



THE HURST FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO THE Philippines

2022 Update Letter # 1

... Ye shall be witnesses unto me Acts 1:8

Dear Pastors & Praying Friends,

Our 2022 theme is "Be A Witness for Christ." This reminds and encourages our people of the responsibility and opportunity that God has given us, wherever we are, and wherever He leads us; to share the Gospel, and to live as an example for our Saviour.

Life is finally settling into a new normal. The roads are full of cars and the markets and streets are full of people. Masks are still a requirement inside and outside, while vaccination cards are necessary to enter malls, restaurants and many stores. People are trying to move on with their lives even with ups and downs among restrictions and occupancy limits. Regardless of limitations and circumstance, the Gospel continues to go forth.

Soul winning and Discipleship ... Our people are no longer acting timid or scared, but faithfully attending services and even inviting friends and those they meet while soul winning. We praise the Lord that every week visitors are attending and the congregation is growing. A large part of that is because of soul winning. Six to seven thousand Bible tracts were passed out in the first two months and every Saturday morning 25 to 30 soul winners are going out sharing the gospel. A number of Bible studies are being conducted and many others are being disciplined. Praise the Lord for faithful people.

Children's Ministries ... For two years children have basically been locked up inside their homes. We were not able to bring kids to church unless a parent also attended. That led us to focus more on Saturday Good News Classes. Currently we range from 140 to 170 kids between 12 different classes. (Pictures on page 2). Please pray for this ministry since other religious organizations have taken a number of our groups offering them food, rice, etc.

Sunday school and Children's church are both beginning to grow again. The children are excited to learn and just glad to be out.

Families—Day and Night ... As witnesses for Christ, mom's and dad's must be witnesses to our children; as well as our families' being an example to those around us. We are investing in our families, providing preaching and teaching on the home and family, but also providing family friendly activi-

ties with a Family Night and our Family Day. We have seen Satan's attack upon our families but have also witnessed much spiritual growth.

Youth Fellowships and Banquet ... In February we offer a Youth Banquet for our young people and visitors as a replacement for Valentines. This year we had over 60 young people including over a dozen visitors with a number of salvation decisions made. The first and third Sunday of each month there is a youth fellowship after lunch, before our evening service. These fellowships enable us to keep the young people involved but also to share relevant issues from God's Word.

Adult Fellowships and Banquet ... The ladies, men and couples continue to have monthly fellowships with good participation and a number of visitors. The adult couples also have a Banquet in February and this year's was very interesting. We had a nice meal all planned and mostly prepared earlier in the week. Two hours before the Banquet we realized the meat was spoiled. Suddenly we are rushing to every store trying to find something to serve for 30 to 40 individuals. God provided an excellent Salmon dinner that was enjoyed by everyone.

Father and Son Outing ... Chris continues to encourage dads to be more involved with their children, especially their sons. They went out to play paint ball, which Chris had never done before. It was a great time of fun and fellowship, but he realized that it hurts when someone nails you up close.

MetroView Baptist Academy ... Through the pandemic we have seen many private schools close and we do not want to end up that way. We are asking for prayer for God's wisdom, students and teachers. While praying for new enrollees; we have passed out thousand of flyers, advertised online and even did a Motorcade four different days around the city to advertise. Please pray that we can continue this ministry, which has seen students and parents come to know Christ as their Saviour.

We appreciate each of you and thank you for your faithful partnership in reaching lost souls here in the Philippines!

Christopher and Ivy Hurst

Birthday Month

February is a special month in our family since three of the four of us have birthdays in February.

Ivy and Andrew on the fifteenth and Kaitlin on the 25th.

Praise the Lord for another year for our children and for a faithful wife, mother, friend and ministry partner.

Prayer Requests

- More souls to be saved, baptized and disciplined
- Teachers, interns and students for Metroview Baptist Academy
- Follow up with the many visitors and recent converts
- More Bible Institute students
- Spiritual growth of our people
- Mission Emphasis Sunday—March 27

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Sending Church: Grace Bible Baptist Church • Dr. Rubin Ruffin. Pastor • 3445 Luke St. • Pensacola, FL 32505 • (850) 434-3440



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Right: Mark gathering his Bible Club kids.

Left: MVBC Family Day Group Picture.

Left: Tug of War was one of many games at our Family Day.



Right: Mary Joy with one of her Bible Club groups

Right: CJ with her Saturday Bible Club.

Left: Group picture from our Youth Banquet, with 60+ in attendance.

Right: Sarah's club kids learn a song.

Bottom Left: Mark at his Bible Study in a garment factory.

Bottom Right: Motorcade to advertise our Academy

Below: Vince, age 10 is witnessing to a group of teenage boys as one of our men listens.



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