



THE BLUSTS

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Dear Pastor and Brethren,

September-October 2025 Prayer, Praise & Progress Report

"...beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life...of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh. Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen." (Jude 20-25).

Malaybalay City mission church: Perla's cousin Lilian (55) Catholic from Kalilangan (two hours away) got saved on Sunday August 17. She has marvelled how God saved and changed her brother Adelio (43) from being a drunkard (coconut wine) and how the prayers of our members including her brother are lively not dead prayers.

Our member Clarence Rodrigo (17) invited his high school classmate Leah Amor (16) to attend church. She and her mother Princess (39) and three younger siblings have been attending our church meetings since last May. [Her mother is a third generation Jehovah Witness and her father is a Baptist (GARBC) who doesn't go to church]. Previously they became members of a Baptist church (GARBC) next door to their compound last November. They said the pastor there always preaches and encourages people to be baptized members to increase the tithes. We asked them if they knew about God's salvation or about going to heaven, they said "they have no idea about that."

Municipality of Impasugong (one hour away): Barangay Capitan Bayong: Perla's cousin's wife Melyn (39) Catholic got saved on Sunday July 20. Took 6 ½ years to lead her to Christ since our February and October 2019 mission trips. She is a volunteer barangay official. Perla's cousin's wife Alona (60) Catholic got saved on Sunday August 17. **Barangay Bontongon:** Established an outreach there 3 ½ years ago. Stewart (48) former Catholic is our first convert there on March 2. He encouraged thirty Higaonon tribals to walk five hours (one way) from the mountains across the Pulangi river down to Malaybalay City and faithfully attending our Sunday church meetings. They quit their local community church as seven deacons control the pastor and the pastor's daughter is a lesbian. Other Higaonon tribals there are followers of the Higaonon tribal religion (pagan) sacrificing chickens to the gods.

Municipality of Kitaotao (four hours away): Barangay Kisapwak: Evangelism has been temporarily suspended for four months as Rulle (32) Boholano farmer's wife Me-an (25) Matigsalug tribal had some minor medical issues in delivering their third child. **Barangay Panganan:** Ongoing daily evangelism in multiple locations. Ronie (52) Matigsalug tribal, former General Baptist deacon and former barangay officer who got saved last November is evangelizing the gospel of Christ to hundreds of people which resulted in four new outreaches in a nearby purok and three sitios (two hours round trip by walking): **1.** Purok 6 Centro; **2.** Sitio Bugtong Lubi; **3.** Sitio Mahayahay; **4.** Sitio Tagawili. Matigsalug tribals in these four locations are followers of Matigsalug tribal religion (pagan) and are hearing the Word of God for the first time in their life. Four pagans got saved in August.

Municipality of San Fernando (two hours away): Barangay Magkalungay: Emer (50+) senior datu (tribal chief) got saved on Sunday March 30. He oversees twenty junior datos and five thousand people. He and his family faithfully attend Bible studies in his house and he attends our Sunday church meetings in Malaybalay City. Last prayer letter, flood damage destroyed all crops, it was truly a live or die crisis (survival) for five thousand tribals. Multiple sugar cane corporations in Mindanao (unable to find people willing to do hard work) sent agents to the mountains of Bukidnon to talk to the tribal mayor of San Fernando to hire tribals (who have nothing) as workers for their sugar cane fields. All adults in barangay Magkalungay were hired. Their families relocated. They will receive housing in shanty towns and earn \$8 daily. Junior datos as work supervisors who earn \$10 daily. [There's only a few people left behind, its truly shocking the entire barangay and a thousand huts are sitting empty]. The tribal mayor of San Fernando hired Emer (50+) to be mediator, negotiator, peacemaker as large numbers of communist New People's Army guerrillas have surrendered to the local government of San Fernando. **Barangay Sacramento Valley:** Rolando (53) who got saved two years ago is originally from the municipality of Cabanglasan. Most of his relatives are communist New People Army guerrillas who surrendered to local government in Cabanglasan. They know Rolando in the past was a vagabond and are surprised by his testimony of God's salvation and changed life. Rolando's son Ronald (32) who got saved this year on Sunday February 2 is evangelizing people and is a future pastor.

Municipality of Cabanglasan (new mission outreach): Our new outreach in Cabanglasan is via our members Rolando (53) and his son Ronald (32) in Sacramento Valley San Fernando whose relatives are communist New People's Army guerrillas who surrendered to the local government of Cabanglasan. We bought a second hand motorbike for them so they will go there along with fellow San Fernando members Hilorio (63) and Alfredo (70). Evangelizing one thousand communist New People's Army guerrillas who surrendered to local government and are living in government built two hundred housing development compound. They welcomed our ministry and desired to hear the preaching of the gospel of Christ. Thirteen people got saved who converted from communism to Christ from June to August. Pray that God opens other hardened hearts from years of communism and fighting.

