

Inter-National Harvest

"Unto the ends of the earth"

Things To Come Mission

Romans 1:5

John 4:35

Winter, 1997



FROM THE EDITOR

Pastor Joel R. McGarvey



With this issue of the *International Harvest* several changes are in order that we trust will make the IH more of a blessing to you.

First, you will notice the new size and format. Many of you have requested that we increase the size of our magazine stating that the larger size is easier to read. With the increased size we will be able to spread out, making our pages less cluttered, the pictures larger and the overall appearance much more inviting. It is not our intention to put a lot of additional information or sections in the magazine. Let us know what you think of this new size and format.

Second, with this addition we have a new editor. For some time Dan Sidebottom has served as the editor along with his duties as Mission Treasurer,

Exciting things are happening here at Things To Come Mission. Become a partner in ministry with us.

Development Director and in-house computer expert. With all of these duties Dan was being stretched thin. Therefore at the September meeting of the Board of Directors it was decided that a new editor be appointed. As a member of the board I was happy to volunteer my time (as well as the time of a few folks in my home church) to serve as the IH editor.

Allow me to take a moment and introduce myself to you. My name is Pastor Joel R. McGarvey and I am the Pastor of Grace Family Bible Church of Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania. My wife, Susan and I are the parents of four children Rebecca Turner (just

married), Jennifer, Paul and Joel Jr.. Susan is an RN primarily caring for home patients on infusion pump therapy. In addition she is a full partner in our ministry being very active in many areas of the church.

As we begin this new area of ministry along with the new *International Harvest* it is our prayer that you will become a partner in ministry with us. Stand with us as we seek the Lord's guidance for TCM.

The cry for help is being heard from around the world. The need for missionaries is greater today than ever before. Become an active part of what the Lord is doing around the world.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The *Inter-National Harvest* is the official publication of Things to Come Mission, Inc.

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Joseph W. Watkins



We have been reading much of late of Indonesia. The news we have received in the papers has not been good - airplane crash, smog, the Indonesian bank scandal regarding contributions to the Democratic party.

I would like to present the other side of Indonesia. TCM has a good ministry in this country. Indonesians have been saved and taught the Word of God rightly divided. I want to share with you a report sent to me by TCM's representative in Indonesia, Dr. Frans Tamarol. While the letter is quite lengthy it presents an excellent picture of what the Lord is doing in Indonesia.

Dear Mr. Joe Watkins:

Greetings in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ. I have just been back from my 7-day trip in

two islands of Tagulandang and Siau this morning at 3:30 AM. The weather last night was very bad, but our merciful God is so wonderful taking care of me and my companions to arrive safely at Manado harbour. Most of us got seasick though, and I am still feeling shaky while typing this letter.

Anyway, the work in the two islands are really progressing very nicely. As I arrived on Saturday July 19 in Balehumara, Tagulandang, I preached in a thanksgiving service at 4 PM in one of the newly reached member outside of the town. Then in the evening, I had a meeting with leaders and some of the members of Balehumara Grace Bible Church. Piet Sambur, Audy Ngantung and Arthur Kotambunan were with me that made the number of BPP 4 people, which was a real honor for a congregation in a small island to get such a visit. Also, there were 5 local evangelists accompanied us, 3 of them are singers and 1 guitarist.



Dr and Mrs Frans Tamarol

See Director page 7

For Your Information

THINGS TO COME MISSION



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Dear Faithful Partners in Ministry,

We want to take this opportunity to inform you our faithful supporters of a recent change here at TCM.

We want to thank you for being a faithful part of the team helping Dan and Jean Gross over the years in their ministry in Singapore and the Philippines. Dan and Jean ministered with TCM from June of 1990 until July of 1997.

However, it has come to our attention that there may be some mis-understanding as to the reason that Dan and Jean are no longer affiliated with Things To Come Mission and serving in the Philippines.

Last year Dan informed the mission that he was no longer able to sign the mission's doctrinal statement that he had signed upon his acceptance in the mission. He had changed his views on two sections: Ministry gifts and the Lord's Supper. Due to this change, he was required to leave the mission. The mission, however, agreed to allow them to finish their term on the field rather than forcing them to leave immediately.

We are herewith informing you that TCM is no longer able to accept gifts for the ministry of Dan and Jean Gross.

