



## WAYS WE CAN HELP PROVIDE HOPE AND A FUTURE

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)*

I praise God for all the amazing things he did through PAMI in 2009 and I look forward to what's in store for 2010. A truly exciting development this last year was Emmaus Bible Institute being accepted as a Compassion International center for helping 100 needy children and their families. Each Saturday, these families come to EBI, where the children are ministered to while parents have their own education sessions.



PAMI workers, students, and church members help teach the children Bible stories & songs, run games, and provide feeding. Compassion has provided funds for the 100 kids to receive health check-ups, dental service, school uniforms, and groceries. Compassion has also provided funds for 100 kids chairs and an allowance for EBI graduates Elmer and Thelma, who though mainly focus on Compassion works, also help attend the bakery store, lead morning devotions, neighborhood outreaches, and prayer meetings.

Compassion has yielded spiritual fruit. It has opened the hearts of some people that previously said they were too poor to be concerned with the Gospel. A lot of Compassion families attend VBS, Sunday school, and church services, and become Christians. A sermon series was designed to provide a spiritual foundation, and cell groups are being formed. So Compassion has also helped grow the church.



The Compassion building would go between the blue-green multi-purpose building and gray bakery building above.

It has been requested that we put up a building specifically to service Compassion families, where the children's drawings can be displayed and resources housed. Because of year-end gifts and memorial funds, we feel able to begin this project with \$1000 for a cement floor and a roof. But we'll need \$2000 more to complete the building. Please consider helping with this project. It's a privilege to bring glory to God through helping to provide these kids and families hope and a future.



Milk-feedings are also a part of the Compassion outreach to needy kids.

Another way you can help provide hope and a future is through sponsoring EBI graduates, which only require \$65-\$100 per month per worker, depending on if they live with another worker or need their own rental. There are 8 candidates for the next EBI graduation, which is scheduled for March 23rd.

Field director Pastor Chito says, "This batch has a lot of strong candidates. Lorenzo Fugen would indeed be a good addition and he's willing too. He's preparing his application (testimony, call to ministry, and letter of intent). Isomel Espinar too is very willing. He's interested in going to Samar and Visayas, since he's from there. Other strong candidates include Aimee Fuentes, who has nice work attitude and is mature. Mariz Fraga of Samar has the gift of teaching and wide experience in ministry."

We'd like to at least add two of these candidates as new workers, depending on new funds coming in. One of the main goals of PAMI is to continue to spread southwards into less evangelized areas (i.e. move further into Samar and work towards Mindanao\*). Although we already have Riveras and Raquel Ongcal working in Samar, it'd be nice to add one or two more graduates from Samar to help spread the work there. In particular, Pastor Chito has suggested that Isomel could help plant a church in Calbayog, Samar.



Isomel Espinar with his sister Michelle (Iso and Icee)



Lorenzo Fugen

Lorenzo would be nice to add for another purpose--to team up with Pastor Virgil at the PAMI church in Bulusan, and help co-administer a pilot program from Faith Comes By Hearing called "End to End" (E2E).

Here's some background on FCBH. The aim of FCBH "is to record and use heart-language Audio Bibles to bring His church together and make disciples from every nation, tribe, language, and people." One of their hallmarks is a Proclaimer device that has the entire New Testament on a chip and has a battery that can be charged with a power cord, hand crank, or flip-up solar panel. FCBH came to EBI last year to look for help to make a dramatic recording of the New Testament in the local dialect of Bicolano. Ptr Chito volunteered to narrate Luke and Acts, and a couple other PAMI people read other parts.

Interestingly, I was unaware of Ptr Chito's contact with FCBH, and happened to contact FCBH through their website for a different reason. I was looking for a projector to bring on the July Respond visit, and asked FCBH about their recently developed Acclaimer. Surprisingly, I got a prompt response from Jim Gleason, their SE Asia regional manager, who happened to be visiting the Philippines at the same time. He wanted to meet to discuss possibly partnering with us to do E2E. The meeting went well.

E2E begins on one end with "Jesus" film showings using an Acclaimer, with the goal of doing 150 showings in 3 years (about 1 per week). A Proclaimer and 15 Bibles are then provided after each film showing for doing follow-up Bible study listening groups, for a total of 150 Proclaimers and 2250 Bibles! E2E would be such a blessing because of all these resources and its wide scope of ministry. E2E is so big that it would not only involve all PAMI ministry locations, but also involve other church groups. PAMI is an ideal partner because we have connections with so many groups, largely because our EBI graduates go to many groups. E2E could really promote unity and yield growth. By the way, FCBH has arranged for me to visit their headquarters in Albuquerque later in Feb. for preparations.



Ptr Chito and I met with FCBH manager Jim Gleason in July at the Manila airport



FCBH Acclaimer DVD projector system for film showings



FCBH Proclaimer audio N.T. for follow-up listening groups

*Praising God for possibilities, Mike Thorud*

\*Note: Praise God that there are three from Mindanao hoping to enroll at EBI this coming school year.