



DEAR PRAYING FRIENDS & FAMILY,

DECEMBER 2022



*The miracle of Christmas -
Jesus came! -Stephen troell*

Maligayang Pasko! Merry Christmas from the Philippines! Here in the Philippines, we celebrate Christmas throughout the "BER" months, SeptemBER, OctoBER, NovemBER & DecemBER. So we're already 4 months deep into the Christmas season! Our church just finished presenting our Christmas Cantata! Our Academy kids are included, so we were excited with the opportunity to share the gospel with their parents who attended to watch. There were 12 professions of faith! Praise the Lord!

There is a young gentleman (probably 15 years old) who we often see selling food on the street of a major intersection near our church. He knows that every time he sees our car, he can expect to see one of our girl's head sticking out the window yelling, "Kuya Johnny" [koo'-yah: respectful term for older boy]. Usually, we exchange greetings, see how he's doing & ask him how his sales are going that day. We always give him an extra P50 (\$0.90, which is a large tip, considering waiters usually make P20 for tip) & tell him to make sure he gets something to eat today. He had been on our hearts recently & wanted to follow-up on him after giving him a tract. The girls suggested we take him out to eat & invite him to church. The next Sunday we pulled up to his intersection expecting to see him, but Kuya Johnny was gone. We learned that he was trafficked & we don't know where he is. It is the terrible reality of many children, teens & even adults here. "Trafficked" does not always mean for carnal things, but can also be for child labor or an assortment of other things. It breaks our hearts that this has happened to him. Please pray that we can cross paths with him again & share the love of God with Kuya Johnny.



PRAISES & PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Last month, we celebrated another first birthday on the field! Ellie is 8! She is adjusting wonderfully & will be playing Mary in the upcoming school Christmas play.
2. Aleena has a Christmas band concert coming up that she is very excited for! She was gifted a trumpet by family & has taken to it very well! We have to set a time limit on her practicing for the sanity of our neighbors, although they have been very encouraging! They are elderly & say that it reminds them of the time when their grandchildren were learning to play instruments.
3. Lucy took up Cooking as her elective this year in middle school. Yesterday her class made over 100 cookies & today they are going to hand them out to women at the local crisis pregnancy center.
4. Jen volunteered to teach physics at the Faith Academy 3 days a week while Tommy is in language school. 80% of her students are MK's (Missionary Kids) and 20% are not. It has been a mission field in itself & she is thankful for the opportunity to present a biblical world view in her classroom.
5. Please continue to pray for Tommy as he attends language school. His vocabulary is continuously improving & his sentence structure is coming along nicely. He's adding Tagalog sentences to his sermons more & more.



In His Service,

Tommy Jen Lucy Aleena Ellie
Tommy, Jen, Lucy, Aleena, & Ellie Behman

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