We greatly value your support for the mission and trust you will consider redesignating your support to another missionary or field ministry. Since Dan and Jean lived and ministered in the Philippines for seven years, we would suggest you consider redesignating your support to one or more of the following:

- ✠ The Philippine Field Ministry (working with pastors and churches)
- ✠ The Philippine Bible Institute (IGBI-International Grace Bible Institute)
- ✠ Gomer and Nene Indino - A Filipino missionary serving in Brazil
- ✠ Genesis and Verna Maraath - A Filipino missionary to Kenya
- ✠ Gardner and Ledith Improso - A Filipino missionary in Kenya
- ✠ Sanny and Jeannette Sumilhig - A Filipino missionary on deputation, assigned to the Philippines.

Thank you for considering these needs.

When Dan made application to be a missionary with Things To Come Mission he agreed that should he ever voluntarily leave or be asked to leave his field of service that he would not return to that field. In Dan's case that would be the Philippines as well as Singapore. Since it was Dan who had pioneered the ministry in Singapore the mission has agreed that he be permitted to continue serving in that area, but by his agreement he will not return for the purpose of conducting any ministry in the Philippines. Dan has informed the mission that he has applied for a Singapore visa. This has been denied in the past and, though he does not have much hope, we know he would appreciate your prayers. If the Lord does not open this door, pray that other doors would open for Dan and Jean's future ministry.

In Christ's Love,

TCM Board of Directors



TCM PROJECT IDEAS

From time to time we receive requests for suggestions as to projects that churches or individuals could undertake on the behalf of our missionaries. Although monthly support is needed by our missionaries and field ministries, there are times when special gifts offer a great help and encouragement to the work.

Ask God to touch your heart with what part He would have you play in meeting these needs. We have listed only a few of the possible projects. These are the ones we will concentrate on at this time.

PROJECT	COST	RECEIVED
☞ Joel/Darcy Molina: language Study	\$500.00	-
☞ Set Free Ministries: rent	\$1,000.00	-
☞ North Brazil church construction	???	\$27,837.86
☞ Sanny & Jeannette Sumilhig Travel to and Housing setup in Philippines	\$3,000.00	\$755.00
☞ Philippine IGBI Davao Kitchen	\$1,000.00	-

A BRIEF EXPLANATION:

1. Joel and Darcy Molina have just begun their ministry in Brazil where it is nearly impossible to use English. Joel reports that he is learning fast but more studies are needed. They have received some gifts for language study but these have been used.

2. Set Free Ministries maintains homes for women to live in while they receive the training



Joel & Darcy Molina

See Projects page 12

Director (cont)

Next day, Sunday, early in the morning, we had a morning prayer hour and Bible Study. At 7:00, we cross the narrow strait to "Ruang" (a volcano island) to have a service in our church in Laingpatehi "the village on the rock". This service was a dedication of their 5 x 9 square meter church building which they had just built. We were 55 people including some children took 2 small diesel driven boats. The service in the morning went very nice attended by all members of Laingpatehi Grace Bible Church and 2 Village Authorities plus my team from Balehumara. In the afternoon, we had an Evangelism Meeting attended by hundreds of people. Praise the Lord. In the evening we came back to Balehumara crossing the strait again but we had a real problem. Only one boat was available so the 55 people had to fit this very small boat. The driver was afraid to cross due to a very bad weather, strong wind and very high waves. Therefore, we had to divide the team. The first, all women and children plus some men just in case the boat got sunk, these men could help. I was one

among those men. The second team consisted of all men had to be left at one of the coast to wait for the boat came back. With the mercy of our Lord Jesus we arrived safely at Balehumara. How good our merciful God is.

Next day (Monday), the team from Manado (9 people) took the same boat as we did on Sunday night, and we visited a small congregation at Mulengen (about one and a half hour boating). In Mulengen I laid the first stone to mark the starting of Church Building Construction. So, in Tagulandang, I dedicated the building in Laingpatehi on Sunday, and laid the first stone of the building in Mulengen on Monday, just like I did in East Java about three weeks before. Praise the Lord.

Monday evening was a great evening in Balehumara, an Evangelism

INDONESIA



meeting. The head of the district and his wife as well as the head of the town came to the meeting. GAA members and leaders were very happy because these

important people had the

opportunity to listen to the Gospel of Jesus Christ preached in a sound dispensational Biblical sermon. Hundreds of people attended, and like in Laingpatehi the day before, many of them decided to open their hearts for Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord Jesus.

