



# Making the Most of What God Gives Us

## *Previous Scholarship Recipient Becomes Nurse*

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Manila, Philippines

In 2000, we at LAF, had the joy of meeting a wonderful young man in the Philippines, named Anthony Diputado, who was struggling to get tuition, books, etc. for his college courses, to the extent that he was going to have to drop out of college if he did not get help somewhere. He was working towards his Computer Science degree at the University of Mindanao in Davao City. He is from a family with 10 children, several of which were attending college. Then he got word that his father had a stroke and was not able to work his job for a long time. Tony was sure he would have to give up his dream and in the

Philippines, trying to support yourself without a degree is almost impossible. To make a long story short, God impressed on us at LAF to help him get his college degree. We weren't sure how we would do that, since our resources were very limited, but when God tells you in your heart to give, it is extremely important to obey without reservation. So Tony became our first Scholarship recipient, as well as like a son to us as. We were there for him through his ups and downs and had the wonderful privilege of helping him grow in His new walk with the Lord. After college, when not able to secure a suitable job using his many abilities, he moved to



Manila, where he worked for over a year before being awarded a Scholarship to Nursing School, from a different source. We praise God with him for completion of his Nursing program and look forward to great opportunities to use his God given talents for His Kingdom. Recently, Tony sent a letter, asking us to publish it on our website, which we are doing by posting this LAF newsletter. We are very happy to print it below..

### Special needs and prayer requests

\* We need more Bibles in Urdu and Cebuano

Cost is @ \$3 USD each

- We need sponsors for orphaned children in Nepal & India. \$15-\$25 a mo.
- We need sponsors for indigenous ministers in Bangladesh, Philippines, Tanzania and Pakistan. \$80/mo.

### *Letter of Thanks from Anthony (Tony) Diputado* *(Edited with permission for clarity only, since English is not Tony's first language)*

To all readers:

The Word passage (in Psalm 5:1-3) lead me to move on...

When I was still on my first choice course of Computer Science, it was tough for me to go to school. Yes! It was hard times and not a joke for everyone, especially as a student with many financial needs. I

believed that I could do the school stuff with study efforts, of course, but without financial support it bothered me a lot in my daily classes and daily routines of going to school, like riding a jeepney, and sometimes I had to walk the long distance in order to have food. I knew how it was and I knew my family was there supporting

me emotionally, spiritually and financially, (the best they could), of course. But with a big family, I understood how hard it was in terms of my school needs. Although it was very challenging, I still wanted to pursue and finish my course which I had dreamed for, not only for me, but for my whole family as well. Cont. on pg. 3



**Above:** Bro. Arjun, house father and director of Gentle Hearts Children’s Home (GHCH) in Nepal helping orphaned children. We are agreeing with Arjun and Shobha in prayer that they will financially be able to take these precious homeless children into their family. These children desperately need all of us to care enough to do something for them. Sponsors are needed or regular donations to GHCH to make this possible. **Below:** One of the precious children who needs a home, which Arjun and Shobha would love to provide. They have the love and the loving home, where they already have taken in 9 children in addition to their own. Please pray that they and others can help these children. If led to help, please don’t hesitate to contact us and send your donation. Checks should be made out to: Freedom’s Hope Ministry And mailed to P.O. Box 1886 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805



# Gleanings from the Word

By Gideon Amoako Sarpong, Accra, Ghana

## Come out ... Be ye separate. II Corinthians 6:14-16

Horns blowing, loud voices in profane singing, vehicle tires screeching, traffic jam caused by illegal invasion of the streets by overly jubilant supporters clad in national colors: the frenzied scenes of “patriotism” at the commencement of an international soccer tournament. Before this, radio evangelists — ambassadors of the “words of truth and soberness” — set aside pulling a perverse and crooked generation from the imminent “terror of the Lord”, and appealed to Christians to pray, not for the furtherance of the Gospel in the lands of unbelief, not for those who stumble to be girded with strength (sanctification of our hearts); but for a soccer match. Was it possible that the apostles, once in a while, retired from the graver issue of godliness to watch the then-famous isthmian games in Greece? Paul, at a Greek athletic field instead of Mars’ Hill? I have searched the epistles in vain to find the apostle Paul appealing for prayers for some worldly athlete to win a “corruptible crown” in a race.

