ways, vindicating our course of action, as you shall see.

Training Conference in Bacolod: On January 21, Mike and I flew to the Philippines for two weeks of training in three different venues, and to reorganize the Village Light Ministries International (VLMI) board. We began at the Haven of Grace Camp south of Bacolod, teaching the much needed topic of *The Extremes of Calvinism and Reformed Theology*. Interestingly, the week prior a reformed group held a conference to proselyte Filipino pastors to their position. Many of the younger, inexperienced pastors went away from the conference and taught their people this erroneous doctrine. Confused and desperate pastors converged on our seminar, alarmed by this theology which is infiltrating the Philippines. God blessed marvelously and they went away refreshed, inoculated and prepared to give an answer to others who were confused or would attempt to confuse others. Our coordinator's last attendance tally was 100 pastors. You can image how blessed we were, knowing that our attendance had actually increased again. **God is faithful!**

An Expansion of our Philippines Partnership: Pastor Mel Tittle and Evangelist Mark Kittrell joined us in the Philippines, speaking at the Haven of Grace Camp and explaining the synergistic relationship God had forged with us. The Open Door Baptist Church, of which Mel is pastor, has assumed the management of the camp to ensure it has the necessary resources to expand its ministry to the Filipino pastors and their churches, freeing Mike and I to focus our time and resources on the training of Filipino pastors. They have launched an ambitious plan to completely renovate and expand the camp, including the building of a large conference and resource center for Filipino pastors. Pastor Forrest Jones and our good friends at Leon Valley Baptist Church will continue to be involved as God enables and directs them. Mike and I will continue to use the camp for our institute training modules and seminars, as a part of our Village Light Project work. **In short, not only has our training outreach to Filipino pastors grown but we are strategically positioned to expand our ministry to them in the days ahead, through our training ministry, the camp, and through the conference and resource center. God is faithful!**

Equipping in Cebu & Dumaguete: Our next stop was Cebu, where I taught *Exposing the Extremes of Calvinism and Reformed Theology*, and Mike focused on developing practical ministry skills, featuring his talk: *Stamping out the Ants and Making Hippos Fly*, a time management seminar. Great stuff! We had 34 pastors in attendance with many of them from the neighboring island of Leyte. Once again, they found the information so helpful, and a great help to thwart the inroads Reformed Theology has been making into their islands. We found the same thing in Dumaguete where we had around 25-30 pastors in attendance for both topics. The president of Leyte Baptist Seminary attended our Cebu seminar along with several of his faculty members. As a result of this contact, Brother Mike will be teaching a Homiletics seminar in September to the seminary students in Leyte. **Again, God is faithful!**

Returning to India

Praying to the Lord of the Harvest

As we look forward to an exciting new year, will you join us in praying for the following needs?

- **God's Work in the Philippines:**
- **God's Continued Blessing in Other Ways:**
 - **Barbara:** Pray for Barbara as she speaks on the subject of rape recovery on January 20, and again in March. We are praying for God to open many other doors, eventually including ministry to ladies in Eastern Europe and the Philippines, as God leads.
 - **George:** In addition to two Field Administrator meetings and conferences in 2011, I will conduct two pastor training modules in India, and additional trips to the Philippines and Europe later in the year. Pray for God's blessing in all these ministry opportunities.

Barbara and I would also like to thank our faithful prayer supporters and those whom God has enabled to support us on a monthly basis. Your prayers and giving have truly made the difference. We are excited about the future.

Because of Calvary,

George & Barbara Rundle