Tuesday morning we opened the day with morning prayer hour and Bible Study. Then came the decision making problem again. It has been decided that all meetings should be led by me, while others will help in counseling, praying and giving technical assistance to the local committee. But I had to leave for

See Director page 10



A PHILIPPINES REPORT

Don Sommers

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same thou commit to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

II Timothy 2:2

Paul's instructions to Timothy were given nearly 2,000 years ago, yet they are still relevant and represent God's chosen method of training teachers and pastors in the Body of Christ. It is obvious that missionaries and church leaders who ignore these clear instructions are bound to find their work stagnant. Without a well defined method of leadership training a ministry will tend to develop into a "one man show" in which a pastor or missionary is responsible for all the work of teaching, preaching and evangelism. Realizing this fundamental truth, the ministry of Things to Come Mission in the Philippines has made a deliberate and concerted effort to emphasize the role of training and leadership development at all levels of the ministry, from the individual local church through to the regional and national levels.

Yet, while the Apostle gives definite

instruction as to what to do (train faithful men), he is far less clear in telling us how to do it. We are therefore left with the freedom to explore a variety of options and to apply those which are most effective and practical for any given situation. In this article I will discuss some of the various methods which we have applied in the Philippines in order to train "faithful men."

Residential Bible Schools

PHILIPPINES



From the very beginning of the ministry the Bible Institute has been an integral part of the training of pastors and church workers in the Philippines. In 1958 International Grace Bible Institute first opened its doors and it has been in operation ever since. From the time of its opening, IGBI has trained thousands of students and produced hundreds of graduates, many of whom have committed themselves to full-time ministry.

The Bible Institute model involves three years of intensive classroom training followed by one year of practical internship serving in a local church. It normally attracts young people directly out of high school, though we have

seen a few older and even married students study at our schools.

The traditional Bible Institute model has received some criticism. It has been pointed out that it is not a training model that we can specifically find in the Bible; it puts too much emphasis on intellectual information verses practical experience; that many of the young people that come to the Institute are not serious about ministry and lack commitment; that the need to maintain a large facility and full-time faculty makes it less cost effective.

While some of these critiques may have some merit, our experience in the Philippines has shown that the traditional Bible Institute provides the most efficient method of teaching the fundamental knowledge necessary for a pastor to have a viable and successful ministry. Although it may take some time for a brand new graduate to develop the wisdom and maturity necessary for the pastoral ministry he will have gained the basic intellectual tools needed for him to have an effective teaching and pulpit ministry. For this reason TCM Philippines will continue to have an ongoing commitment to the Bible Institute and will actively promote and support this form of training.

For many of the believers it is not possible to leave their homes and enroll in one of the

Bible Institutes. Yet there are still many that have a desire to serve God and to have an active and fruitful ministry, in some cases they

may even hope to devote themselves full-time to the work the Lord. For these people our Filipino leaders have developed a number of alternative training methods that have successfully trained men and women for church service.

*For this reason TCM
Philippines will continue
to have an ongoing
commitment to the
Bible Institute...*

Church Based Bible Institutes

A number of the congregations have taken the initiative to start Bible Institutes right in their churches. These usually are opened in areas that are far from either of our two main Mission sponsored schools, or because of language differences the students tend to not want to study at the schools. TCM-Philippines has two such schools that have successfully graduated a number of dedicated pastors and Bible women in recent years, one in Bacolod City in the central Philippines and a second in the northern part of the country in the province of Isabela. These schools follow more or less the same pattern of instruction as the Mission sponsored schools but the students tend to come from near the host church, and the faculty is usually part-time and voluntary.

Elders' Training Centers

This too is a variation of the Bible Institute

See Sommers page 11

Director (cont)

Siau, while the evangelism meeting had to be conducted for the second day in Balehumara so, we had to divide the team. There were 6 other local evangelists just came from Manado early that morning on their way to join me to Siau. So we were 15 now. After talking and praying Pastor Sambur and three others agreed to stay. So, 11 of us took a boat again to Siau. Our people were longing to see me because my last visit to that area was in 1987. Our people in Siau begged me to visit them. So, I said yes. I had to leave Tagulandang on Tuesday morning because that was the boat schedule, and Tuesday evening the meeting series in Siau started already. So we finally arrived in Siau in the afternoon. Many people from our church including the Pangirolong Village Head were waiting under the sun at Siau harbour. I was so happy and praising the Lord. As the boat touched the stage, I jumped over to greet them. In Balehumara, Laingpatehi and Pangirolong the situation was like a wedding party. They erected a big tent decorated with flowers and many kinds of ornaments.

