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THE WAY... TO THE OTHER END...



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**KALINGA
PROVINCE**

THE WAY... TO THE OTHER END...

TENSION AND SUPPRESSION: By: Jurine B. Tolentino

Why do we suffer tensions (a state of wariness, mistrust, controlled hostility, or fear of hostility felt by countries, groups, or people in their dealings with one another) and suppression (the state of being forcefully restrained or held back)?

A classic example”

Some two hundred bibles were ordered months ahead for the mission trip, expecting that in a week’s time the ordered materials will be ready, unexpectedly, it was not available. The vehicle was ready, all set to pick up the materials, documents needed for travel did not arrive. Financial subjects and matters were all set, yet, came not, in the expected date. Volunteers are well prepared and ready, then, got caught with physical illness, while others changed their mind at the last minute.

These things happened during the preparation and progress of the KW4, Mission trip in Kalinga Province. Stress, tensions and suppression always attacks our physical thoughts, and we get angry easily, however, our Faith in God resides and rests in us. ●one-end

PREPARATION - HEADWAY By: Mary Ann Ramos



Preparations: Praise the Lord! On the last week of preparation, someone gave 50 Gideon New Testament Bibles, and one corporate member made a phone call, that her cousin who is currently working with one of the top ten corporations is giving us boxes of gifts for the mission trip. Moreover, other gifts, toys, bags, clothes, and cash gifts came to make the mission trip happen.

Hindrances: On our first day in Kalinga, sadly Pastor Jurine, the team leader, and one of the volunteer (Ferdinand) had a motorcycle accident. Pastor Jurine was thrown out of the motorcycle and his left body slammed on the ground, had the most injury on that accident, he suffered bruises, and left leg had 1st degree burn. While Ferdie had a slight lump on the forehead, with the motorcycle slightly damaged. However, the Lord sustained their strength and proceeded in meeting the contact Pastor in the area. We also have other casualties, the two young men, (Jason

and Raffy). Our team leader suggested that they stay at the base house for health reasons. After a week, on our way back to the base house, we heard that Pastor Pepito, our contact in Kalinga brought Raffy to the hospital. He had high fever caused by German measles, while Jason had skin allergy all over his body.

Victory: These things did not change the direction of our team leader, the mission went along very well, and we were able to visit and ministered to seven (7) different ethnic tribes in the Kalinga Province. ●one-end

THE MULTI CULTURAL AREA: By: Jurine B. Tolentino

Bantay: Pastor Jurine shared the message, with the GRP team, challenged the multi cultural congregation on the subject of “Who is your Neighbor?” There are 75 young men and women, ladies and men who came, received Christ, and confirmed their responses in serving the Lord.



Pinagan: This is a multi-cultural people group area. Pastor Mar Laudencio, Baptist Pastor in Pangasinan, with three young people from Bible seminary and one college student joined us in the Kawa-Saka, Mission Exposure 4. Pastor Mar spoke at the service with attendees of 54,

representing different tribal groups of Kalinga. “It was a good exposure having experienced how the Kalinga people accepted the gospel when they understand the word and the messages especially in their own mother tongue.” Most of those who came received the challenge and accepted the Lord as their personal Lord and Saviour.



Nambaran: The Baptist Church, in Nambaran located near the city of Kalinga. Most of the members of the congregation are from multi-cultural ethnic groups of 50-75 attendees. The pastor was very supportive with the GRP team’s effort, he challenged the congregation in reaching their own people and even their neighboring tribes.



Pinukpuk, Taga: The place where Pastor Nestor, (our trainee) stayed before we met him. We ministered with 40-60 church members belonging to multi-cultural ethnic groups. The church is located in the borderies of the Kalinga’s, the Apayao’s, the Limos and the

Balballan tribal villages.

THE BALANTOY IN BALBALLAN



Meetings are usually in the evening, most of these people work in the field, farming, mining, carpentry, and others. About a couple of hundreds came, while observers stayed outside the perimeter of the meeting place. Our sound system was amplified, loud enough that the audio recording on the Stories of Creation, LLL Book 1, in Balballan translation was heard. After the evening meeting we met the elders of one protestant church mostly elderly ladies, expressing how blessed and gratefully encouraged to spread the gospel more in the village. They wanted us to stay for another night and to have more than one book available in their heart language. ●one-end

