

Rick & Becky Martin

Your Missionaries in
Iloilo City, Philippines since 1977

Dear Friends,

In our last prayer letter, we shared the story of Billy Caalem and the importance of the Bible Colleges being started by some of the older graduates of Iloilo Baptist College. Here is another story of one of them.

Moimar Lacsao was born on the island of Negros and was very sickly, so his father was always spending any spare money for medicines. He was so sick that he was not able to go to elementary school at the age most other children started. None of his family were saved. In fact, unlike most people here, his family was not religious at all. He would hear about God from time to time at school and he would wonder, "Who is God?" and "Where is God?"

One day he visited a church started by one of the graduates of Iloilo Baptist College and was saved. He began to grow in the Lord, and it wasn't long before he enrolled in Iloilo Baptist College at the age of 17. While in Bible school, the Lord started to work on his heart. The Lord gave him a desire to reach people with the Gospel and someday to go back to Negros and start a church. Bro. Moimar was used by God to bring his brother, Moises to IBC who later graduated and started a church and later a Bible College.

When Bro. Moimar graduated from IBC in 1997 he went to Candoni, Negros which was a remote town on Negros Island and started a church not far from the town. In 2002 he started a nighttime institute to train married men to go out and start churches. Not long after that he started a Bible College with 10 students (below).



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After several years he moved into the town which has a population of 6,656.



In this scenic picture of this town, you can see the mountains in the distance.

These mountains have been filled with members of the New People's Army for decades (communist rebels). The Philippine Army has experienced some success in recent years. The mountains are also filled with villages with people who need the Lord Jesus who died for them.

He moved his Bible College students there as well and began to reach the town with the gospel. The church grew as well as the Bible College. Below is his church building when it was finished about 7 years ago with his Bible College students.



About 5 years ago this school building was built. Today he has over 90 students in his Bible College.



Moimar Lacsao is a man of great character. Like Billy Caalem who I mentioned in the last prayer letter Bro. Lacsao is passionate about starting churches with the students he is training. The Lord has blessed his efforts with 49 churches being planted in the past 8 years.

Next to Billy Caalem he has been the most productive church planter of the Bible Colleges started by the graduates of IBC here in the Philippines. Almost every one of his male graduates starts a church a few months after they graduate. Below is one of his graduates baptizing a convert.



Like almost all the Bible Colleges he started his school by faith without any outside help. When he was a teenager, he would go with his father and work in the sugar cane fields. He learned much about that type of work and today has about 10 acres of land that he uses to help his Bible College.

He is also a good husband and father of 2 boys Kim and Stanely. One is a special needs child. Below is a picture of his family taken several years ago.



One of the ministries of his church is the Extension Ministry which is a ministry where his workers go into the poor neighborhoods and have Bible Classes for children. Below is one of those classes.



There are about 1500 students presently enrolled in the Bible Colleges started by the IBC graduates. The average size is only about 50 students but combined they are very effective in starting churches and making a difference. Last year 84 men who graduated from these schools started a church. In the last 8 graduating classes of these Bible Schools, 567 graduates have gone out and started a church.

Moimar Lacsao's younger brother Moises started a Bible College. The past two years 3 of his new graduates started a church.

Dennis Dialing was born on our island back in 1976. His family moved to southern Mindanao Island when he was 13 years old because of poverty. Soon after they arrived the fighting between the Muslims and the government where they lived worsened. When Dennis was 15 years old, he was led to Christ by one of our graduates. In 1996 the pastor told him to go to youth camp. Dennis said, "I was so excited because it was my first time. I felt something different. Someone was pushing me to do something beyond my imagination. God was working on me to be a pastor. At every invitation I didn't know what to do and I felt uneasy. When the next invitation came, I decided to surrender my life to God and let Him use me for His glory. After camp I enrolled in Iloilo Baptist College."

He was afraid to tell his parents. He was afraid they'd come and get him, so he decided not to tell them and asked his uncle not to also. He told Dennis he'd try to support him and warned him that there would be difficulties. Dennis was determined to finish school. Below is Brother Dialing and his family.



When he graduated in 2000, he started a church in Pontevedra, Capiz and in 2006 he and his wife went to his home place on the island of Mindanao. He started a church, and it wasn't long before he started teaching some of the men in his church to become pastors. Below are some of the men that he trained to be pastors.

By 2013 Dennis started a Bible College which today has about 80 students and has started 41 churches since his first graduation in 2017.



One of the ministries is working with the Philippine National Police. Below, Bro. Dennis is giving a message from the Bible to a group of them.



Below are his Bible College students.



Like Pastor Moimar Lacsao, Dennis was able to influence his brother Noel to get saved and then enter Bible College at IBC.

To make a long story short, Noel moved to Mindanao after he graduated and started a church about 45 minutes away from his brother Dennis. In 2016 he also started a Bible college that now has about 50 students. 17 of his graduates since 2017 started churches, most of which are in Mindanao. Below is his family.



Bible College students of Pastor Noel Dialing



Please pray for these Bible Schools that they can reach their areas by starting churches.

God bless,

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