The second day in Pangirolong, we had an evangelism meeting at 10 AM. Can you imagine, a church meeting conducted on Wednesday in the morning? Yet people came, hundreds of them including the Head of the District as well as the Heads of the Village. I preach on salvation again, and many of them received Jesus Christ. For our churches, such a meeting has its purpose mainly for salvation of the people, and also for promoting Grace Bible Church as a legally recognized organization evidenced by the presence of District and Village Heads.

Wednesday afternoon I had a discussion on women ministry with all the women, and in the evening, I had a meeting with Pangirolong leaders, to set future plans, and to arrange the next day meeting in Ulu, the capital of East Siau District (the

harbour town).

Thursday morning, we opened the day with prayer hour and Bible Study, then the team had to be divided into two again. I myself and several others stayed in Pangirolong. In the evening all of us met in Ulu to start the ministry in that town. We rented a house for church worker and is intended to be used for church meeting too. The owner of the house attended the initial meeting that afternoon. In the evening, we took the boat back to Manado, Dr. Jemmy Posangi and his wife (Grace), were waiting at Manado harbour to pick us up. They had been there waiting for us patiently since 1:00 A.M. Thank God for these nice people.

Please pray for Bro. Denny Sumayouw in Tagulandang, ministering the three congregations. We are praying to have one more worker to minister in Laingpatehi because it is very difficult for Denny to serve this congregation especially when the weather turns bad.

Also, pray for Pastor Jimmy Kumowal and his family, as they serve the Pangirolong congregation and for Bro. Jafet Makawangkel and his family as they start the work in Ulu.

Thank you very much for praying for me and my family too. I found my wife and son in good shape, although Friendly had to be taken to the doctor because he has a flu. I really need your prayer, because my ministry in North Sulawesi does not end yet. A heavy schedule is waiting for me for the coming week, beginning this evening in Tumpaan about 20 km South of Manado. I still controlling the work in Indonesia up to this time also. Please pray for Etta and Friendly because I have to leave them here in Manado. It is too risky to take Friendly with me to visit churches because my schedule is so heavy, little sleep, uncertain meal time, moving from village to village, and the problem of poor sanitary facilities in villages. As far as financial needs, so far so good. Only, please continue to pray for my needs when we arrive in (U.S.A.) early August.

Sommer (cont)

format yet with a more flexible schedule and is designed for church elders that are married and have responsibilities which keep them from being away from home for extended periods of time. This program was originally set up to serve the elders of rural churches on the island of Negros in the central Philippines. Classes were offered during times between planting and harvest of the rice crops when many of the men had time when they could get away from their Families.

Seminars and Extension Training

This method of training does not involve a fixed campus and allows for much greater flexibility in the scheduling of classes and accommodating the needs of the students. This type of training involves bringing together a group of committed students for classes at times which are most convenient for them. it allows a far greater number of people to be trained than any of the other methods, however, because the program is less formal and can require a number of years to complete it demands greater commitment from the participants.

Our churches in the Philippines have implemented two types of extension, both of which have had considerable success in training local leaders to carry the load of the ministry in churches which do not have full-time, trained

pastors. In one model the students gather three to four times per year for one full week of classes. In the other



International Grace Bible Institute, Ozamis Campus

arrangement they gather once a month for Friday to Sunday sessions. The second pattern being more conducive to cities and towns where members tend to have daily jobs which keep them occupied during weekdays. In both cases they follow a prescribed curriculum which gives them a fundamental knowledge of the Bible and Theology as well as practical

See Sommer page 14

Projects (cont)

and support the ministry offers. In recent months it has been difficult to meet the rent expenses.

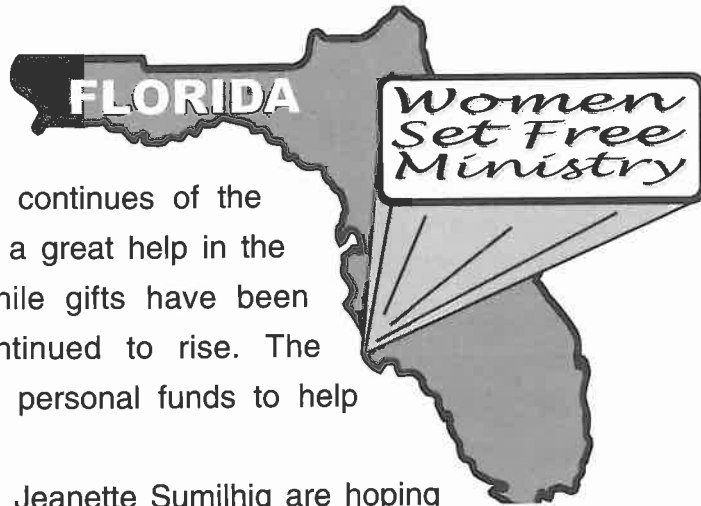
3. The LeFebbers report that construction continues of the church building in Ibura. The building will be a great help in the outreach carried on by the church. While gifts have been received the costs have continued to rise. The missionaries have used personal funds to help meet the needs.