EAST AND WEST TULGAO



On one occasion, we ministered to over six hundred people in Tulgao area with approximately 1000 residents living in the Eastern and Western Tulgao proper. Two Barangay Captains (Chief), from the east and west boundaries of Tinglayan, in the remote

area of Kalinga province, came and accepted the ministry of the Word. No Christian believer who shares the Word of God, nobody ministers the Word, the Grace of salvation is literally unknown. They do not have any idea who Christ Jesus is? The recordings of the Good News translated in language of Tulgao ethnic group was then played, many people came and listened intently. We wanted to stay another day in the village to share



the Love of God among the Tulgao ethnic group. And what a joy for them to have heard the gospel in their own language. After the evening service, we were invited in one of the house of the ex-governors' mother for breakfast, where we met one Tulgao lady who lives there and prays for that particular ethnic group. (**Stories... testimony page**). That is how the Lord directs Pastor Jurine, our team leader, the director of Gospel Recordings Philippines, to minister the un-loveable, forgotten, un-important ethnic people groups in the Philippines. ●one-end



TESTIMONIES:



TULGAO LADY: *Morning*, after the evening program, the GRP team was invited in different houses for a meal, as part of their hospitable culture. We had the opportunity to minister and met those who have questions and other things to know about our purpose. Two from our group speaks and understand Ilocano language, who managed to communicate with the people we visited. One woman, from this small village was very grateful about the teams visit. In her story, she accepted Jesus as her Lord and Saviour when she stayed in the city three years ago. However, when she went back to her hometown, she did not have a chance to attend any church service since she moved in that place, because of the distance. She even said, that during her lonely moments in prayers, she sings praises and worship God alone. One incident happened, that she shared the gospel to her neighbors, they mocked and make her felt like an alien in that village. The night when the GRP team came and ministered, she was singing, rejoicing, worshipping the Lord, boldly saying / **am a Christian, just like them...** and much more encouraged and more passionate to share the gospel amongst her people. The people who came was astonished and accepted the challenge, to receive Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord, and approached us, offering a place to set up a center, a house where they want to study the Bible and more to hear the wonderful message about the stories of Jesus. And GRP team is continually praying for the Tulgao community thus far... Please pray for the opening of the work among the Tulgao East and West villages.



CRISTY NAVARRO:

"God is good -talaga (truly)" sapagka't muli akong nakasama sa Kawa-Saka 4. Higit ko pang nakita ang biyaya ng Diyos na tunay ngang walang hanggan. Bilang isa sa pinaka-senior sa edad, itinuring ako na Mommy ng GRP team. Marami akong natutunan tuwing kami ay nag-mimistryo, lalo na't higit sa mga taong tulad ng mga taga-malayong lugar. Bagama't may mga pagsubok na pinagdaraan, nararamdaman namin ang galak, at bunga ng paglilingkod sa kapwa at sa Dakilang layunin ng ating Panginoong Diyos.

God is good truly. I thank the Lord, that I participated in the mission trip (Kawa-Saka 4). Being with the team, I felt how lovely the grace of the Lord flow sufficiently. Being the eldest from among the group, they considered me as their beloved mother, making the most to minister with the people and get along what the younger people can do in serving the Lord. Passionately, and eagerly, as long as I am standing and walking, I will and wanted to go and be a part of the Mission Team. It is a joy to serve the Lord.



NORMIE MESINA (Pasig Bethel Temple): Thank God, for being so good, because of the GR Phils team, the Pastor and members of the church where I attend, are very supportive. Most of them were so blessed and deeply encouraged for the mission that we are doing in the far-flung places. The wonders of sharing the goodnews of the Lord Jesus Christ in different ethnic and language groups is very challenging. I experienced the Grace of God, His Greatness and His sufficiency's. I thank those who made

it possible for us to accomplished a portion of the Lord Jesus Christ Great commission. And in extending the Kingdom of God to the ethnic and tribal communities in the Kalinga province. I am really passionate to be a part of the next Kawa-Saka (Mission Exposure) in 2012. His power made me perfect in my weaknesses. *Salamat po sa lahat ng tumulong sa akin. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!*

The Man in the Field



Difficulties in the Field during preparation. *Nestor Anggowos Jr (Trainee)*

One - Transportation and Communication the crucial part encountered during the preparation for the Kawa-Saka4 (mission exposure) in Kalinga province Northern Luzon, was in the area of transportation and communication, not all places have communication sites. Kalinga province is mostly mountainous, terrain roads, riverine, and modes of transportation access are very limited and difficult. Some tribes were alienated separately, about eighty (80) to a hundred (100) kilometers, tribal conflicts can be very dangerous. Trips are limited to one-a-day jeepney transport to reach any particular target place. Missing one trip means, going back the next day's early jeepney trip... **Two - Contacts:** Another thing is the contact, arrangement and setting dates in meeting contacts was part of what we do. Personal the acquaintance with contact person, and to finalize the dates of the work in the particular place. Sometimes, contacts withdrew at the last minute to accommodate the team.

