

## **Summer Events**

Where has the summer gone! April and May are summer months here in the Philippines. Temperatures creep up, rain is virtually non-existent, and the dams supplying water to Manila begin to reach critically low levels. By sometime in early or mid-June, rainy season begins and brings a little relief from the unrelenting heat of summer. And school begins for most of the public schools across the country.

Our ministry seasons naturally follow the country's seasons. Summer is a time for church camps, youth camps, ministry travel, and Vacation Bible School. This year we were able to minister as a family at the Vacation Bible School of Gospel Light Baptist Church. About 100 children attended and a handful of salvation decisions were made.

This summer also featured a trip (for Tim and Timmy) to two different islands here in the Philippines: Romblon and Mindoro. Romblon is potentially a future site for BJMBC's Continuing Education for Pastors, and Tim spoke in a missions conference there. In Mindoro, Tim was also part of a Saturday Bible Conference held among the Mangyan tribal people, an attempt to strengthen native pastors, workers, and churches within this tribal group.

God's timing is always perfect. The biggest news--of which many of you are aware--is that BJMBC got its occupancy permit on Friday, May 24, about two business days before the first official class of the new school year began. This was just in time to host the Foundations Baptist Fellowship International Conference (June 4-6), with a number of delegates attending from all over the Philippines and other parts of Asia. Simultaneous with the Conference was a Ladies Counseling Conference and a Children's Bible Conference. Debi Pryde was the Ladies Counseling speaker and a team from Calvary Baptist Church (Hampton, GA) oversaw the Children's Conference. Both were a great blessing.

The start of the Conference, June 4, also marked the official launch of the new semester and new school year. A historic first--as we enjoy our own place for the first time in our 33-34 years of existence. We have had some growing pains, of course, as we figure out how to use the building, but overall it has been a wonderful transition. At least 110 students have enrolled for this current school year, including a number of new students.

This summer also witnessed the passing of one of our students. Kezzia Asuncion was one of the six dorm ladies who lived with our family this past year. The Sunday before she was tragically killed in a bicycle accident, she shared with her mother

that she had been praying for five girls from their church to be baptized, and God had answered her request with the final girl. A few days later she was in the presence of the God who answers prayers. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints. We miss her dearly.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

We covet your ongoing prayers for the ministry of BJMBC and the privilege of having a part in training students from the Philippines and other parts of Asia. Here are seven items to lift up before the Throne--one for each day of the week:

- 1. Grace for ministerial students like James and Joel, virtually the only believers in their entire families, who face opposition from family members because of their desire to train for the ministry.
- 2. A new student, Jireh, who enrolled at BJMBC because he wants to better rightly divide the Word of Truth in his church.
- 3. Kenneth and Ramil, family men who are entering their second year of training at BJMBC and who desire to be more greatly used of God in future ministry opportunities.
- 4. God's enabling grace for three students from Myanmar (Saw, Samuel, and Barabbas), who are currently studying at BJMBC on a shoe-string budget.
- 5. Tim's upcoming trip (July 8-13) to teach Restricted Access Nation pastors. He will be finishing up where he left off last time in teaching the Post-Exilic Prophets.
- 6. Wisdom in leading our children into a closer walk with the Lord.
- 7. Evangelistic opportunities in which our family is involved: Saturday Bible club, Bible basketball (evangelistic), tract distribution (teens), and a potential weekly Bible study (for Tim) at a nearby hardware store.

Your servants for His sake,

Timothy, Laura, Susanna, Timmy, James, Andrew, David, and Daniel



Five of our six dorm girls from last school year. Kezzie (front left) is now with the Lord.







Calvary Baptist Church ran the children's Bible conference (left). Debi Pryde spoke for the Ladies' Counseling Conference (right).





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