4. Sanny and Jeanette Sumilhig are hoping to begin their ministry in the Philippines before the end of 1997. A special gift for their travel and setup costs would be a great help.

5. Don Sommer reports that the Davao campus of the International Grace Bible Institute is in need of a new kitchen. While some funds have been designated to this it is believed that additional gifts will be necessary to cover the "hidden" costs.

6. Remember the needs of all of our fields and missionaries. Each field has its own unique needs.

We encourage you to include these project needs in your prayer time. Ask God to meet these needs in the abundant and generous way that only he is capable of. If you desire more information on one or more specific projects please feel free to write and request this. We thank you for your interest in the mission ministry.



Sanny & Jeannette Sumilhig



Many ask us what the needs of TCM are. The most important need at this time is YOU. We need people who are willing to commit their lives to ministry and missions.

Bible Teachers:
Young men and women needed to teach in one of several TCM Bible Institutes. Available countries include: Brazil, Kenya, Cameroon, and The Philippines, Kenya, Brazil and Cameroon.
Contact TCM

Evangelists / Church Planters:
Looking for adventure? How about the thrill of seeing lost souls won to Christ? TCM has immediate openings for those with a pioneering spirit seeking to spread the glorious Gospel of Grace.
Apply to TCM

NEEDED

Children / Teen Workers:
Wanted, those with a love for Children and Teens. Some travel may be required. But all who go will receive a real blessing.
Contact TCM

Missionaries:
Young men and women needed to labor on one of several TCM mission fields. Doors are open now to serve the Lord in South Africa, Cameroon, Kenya, The Philippines, Indonesia, Brazil, and many others.
Contact TCM

+ PRAY + YIELD + GO + SERVE

Sommer (cont)

subjects such as Homiletics, Christian Education and Evangelism.

Mentoring

If there is any one method of leadership training which appears to have biblical support it is mentoring. This involves experienced pastor working side-by-side with a younger, less experienced individual and teaching him the work of the ministry by example. This was the method used by both the Lord Jesus while he was on earth with the twelve apostles and Paul with Timothy and others.

In the Philippines we have been using this informal method of training leaders, without formally acknowledging it as part of the training process. For years we have seen older pastors that have taken young men under their wings and helped them learn the ropes of the ministry. We now recognize mentoring and encourage our experienced pastor to establish a mentoring relationship with younger men.

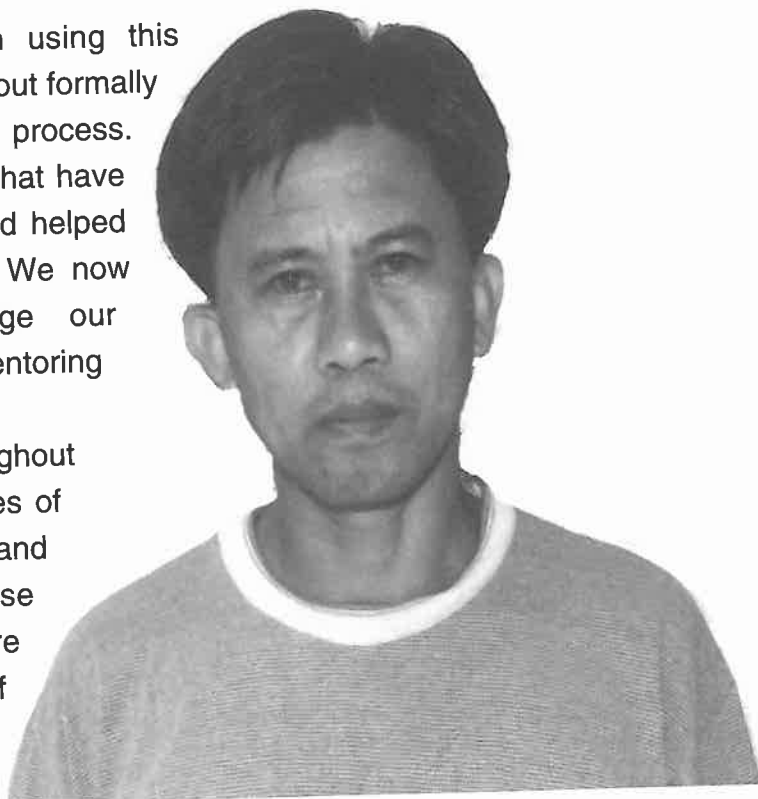
As I travel and visit churches throughout the Philippines I learn of yet other types of training that are being tried by pastors and area leaders. In whatever way these various methods are adapted there remains the overriding objective of equipping the saints for the work of the ministry. The key to success is to be flexible and adaptable with methods while remaining faithful to teaching the unchangeable truth of the Scriptures.

