

THE BACHORIK IN PHILIPPINES

March, 2008

Dear praying friends,

It is a quiet Sunday afternoon here in Quezon City. We arrived home at about 3:30, after ministering with Lighthouse Bible Believers Church (pastored by fellow GFA missionary Gary Jones), on the south end of metro Manila. On Saturdays either I or our family have been driving there, working with various musicians, spending the night, helping in the morning service, then returning to home to be at Gospel Light Baptist Church in the evening, directing the children's choirs. This weekend was our last at LBBC for a couple of months, and the last presentation of the children's choirs before the summer break (which starts in April). We look forward to turning over the children's choirs to those we have been training this past year. Just last week we wrapped up our Saturday morning children's Bible club, so very crazy weekends should settle into a little more sane schedule for the summer months, not that we are complaining! In recent weeks we have had over 120 different children attend the Bible club at least once, hearing a clear presentation of the gospel. About 25 or so were 'regular' attendees. There have been a few professions of faith among the children, and several adults have had the seed of the gospel planted and watered in their hearts. We are praying for God's bringing in of the harvest and for a better way to follow up on these precious souls. As the Lord wills, we plan to restart the Bible club when school starts again in June. Who needs quiet weekends?

The music ministries of BJMBC have abounded lately, as we have just completed two weeks of choir concerts. On two Sundays the college choir ministered in three different churches, presenting a program of sacred music focusing on the crucifixion and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, including pieces from both Handel's MESSIAH and Stainer's CRUCIFIXION to about 400 hundred people. Dr. Tim Berrey gave clear gospel presentations. We look forward to hearing of fruit as these churches follow up on decisions made. One church was in the Makati area of metro Manila, one in the province of Bulacan (a small mission church), and one in Angeles City (the home of the former Clark Air Force Base). In between these ministries we presented an outreach concert in a large lecture hall at the nearby University of the Philippines. With only a couple days of inviting students, faculty, and staff, we had about 45 attend and a few professions of faith. BJMBC students from area churches are now working to disciple these folks. The choir also presented the program for its BJMBC/Gospel Light family. Please **pray** for Casey W. (whom I have mentioned in previous letters), as he has a great burden for reaching the lost, and has spent hours giving out tracts on campus.

Not only has the choir been active, but the first year of our new string program, wonderfully directed by Rachel Uhler, drew to a close with a fine recital by the various group string classes and the BJMBC string orchestra (nearly 40 strong). Following the concert I had the opportunity to present a short gospel message. I can hardly describe the thrill of hearing these students play so well when most have only been studying 2 semesters. Rachel's sister Bethany plans to return to BJMBC in June to study, assist her sister in teaching strings, assist me in music theory, and encourage students in writing string arrangements. What is really exciting about all of this is that these students are now beginning string programs in their churches and Christian schools! In addition, Ruth, Jolea Jensen, and Cherry Catalo, heard their piano students play their final exams. As the school year ends nearly 50 students have been studying piano privately or in group lessons. Many of these students are *the* pianists for their churches, although they may have only studied for a few years. Slowly, the Lord is using the music program at BJMBC to raise the quality of music in churches. Of equal importance, many pastors and church musicians are seriously striving to establish a biblical philosophy of music, and struggling to implement such a philosophy. The music students and graduate students (mostly active pastors) have just turned in 8 to 10-page philosophy papers, after about 600 pages of readings and 48 pages of raw research (now you know how Doug is spending his time leading up to Easter!). We **praise the Lord** for the privilege of being used in His vineyard.

Please **pray** for our children as they grow, we trust, in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. They seem to be slowly growing in their burden for lost souls, helping in the Saturday Bible club, inviting neighbors to GLBC's recent evangelistic meetings, helping present a program of songs, poems, and scripture readings about the Christ's death, burial, and resurrection to unsaved friends of Jeanne Raymond and Beth Goodwill. We **praise** the Lord for the wonderful spiritual, as well as educational, ministry these two ladies are having in the lives of the Kamibayashiyama children and ours.

We would appreciate your continued **prayers** for NewSong Ministries as we work to see it become completely indigenous and self-sustaining publishing ministry in the next few years. A matching gift of \$5000 has been

promised once the same amount has been donated to the ministry. Thus far the Lord has brought in over \$1500.

Current and coming ministries: Ruth teaching Children's Music Ministry class in a modular format; Doug preaching at the Easter worship of Calvary Baptist Church, San Jose del Monte; auditions for new music students; BJMBC graduation; one-day music seminar in Batangas; annual GFA- Philippines conference; teaching music philosophy class to pastors in the Bicol region; annual in-service seminar for Christian educators.

Thank you for being used of the Lord to allow us to be here serving Him. Your prayers and financial support are a great encouragement and we count ourselves blessed and overwhelmed to be doing what we are here in the Philippines.

Your soldiers for Christ,
Doug & Ruth
Alicia, Joseph, Julia, Lydia, and Evan