



unto the uttermost...



“not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He hath saved us...” Col 2:5

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

It is my pleasure to greet you with this first of many newsletters.

The newsletter will be available to anyone who asks for it, or has shown an interest in keeping up with me in the ministry.

First, I must thank all of you for the wonderful reception I have received since finishing Bible college. My time back home has been well spent with my family and friends. I have had many opportunities to preach and visit other churches to share about missions. Also I have greatly enjoyed teaching a “missions strategy” class weekly at NBFBC.



Now the clock is ticking down to my departure on Jan 4, 2008. I am looking forward with expectation to what God is going to do. Things are still in line for me to settle down in Maranding, Lanao del Norte until I can venture down into Zamboanga del Sur. The goal is to start a church there in the town of Lakewood. But first I need to set up my things in Maranding with the local BBC pastor there.

I really didn't come home with the idea of raising a specific amount of support, but the Lord has graciously blessed with many unexpected gifts and a few promises of significant support. My financial situation should be enough to provide for my needs and allow me to help others as well. Only the Lord can foresee or supply for all the things that He wants to do. One family has given money to buy a motorcycle for my transportation when I get there. Praise the Lord!!

Right now, we are working out the details on how to keep the newsletter going from the field. Once I get planted in Lakewood, I will have to come out to the nearest city (about 1 hour away) to use the internet. But the plan is to keep the newsletter coming out every month or two.





I do humbly ask for your prayers. There are many things about the future ministry that simply I cannot foresee or plan out. The need here is to be Spirit-led. Please pray that I will be well received by the local people. We have made contact with the vice-mayor and she seems very open and willing to have a missionary like me live in their town. (see pict.) There are



many ways to gain the heart of the people and the Lord has to lead us to win their friendship and trust. Also, a projector system is in the works and I already have the "Jesus film" and some other movies to show outdoors. Showing movies in a place like that will really gather a crowd that the gospel can be preached. The BBC pastor in Maranding has offered the help of some of his Bible students, which will be a great help especially when it comes time to discipling.

Only God can open the hard heart of man to see Him. Please pray for the Lord to do a mighty work in Lakewood. I Kings 18:37 *"Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God"*

I hope that you look forward to seeing what is happening in the Philippines. I'll do my best to keep you interested and informed. This newsletter will be sent out by email or by US mail according to your individual preferences . If you wish to receive it in a different way, just let me know.

Thanks again for your prayers and support,

Brian Ethridge

Your missionary to the unreached



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