TESTIMONY

Pastor Bemardo P. Pesidas

Since I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Savior, it was my great desire to serve Him and be used in His work of telling others of the love of God for men.

In my early Christian life, there were pastors who told me to enroll at the International Grace Bible Institute, Ozamis City, Philippines to prepare and equip myself

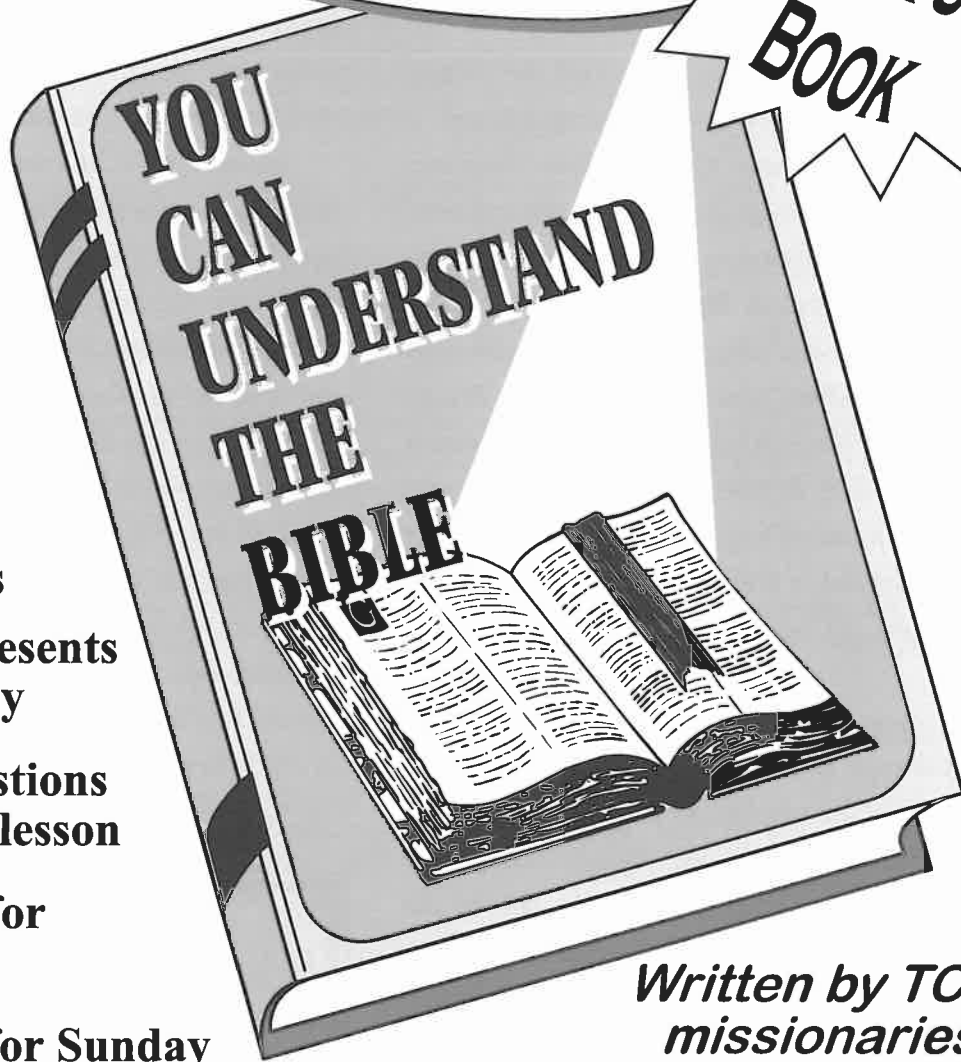


Pastor Bemardo P. Pesidas

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missionaries
in the Philippines.*

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Final book not exactly as shown.

Sommer (cont)

for the ministry. But it was not realized because my parents did not want me to go to the Bible School.