A senior brother in the faith lamentably related to me the fact of pew desertion during periods of a soccer tournament. How he had gone to church on one ‘big match’ day to see only a few people, and how the preacher amidst preaching had stopped to give a comment that seemed to assent to what was happening. Oh, if only we Christians will

see how this god of sports has “crept in unawares!” Oh, what unspeakable harm it has done to our devotion and the love of Christ in us! No wonder we have such a cold attitude to the things which are divine. Sports have become a god comfortably enthroned on the hearts of many a professing modern Christian. “..When the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?”



Brethren, we face a cunning foe, and his shrewdness lies at infiltrating our circles without the slightest notice. He has an offensive team of experts tasked with the strategizing of sin in its most subtle and appealing form. From our attitude to sports, the devil is sure likely to stand by and mock us as we declare that “we are not ignorant of his devices.” The sorrowful sympathy I had for my nation’s defeat in a match;

the wandering thoughts in prayer during ‘big match’ days as dangerous signs of lukewarmness, confirms the truth of Matthew 15:7,8—”Ye hypocrites, well did Isaiah prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoreth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me...” What is the true state of our hearts? “And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.”

“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves...” and if found wanting, let us go back to Calvary; on our knees in prayer that we will not be enslaved in the web being woven by the powers of darkness through the captivating appeal of sports and entertainment. The values of eternity must be evident in anything we develop a liking for. Let us come out from the popular attractions and way of life and be separated unto our Father.

“The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and let us put on the armor of light,”—is not addressed to unbelievers, but saints who are more than conquerors through Christ.

**“The values of eternity must be evident in anything we develop a liking for.”**

Gideon completed his high school education through distance education through Ark Christian Academy, This year he entered a university in Ghana, where he had the top entrance exam score.

## Letter from Anthony Diputado continued

I kept praying and hoping that God would grant my prayer request, as I was keeping it in my heart. and I know God knows how much I desired to finish my schooling. Then it came.

In the year 2000, I met a good family through the internet. I don't know much of how it came about. Maybe it was already a big miracle as a good sign that God was so good to me. I know it was amazing and a blessing that I met the FURMAN family at Christian Penpals. I was guided by God's spirit to go to internet chat. There I built a good friendship with them and we always met to chat online on weekends and holidays and we

kept writing mail so we could keep in touch always. We had fun singing Christian songs together with the microphones, which I loved. I didn't realize that it was God's purpose for them to meet me, since they helped the orphans and poor and needy students like me. I am blessed and thankful for the Christian community for helping me in my schooling and for my family, too.

There was a time, when my mom was bleeding for a long time until she was admitted in the hospital. We were so in need of financial help. The Furman family and their Christian organization continuously extended their help and support to my Mom. It was a

great help and comfort that I had met them. I know LIFE Aid Foundation helped me and will be a blessing more and more as they have to the whole world extended their ministry especially to the orphans, poor and needy like me. I can't describe more of how wonderful it was. All I know is, I am thankful and blessed by them. It's with heart felt thanks to God and to them for comforting me. You are part of my family. More power to you all. God bless you as always!

Brother in Christ,  
Tony



Anthony (Tony) Diputado at graduation.

**PLEASE PRAY** for Tony's brother, Paul, who is in desperate need of regular dialysis treatments or complete healing. The family has no money for this.

## Talking Bibles going to Bangladesh

In November of 2008, Talking Bibles International blessed us with 20 Talking Bibles in the Bangali language. We quickly repackaged and shipped 10 of those Bibles and are awaiting confirmation from our contacts there that they have arrived safely. We believe they should have arrived there by now, please pray with us for their safe arrival, so they can be hand delivered to villages leaders in remote areas where most, if not all, of the villagers are illiterate. They are curious and intrigued by a talking box and most of the village will come to hear their own language coming from the talking box. This is an awesome way to get the Word into them and let the Word do Its Work in their hearts through the power

of the Holy Spirit. We want to publicly thank Talking Bibles International for providing the Bibles. If any of you like the idea of this project, each Talking Bible costs \$21 plus the additional cost of shipping the Bibles overseas to the area in need. We can get them in many different languages if we only have the resources. We could reach more than just these villages, but also remote people in many countries, where most have never heard of the wonderful gift of Jesus Christ.