GOD IS IN CONTROL: Whenever these things happens, we can only say, „GOD IS IN CONTROL! He is Faithful and Just. He is All Sufficient. He is “Omni-Science”.



Nestor and Jazer Reynaldo, holding piece of paper telling story of Jesus to the Tulgao kids. Jazer is now studying at Bethel Bible College, Valenzuela City. Taking A.B. Religious Education. In the morning he attends school, in the afternoon at GRP office doing part time, then goes back to school in the evening.

THOUGHTS FOR THE SOUL:

- Demanding with God.
- Experiences God as distant, punishing, disloyal, unloving because one's prayers or needs are not being met as one expects God to do.
- Proudful and right in one's own eyes.
- Withdrawal from God due to feelings of rejection.
- Maintains a perception of God as mean, controlling, harsh father figure.
- Sees self as alienated from God.
- Frequent church changes or little fellowship or worship experiences.
- Rejects God's discipline as being unwarranted.
- Tends to determine God's love by what He gives or does materially or spiritually.
- May surround self with other angry or embittered Christians.
- Little prayer or spiritual activity: "What's the use?" attitude.
- A general position that God exists to serve one's own needs.
- Avoids accountability or counsel from others.
- A general mistrust of pastors, God or fellow believers.



JAZER JASON REYNALDO: (Trainee)

Our countdown was about to end, a day before the trip, on my way back home late at night I had an experienced that I praise God for! Not because of the bad things that happened, but because of how the Lord protected me from bad people.

As soon as we finished packing the goods for the Kawa-Saka 4 (mission exposure) trip, I went home, and missed the last train trip.

Got on the bus from the train station at Monumento to Pasay, 27 kilometers away, where I live travelling late at night about 00:00 hours, felt sleepy while the bus cruised the highway. I noticed something moved at my right side, but did not mind to check what it was. As soon as I am about to stop the bus to get down, I noticed that the right side of my shirt was slashed, totally ripped off from top to bottom. First thought, where, how, when, and what happened, did I lost something? Praise the Lord, everything was in-tact, no bruise, no blood, just Php20.00 peso bill, and some coins. I went home safe and protected.

The following day, Kalinga Province for the Mission exposure. Everything was ready, prepared, and felt secured, travelled 500 Kilometers overnight from Manila to Kalinga Province, Northern Luzon. I woke up with a sort of headache in the morning and with some red spots on my skin, just a thought that it was mosquito bites from the bus. As soon as we reached our base-house, had a bit of rest, and who! red spots was all over my arms and legs, and my body, it was very itchy. Felt feverished, and my body felt so weak! The house where we stayed, was worried about Raffy and I, as we are not fit to be with the team. The owner of the house called for a medical advise, a registered nurse came to the rescue. She did some basic check on my body temperature, heartbeat, eye, nose and tongue. Then, prescribed me, with anti-histamines, herbal medicines, medicinal soap, and herbal leaves from the backyard to boil for my bath. After 2 days of religiously following the advise of a lovely, caring nurse, I recovered. The nurse who helped me, suffered the same allergies before, and the same method she applied for my fast recovery.

Unfortunately, I was not able to join the team, suffering with fever at the base. The ministry that I was told to do, pray for the success of the team. Thankful indeed, everything was successfully accomplished. God is my Healer, Sustainer, Refuge and Always the Victor! ● one-end

ANGERS' CLOSET:

Clearly, some expressions of anger are right and appropriate. However there is a need for most of us to practice grace and forgiveness in our interactions with others. (Ephesians 4:26).

The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression. (Proverbs 19:1)

The Bible warns against letting anger turn into bitterness or resentment (Hebrews 12:15).

We are warned against being quick-tempered (Proverbs 15: 1), and are to avoid unrighteous anger (James 1:19-20).

SHALOM!

GOSPEL RECORDINGS PHILIPPINES INC.

Blk4 Lot 9 Karuhatan Townhouse,
A. Pablo St. Valenzuela City 1441

Tel# 293-9254 / 293-0782

grphils@globalrecordings.net

www.globalrecordings.net