

THE VEST FAMILY

Your Missionaries to the PHILIPPINES

February 2009

Dear Praying Friends and Faithful Supporters,

The opportunities and pressures on the mission field are unlike any others that most people would face. If a missionary is not careful, he can easily become discouraged, get homesick, feel unappreciated by the nationals, and let the Devil get the best of him. The challenges of the past few months have been different from any we have faced since arriving in 2002, and yet the Lord has been so wonderful and has been our strength day after day.

In this letter I just want to let all of you who pray for us and help us financially know how much you mean to us. Let's just praise the Lord together for the following:

- The over 70,000 souls who have been saved in 6½ years of ministry
- More than \$350,000 worth of land and property that our church now owns
- Over 1,100 children who attended our extension classes last Saturday
- Every young man we pass on the streets or road who calls out "Hey, Joe"
- A church in Jamaica that has taken us as one of their missionaries
- A church jeepney that is still puttering along and has brought thousands to our church
- 5 college ladies and 3 kindergarten children who will graduate next month
- A faithful national pastor, Gideon Decretales, and his wife Lilia who have served along side of us for over 6 years
- The 21 Filipino missionaries that our church supports
- Every dirty outstretched child's hand begging for "pesos"
- A pastor in Oregon, an evangelist in Montana, and a missionary in Germany whose prayers and encouragement mean more than they will ever know
- A smile and a laugh from a preacher boy whose mother and nephew drowned recently
- Sweet Tarts from the States for Brianna
- Every supporter who gives by faith in tough economic times so we can together reach the Philippines for Christ
- A phone call from North Carolina in the middle of the night just to say "I love you, and I am praying for you."
- Our 3 adult children and 18 grandchildren (soon to 19) who are in wonderful churches serving the Lord in America
- A second grade girl's Sunday school class from Michigan that faithfully sends us their offering every month
- A schoolwork paper, a hug and kiss, and a "you're the best daddy" from a precious 3½- year-old daughter
- Preaching next month at the church in Manila where God called me to the Philippines
- The academy children who holler "Good morning, Pastor" every time they see me
- My wonderful wife Kay who loves me, encourages me, takes care of my every need, and who stands by my side through thick and thin—I am a blessed man.

The Vests
Charlie, Kay, and Brianna

Serving With:

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"...I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldst be for salvation unto the ends of the earth." (Acts 13:47)