Talking Bibles International is a wonderful ministry, which is doing their best to get God's Word out to people around the world, "Because they need to hear." They are very careful to require provision for account-

ability which we appreciate very much, yet they are kindly being flexible, as they understand the sensitivity of this particular project area.

Earlier in the year, God made it possible for us to provide the indigenous ministers we work with there, with an acoustic guitar to use in ministry in the different villages. By God's grace we were also able to help them have lighting for getting together for worship by purchasing 2 lanterns.

We are praying for provisions to send 15 indigenous missionaries to live in 15 different villages to share the Gospel daily with them for at least a year. These men are trained and ready to go. They are only waiting on the means.



Above: Picture of a Talking Bible from Talking Bibles International website [www.talkingbibles.org](http://www.talkingbibles.org)

Below: Baptism of new believer in Bangladesh in May of '08.





## Freedom's Hope Ministry, Inc./ LIFE Aid Foundation

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Impacting the World One Life at a Time!



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## Missions Statement

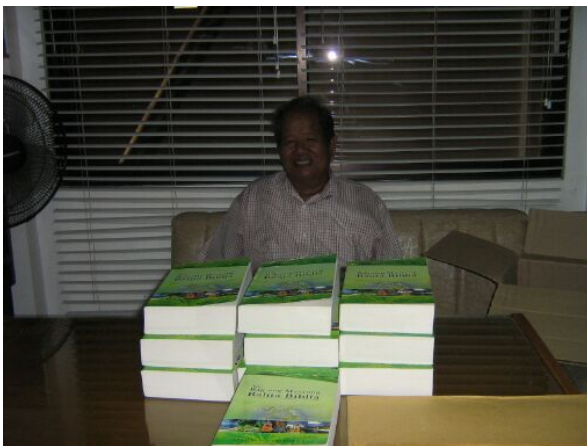
Freedom's Hope Ministry and Life Aid Foundation are nondenominational ministries committed to bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to all nations. We cooperate with hundreds of organizations around the world to help Christians grow in their faith and share the Gospel message with their fellow countrymen. We demonstrate God's awesome love for His creation by meeting people in their need, both physically and spiritually. We have opted to work with native believers in each country who are eager to follow the call of Jesus given to all Christians, found in **Matthew 28:18-20**.

We endeavor to follow the guidelines found in **Matthew 25:35, 36 & 40 (NIV)** where Jesus said, *"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.... The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'"*

Isaiah 58:6-9 (NIV)

"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen; to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood? **Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard. Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.**"

## *Cebuano Bibles for Bro. Pacleb in Philippines*



Pastor Benito Pacleb  
with 10 Cebuano Bibles for  
ministry.

through him and others ministering with him in Zamboanga del Norte in the southern part of the Philippines.

This year they have been doing

How exciting it has been to get to know Bro. Benito Pacleb in the Philippines, learning about the ministry God is doing

a lot of ministry in predominantly Muslim areas and God has been drawing these Muslims and others to himself through Crusades and personal witnessing.

A short time ago, Bro. Pacleb let us know they have a great need for Bibles in the Cebuano language. We felt led to do something about that need and began praying for God to make that possible, which He did. We were blessed to provide money for our representative in the Philippines, Bro. Rupert, to purchase and send 10 Cebuano Bibles to Bro. Pacleb for use in their ministry. More

are needed, but we praise God that we were able to help with this initial ten, and we trust God will provide more in the future.

Bro. Benito Pacleb has sent this note of thanks, "I would like to thank you for the ten copies (pcs) of Bibles we received yesterday, December 19, 2008. We are very happy to receive them and we pray that these Bibles will be instrumental in creating an eternal impact on the lives of the believers that will receive them and the family being represented. Thanks to Bro. Rupert also."