

Praise and Prayer Update - Nilo Sanchez

January 13, 2010

Dear beloved brethren,

Warm Christian greetings from all of us in Sola Gratia family in the Philippines. We praise and thank the Lord for the new triumphs and challenges we have from the Lord at the opening of the year 2010. We saw all our 7 seminary graduates sent to the mission field ready for what the Lord called them to do. Erfe Billiones for example went to the town of Nabunturan in Compostela Valley Province. Rather than base the work in the town center he went to a village 3 kilometers away. The people there were plain farmers, banana plantation workers, and coconut climbers. With Pastor Nestor Pablo, our nearest regular missionary in the province, he visited the homes and conducted daily Bible studies. The village became excited to learn God's Word. Last Sunday they have worship service and 39 people came to participate. God has a people in that place that He has already prepared for Himself. Is it harvest time in the area? God knows.

We are praising the Lord for the 12 new students in seminary full time. (Another couple would be coming Lord willing next week to join them.) Except for a former bank employee whose house is just 12 kilometers away, all the rest of the students are staying-in in the dormitories. What is unique of this batch is that the oldest is 57 year old, Romy Cabatuan, and the youngest is only 20, Michael Salazar. Now Michael's father Chito is also enrolled as first year student so with father and son Emmanuel Mendoza and Jordan. Some of the new students had been in the Pastorate more than 10 years but felt the dire need to study more of God's Word and be trained to become even more effective preacher and teacher of His Word. (There are 4-second year students among whom two are Pastor's kids.) All of them are highly motivated, griped by the grace and the glory of God. They came to prepare themselves and become better equipped to make His glory known to all peoples. What a privilege God using us to become part of their ministry preparation. It is only His mercy we are indeed enlisted in His work. Again thank you for your continued prayers in our behalf and of the financial support. We must work while it is day...the night comes and no one can work.

For His honor and glory,
Nonilo Sanchez

(Please Note: The first picture attached is the first year students, save two who were not there yet. The second picture is the two motorcycles we recently purchased for the weekend outreach work of the students; the last picture is Erfe Billiones and family.)



1st Picture



2nd Picture



3rd Picture