Even if I was not able to enroll in Bible school, the desire to serve the Lord was still there deep inside my heart. I did not lose hope that there may be some other way that I could be equipped for the ministry outside of the Bible school.

When I got married in 1976 with the former Miss Cifila P. Logronio, who was herself a graduate of Mindanao Grace Bible Institute, Mabantao, Kapalong, Davao del Norte, Philippines, we decided to settle down in Davao City where there was a Grace church which was started by Pastor and Mrs. William B. Heath with Pastor Mario Indino, now a missionary in Brazil, as the pastor in 1975. When Pastor and Mrs. Heath went on furlough to the U.S. a newly married pastor by the name of Solomon L. Improso with his wife Jean, arrived in Davao City to take charge of the pastorate left vacant by the missionaries in 1977.

Since their arrival in 1977 and until 1981, Pastor Solomon Improso was all alone doing the many things of the church. As the church began to grow Pastor Sol, as we and friends called him, sensed the need to have others help him in the ministry. In 1982, he designated me as the regular Sunday School teacher. During that time I sensed that the Lord was going to make my long desire to be used in His work a reality. With the help of my wife and with the books and literature she had from Bible school, I tried with my limited ability to teach the Word of God rightly divided.

After one year of teaching Sunday School, Pastor Sol saw the need to give me and other church members more training in order to help him

spread the Word of God. He devised a training course designed for ordinary members. It was taught every Sunday after noon for two hours with lectures and teaching/preaching sessions. The subjects for this course were Hermeneutics, Homiletics and Public Speaking. During the training, the students were required to undergo five on-the-job teaching/preaching sessions outside of class before given certification as Bible teachers.

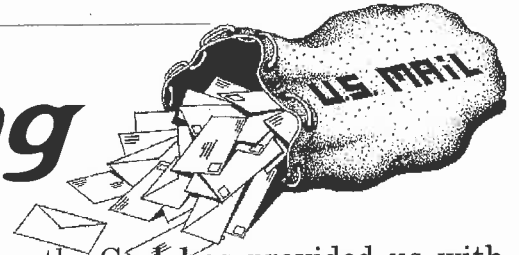
Another type of training which Pastor Solomon Improso conducted that helped me a great deal in equipping me for the ministry was Evangelism Explosion training. Its goal is to equip believers and train them while at the same time sharing the gospel of the Grace of God with others.

My association with Pastor Solomon Improso for almost ten years and the training God has given me through him prepared and equipped me for what I am now. I can say with the Apostle Paul, "By the grace of God I am what I am..." (I Cor. 15:10)!

Presently I am pastoring the church which was started by Pastor and Mrs. William B. Heath way back in 1975, here in Davao City, Philippines.

MISSIONARY SERVICE
IS NOT OPTIONAL. IT IS NOT
SOMETHING THAT A
BELIEVER IS CHRIST
MAY ACCEPT OR REJECT.
TO BE A "SAINT" TO BE
A "CHRISTIAN" IS BY
VERY DEFINITION TO BE A
MISSIONARY.

From the Mailbag



"As we have prayed for the needs of the Molina's this month, God has provided us with three extra checks and as we received them we wrote the checks for them (the Molina's). Isn't God wonderful how he provides?"

D. & J. R.
Canal Fulton, OH

"First of all I do thank and praise God for allowing TCM come to the Philippines. through your mission, missionaries and pastors I came to the knowledge of the Grace of God and accept Jesus as my personal Savior.

I am especially thankful for all the basic foundation of knowing God's Word rightly divided. It helped me not to get confused even in the midst of different teachers that teaches God's Word."

J. C.
Philippines

It's letters such as this that cause us to rejoice in all that the Lord has done through TCM. Continue to lift up the various fields in your prayer and the need for more missionaries around the globe.

Editor

"Hello and keep up the good work for our Lord there! You are great! I really do appreciate the "News You Can Use For Prayer". It so much helps us prayer warriors. The I.H. is such good reading. I've never thrown away a single copy. Cut out a few pictures in the early years to pin on my prayer bulletin board....."

H.K.

"We remember with much love in Christ brother Joe Watkins and his wife. All the workers are enjoyed. Rejoiced in "A Look In History" this last issue of the I.H. But we continue praying for all staff and others to be saved by God's grace."

E. & B. S.
Middleton, TN

"Just a note along with a check to thank you for the *Inter-National Harvest*. We enjoy hearing how the Lord is blessing your ministry. We remember you in prayer that the Lord will give you strength and wisdom to carry on."

