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January 2020 Report

Dear Faithful Partners in Christ.

Greetings in the most precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! A blessed Happy New Year to you all.

We thank God for His faithfulness in keeping us and blessing us in various ways in the past year. We're thankful also for those joyous moments we have had as we celebrate Christmas and New Year together with our friends, relatives and loved ones. On New Year's Eve we were delighted to see our first grandson from my nephew and his wife and held them in our arms.

Thank God also that we were spared from the recent eruption of Taal volcano in Batangas area, though its ashes still reached our place at the height of its eruption. It caused great devastation on large area of Batangas on houses, livelihood, and livestock. Half million people were affected by this calamity and most of them are now in various evacuation centers due to continuous threat of eruption. Thank God there were only few reports of casualties among the people but the devastation it caused was huge.

So we, along with other independent Baptist churches in Zambales, are making united efforts to help the victims through relief goods as well as financial assistance, especially to believers and members of Baptist Churches in the areas that were affected. Many of them are in pitiful condition due to the calamity. At the moment, the eruption has subsided, but there is still threat of strong volcanic eruption so the alert level is still high.

May this natural disaster result in the salvation of souls and serve as wake up call to believers to prepare for the coming of the Lord. The Bible says in Rom. 13:11, "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."

We are thankful also for the good health we have though occasionally I and Violy suffer from various health problems. At times, I had gout attacks but still thankful not serious as before. My vision also gets tired easily during reading and study sessions. Violy has suffered from hypertension a few times but was able to manage it through medications. Truly aging (though we still feel young) takes a toll on our health. Our daughters are all doing fine in their jobs and we still enjoyed their company as they stayed at our house every weekend.

The ministry is doing fine by God's grace. Last December 22, we had our Christmas fellowship at the Church to celebrate the birth of Christ. There were several visitors present that added joy to our celebration. It was indeed a joyful fellowship with delicious foods and fun games after the service. We distributed Christmas gifts also to children present who are mostly member's kids. I preached on "The Best Gift We

Can Give to Christ" and challenged members to faithfully serve Christ and the visitors to give their lives to Christ; the reason for the season.

We continue our endeavor in soul winning every week with some members going out to win souls and distributing tracts on Friday and Saturday. We rejoiced for the many souls that received Christ as Savior, but following them up on baptism and membership becomes a difficult part among them. It seems that many people just want to be saved but not to become committed disciple and member of the local church. Many of those won to Christ did not continue on discipleship. But we rejoiced on those who continued and became committed disciples of the Lord.

I continue to conduct Bible Studies among Police officers in Subic through MBK (My Brother's Keeper) program. I am officially designated as one of the life coaches of Police officers in Zambales to conduct moral recovery on them. Many of them, if not all received Christ as their Savior. The Lord knows who among them are really saved. But we are praying hard for them to become committed disciple of the Lord Jesus. Please help us in prayer for their full commitment in the faith.

Violy continued her dressmaking ministry to students and women who are interested to learn this skill. Thank God for the continued opportunity to preach the Gospel to the lost. Please pray for more souls to get save through these ministries.

Our church In Cawag has moved to their new location that is more accessible to members and visitors. Pastor Andrade is facing a new struggle at present as several of family members moved to other areas to look for job due to the closure of Hanjin Company last year. Their attendance was down as well as finances so they are struggling to meet their ministry needs. The Cawag community also is now depopulated due to people moving to other places for job opportunities. But they continue to reach out to people in the area through soul winning and weekly visitation. Please uphold them in your prayers that they be able to move on despite of the struggles they are facing.

We are praying for a newer vehicle we can use in the ministry. The car we use is no longer in good condition for travels and always suffers breakdowns. The repair services take a toll on our finances so we are praying for a newer one. I loaned a certain amount for the vehicle but it's not enough to purchase a newer one. Please include this in your prayers.

Thank you very much for your faithfulness in prayer and support to our ministry here. You have been faithful in your partnership with us throughout the years. May the Lord richly bless you in your endeavor to spread the Gospel to the whole world till He comes. God bless you all.

Continuing In His Service, Bro. Manny, Víoly, Hannah, Joyce, Karen and Precíous











