



unto the uttermost..



"That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:" Acts 17:27

Greeting in the Name above all Names, our Lord Jesus Christ,

Patience, is my personal learning topic for this new year. After sitting in the States for a long, but enjoyable needed 6 months. I arrived in The Philippines ready to hit the ground running! But of course it's not that easy. Step by step...

Step 1: 10 days in Cebu getting my visa application submitted. But patience, by God's grace it could have taken longer. Every day that passed, my thoughts were in Lakewood. I was able to visit some of my friends from Bible school. Everyone seems excited about starting a work there, and many committed to pray for the Lord's blessing there. I was able also to stay in Larry Gudger's house. He is doing fine and looking forward to finishing up this term with success.



Step 2: After my visa app. was accepted, I high-tailed it to Maranding where I am currently staying with a Bible Baptist Pastor, Romeo Cube (Pronounced like "*Kobe* Bryant"). We set up all of the film equipment and it all tested out OK. That's an answer to prayer! I was able to find here a LARGE 15" 100watt bullhorn to broadcast the sounds. And a 12' x 9' screen is still at the tailor's.

Step 3: Adventure...Purchasing the Motorcycle. I had selected the same type of Motorcycle that I see over here being put to stresses unknown in the Western World. I thought if it could haul 5 people & hundreds of kilos of rice around up and down mountains, it would do anything I ever wanted! But since they are so highly sought after, I ended up going to visit Pastor John in Surigao to find one. After spending some time with John & Tess, the adventure comes in with riding this new Honda the *300 miles* back to Maranding! I set out that morning dressed in full Filipino riding gear (helmet not pictured) which covers almost every inch of American skin rendering me, hopefully, unnoticeable. The beautiful trip went off without a hitch and I arrived saddle-sore in Maranding about an hour after dark. *Thank God.*





Step 4: Ups & Downs. Now I'm ready to get to Lakewood! Patience!

Pastor Cube was planning to let me partner with someone from his church to start in Lakewood. What I thought was the perfect person came available. But he backed out as of now to go on to the States, Lord help him. So here I am without a permanent partner. Pastor has let me use one of his Bible students for now. We have been going there now for 2 weeks, but only staying for a day or 2 at a time. We have rented a house (pictured) that we can stay in and hold meetings in. It is located in the town center. With each trip the task at hand becomes more apparent.



We met with the Mayor last Tuesday, and he gave us his approval to conduct preaching, film showing and discussed the possibility of a future medical mission. He explained which places we were free to go by ourselves and offered to provide police guard if conducting evangelism in the outer areas. Along with a map of the town came a realization of the need of Christ here. Thousands of the people here live in the outer areas. Separated from the already hard to reach town center by miles and miles of *torturous* rocky road. The farthest four villages are without electricity and probably without Christ. There are 14 villages... Patience...

Next step: prayer for; a regular partner that can stay with me in Lakewood for long periods. The countless opportunities for evangelistic film showing. That the people would respond positively to my presence and accept God's Word. For Patience...

Thanks again for your prayers and support,

Brian Ethridge, Mission Pastor

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Your missionary to the unreached



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