D. & R. M.

"Thank you...and especially for the *Inter-National Harvest*. I appreciate the information, pictures etc.

M.L.

"Always enjoy reading the harvester and form letters from the fields white to harvest. Events are happening so fast that there may not be much more time to reap the harvest. The harvest is great but workers are few. Pray ye the Lord of the Harvest."

B.W.
Fresno, CA

While none of us know when the Trumpet will sound and we'll be caught away to glory it surely is closer now than it was yesterday. For that reason we should all feel the urgency to be God's Ambassadors.

Editor



Continuing Gift

Things To Come Mission would like to acknowledge the following gifts which have been given in memory of some family member, friend, or respected person who has passed away. Cards have been sent to the families of those whose memories you have honored.

Mr & Mrs August

Donald Boreen

William Bowman and Doris Horner

Donald Burkett

Esther Estep

Helen Frank

George Galloway

Mrs Robert Hanna

Mr & Mrs Louis Herlein Sr

Emogene Hitchcock

Henrietta LeFeber

Gloria Mick

John & Helen Peterson

Catherine Stromer

Harold Stromer

Edwin Stromer

Esther Boreen

Mr & Mrs Lloyd Fry

Donna Burkett

Pastor & Mrs Art Watkins

Frank Gedelman

Aleatha Galloway

Mr & Mrs Archie Smith

Mr & Mrs Louis Herlien

Aleatha Galloway

Mr & Mrs Greg Holcom

Grace Bible Church, Beloit, WI.

Mr & Mrs James Jackson

Edwin Stromer

Edwin Stromer

Your gift of the heart, given in honor of a soldier for our Savior is used to advance His cause around the world. Many perish daily having never heard of the Grace of God. Your faithful gift helps us to reach out to still many more with the saving Gospel of Christ. Thank-you for your memorial gifts. No greater memorial could be made than that through your gift life could come to another.

It Was the Night before Jesus Came...

It was the night before Jesus came, and all through the house,

Not a creature was stirring not dad or his spouse.

The Bibles were laid on the shelf without care,

In hopes that their promises wouldn't come true there...

The scholars had said, they were myths, you know,

The words of the Bible, Christ's coming to show.

The children were getting ready to crawl into bed,

Not ever kneeling or bowing a head.

And mom in her rocker, with baby in her lap,

Was watching the late show, while I took a nap.

When up in the shy, there arose a great clatter,

When I sprang to my feet, to see what was the matter.

Away to the window, I flew like a flash,

Opened the curtains, and threw up the sash.

When what to my wondering eyes should appear,

But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here.

With light like the sun, sending forth a bright ray,

I thought for a moment, is this really the day???

Then I saw Him, above a bright cloud,

I then heard a trumpet, and I heard His voice crying aloud.

The light on His face made me cover my head.

It WAS Jesus in the air for His church as He said.

And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,

I cried when I saw Him, in spite of myself...

I did not believe the Bible record of Him.

I believed it was fairy tales, like those written by Grim.

In the Book of Life, which He held in His hand.

Was written the names of those saved, His own, His band.

He spoke not a word, as He searched for my name.

When he said, "It's not here," my head hung in shame...

Then the people whose names had been written with love,

He gathered to take with Him to heaven above.

Those who believed, with Him, rose without sound,

While all of the rest were left here still bound.

By the fetters of sin-unbelief and the myths they believed.

Their minds filled with wonder, their faces unrelieved.

I fell to my knees, locked in my fate.

I somehow knew in my heart that belief was too late.

I stood and cried, as the saved rose out of sight.

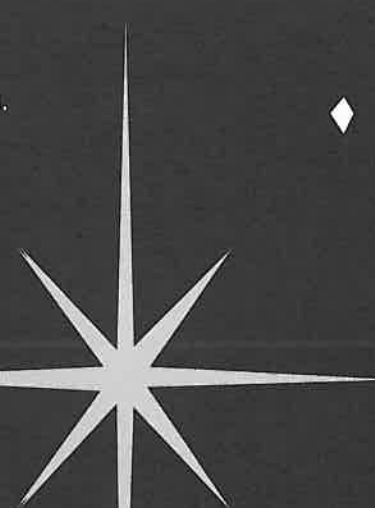
Oh, if only I could believe what He believed tonight...

In the words of this poem, the meaning is clear.

The Rapture is coming, Christ's return is near!

There's only one life, and when comes the last call,

We will all find the Bible was true after all!



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*Striving to reach a world
lost in spiritual darkness
with the Glorious Gospel
of God's Gracious light.*