Some of our members asked “what to do with Catholics, Protestants, SDA, etc... who say Jesus is Saviour, but don’t read the Bible, don’t obey the Word of God, don’t follow and serve God, and they live in worldliness and habitual sin.” I said “they are like that because they are proud, self-willed, unbroken, unrepentant professors (Psalm 51:17; 34:18) without God’s salvation (Matthew 7:21-23) and without the indwelling Spirit of God (Romans 8:9-16). Therefore, preach repentance and the gospel of Christ to them” “...that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance” (Acts 26:20) and “...how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God” (1 Thessalonians 1:9). And I said to them that if someone has truly repented and believed the gospel of Christ, they have been made alive by the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:11; Ephesians 2:1) who has broken the bondage of sin in their life (Acts 26:18; Romans 6:6, 18-23; 8:2; 2 Timothy 2:26) and given them a new heart and a new spirit (Ezekiel 36:26) to “follow...holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrews 12:14).

Repentant Bible believers have been given a new nature: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17). They indeed will be conformed to the image of Christ through the process of sanctification (1 Corinthians 6:11) and be obedient to the Word of God (Hebrews 5:9) and be convicted by the Holy Spirit when they sin. Anyone who believes that they can live anyway they want because they professed Christ isn’t demonstrating true saving faith (1 John 2:3-4).

Repentant Bible believers will not draw back (Hebrews 10:38-39). Once the distinction between true and false conversions becomes clear, the parables take on new meaning. Matthew 7 reinforces this, pointing out that some who thought they knew the Lord never actually belonged to Him—He never knew them (vs.21-23). Those who fall away were never truly saved in the first place (2 Peter 2:20-22; 1 John 2:19). Hebrews 6 isn’t about true repentant believers falling away, but about unbelievers who have tasted the good word of God and still turned away.

People need to base their beliefs on Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16), not feelings. If people are choosing Christ because they’re being promised He’ll make them feel good, then they’ll just as easily “un-choose” Him when they start feeling bad and something else comes along that promises to make them feel better. A feelings-based gospel simply doesn’t have the power to carry us through hard times, persecution and delayed promises. Hebrews 11 gives us a list of men and women who comprise what some call “the hall of faith” because of their capacity to believe God in the midst of contradiction. However, after listing all the miraculous intervention their faith in God had in their lives, verse 13 says, “**These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.**” All of our heroes of the faith went to the grave still believing in promises that God didn’t fulfill in their lives! There’s nothing more terrifying to the devil than a Bible believer with unyielding faith. Enduring faith wreaks havoc on the kingdom of darkness. It’s the only kind of faith that accesses eternal rewards. The Christian life is a call to walk in the hope towards God’s promises. Faith that overcomes the devil’s resistance. This is the life we’re called to live. This is the message we need to preach. We can’t leave out the “bad news of the gospel.” If people aren’t told about trials and tribulations, they’ll blame God when bad things happen instead of the devil. That’s the best trick in the devil’s playbook; to bring harm and to make them believe it’s God’s fault. The gospel of Christ is good news regarding our relationship with God, but is bad news to the devil, which makes us a target.

Our Father in Heaven produces perseverance, character and spiritual maturity in the lives of His children (Romans 5:3). “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure” (Philippians 2:13). Church Bible preaching, personal Bible reading, Bible obedience, Bible praying, serving the LORD are five holy practices that will help facilitate spiritual maturity while producing disciplined followers of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray for our Baptist congregations: John 8:12; “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 5:14-16). Equipped with hope and the truth of the Bible—followers of Christ have an opportunity to open eyes and help transform darkened hearts through the gospel of Christ. In this late hour, the truth of God’s Word has never been more neglected and more desperately needed. Share truth with people. Help them understand the days we live in. Point them to the hope that we have in Christ.

The signs of the times are undeniable, and as Bible believers, we are called to remain vigilant, steadfast in faith, and prepared for the fulfillment of God’s divine plan. We must preach Jesus to the world (Mark 16:15), teach members to be rooted in the Word of God (Colossians 2:6-7) and assist them in growing their faith (1 Peter 2:2) as they develop their spiritual gifts to edify their local congregation (1 Corinthians 12:12-31). By doing this, members will be better equipped to resist the devil (James 4:7) and avoid falling into his schemes (2 Corinthians 2:11) because they’re drawing closer to God (James 4:8) and outfitted with the armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-19).

We have intense heartfelt love for the Word of God and the beloved Baptist brethren who are faithful obedient servants of the Lord Jesus Christ. Much appreciation for the Lord’s Baptist churches who are beacons of hope, standing in the gap, reaching lost souls with the gospel of Christ. May God bless your labour for souls in your ministry. Thanks for praying, sacrificing, and partnering with us. Your giving is making a life-changing impact in the Philippines.

Because Of His Faithfulness And Abundant Mercies ----- Let Us Go Forth And Sow The Seed!

Jeffrey C. Blust

Philippines

“People that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits. And they that understand among the people shall instruct many” (Dan.11:32-33)

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