



October 15, 2010

Hey hey,

I will begin with a story I witnessed years ago regarding two guys both named Jim (no, I am not one). These two guys had a desire to see their local church develop a missions program. The church was young and growing and had problems that young growing churches have. Some of the issues faced was a lot of vision and visionaries but not a lot of staff or lay workers. So the two Jims approached the church leadership and volunteered to be lay workers who would focus on building into the church a heart for missions. The church leadership had a heart for missions but not the time required to do the foundational work to incorporate missions into the heart of the church. Jim and Jim did the work. They screened potential missionaries, worked at information dissemination, and other such tasks that a missions pastor would be responsible for. After some time the local church was able to hire a missions pastor and today the church is focused on raising up and strategically sending out missionaries. It all started because Jim and Jim gave their time, pushed the church beyond inertia, and pushed in a specific direction.

This was the story I told recently to some pastors and elders of the church that we currently serve with, and I shared this story with the intent of challenging the same yet not regarding missions but rather with the vision of incorporating an evangelist into the church's leadership structure. Like the two Jims before me I did not just challenge but I offered to be a lay evangelist for the church. Praise God, they bit. As many of you know I have had a burden for a local church structured with an staff position of an evangelist for many years now. I tried in the past to work with a local church here in the town where we live but to no avail. Then I was challenged by my spiritual authority to switch to an English church for my spiritual well being and we therefore had to leave that church. I tried a church plant but all that I got out of it is the knowledge that I am not a pastor. Sure I love teaching the Bible and doing the evangelism but I do not have a heart to lead sheep. Now we are in a church that is organized, I am currently serving in, and has a heart for evangelism but just no knowledge of how to incorporate an evangelist into its leadership structure. Let us pray that this bird flies.

On other fronts, my first evangelistic comic book is almost ready for the printer. The illustrators are wrapping up their work and I have got the bids back from various printers and found one that I like. Our target is to have the comic books distributed during ACTION's evangelistic Christmas parties for street kids the first two weeks of December. I also sent the second comic book off to the translator recently. Praise God. I have a good chunk of the next story in mind but I will not write it at this time as I want to focus some on the book that I am working on; Evangelistic Gospel Proclamation. The first section of the book is weighty in theology giving me the foundation for evangelism and when I put the book on the back burner a few months ago, so as to get the comic books going, I was working on a section of God's attributes and how they necessitated certain factors when it came to creation. In case it is unclear to you the objective of me writing the book is that it is designed to be a tool that we can distribute here in the Philippines so as to equip Christian leadership in public evangelism so as to role model evangelism for those whom we are (should be) training in evangelism. Remember, my goal for the evangelist is to increase the percentage of Christians evangelizing.

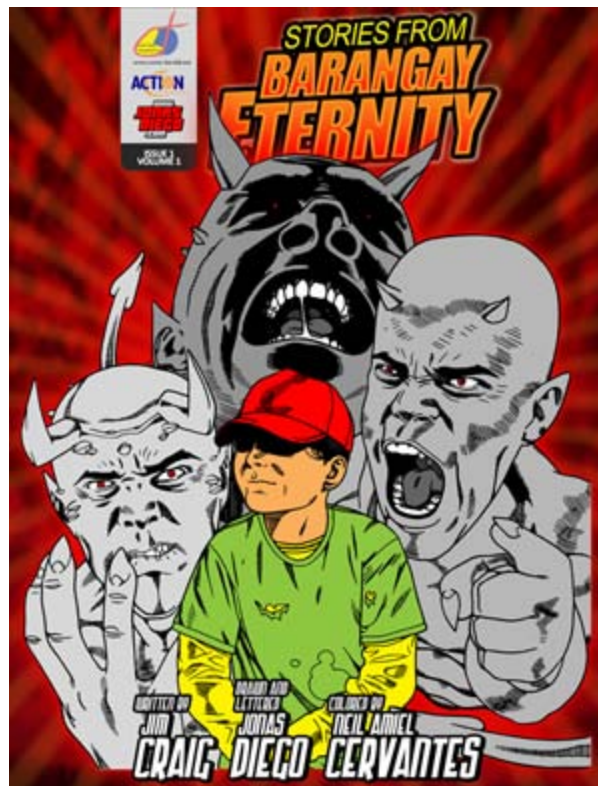
Family wise, Gloria's work has slowed down some and this is good. She was very, very busy for the past three months as a lot of sickness is out there. Timi Louise is still a little peach but we did get some disheartening news recently. People have observed, and we are concerned, that she is regressing in her autism. We had her developmental pediatricians asses her and they told us it is likely just the autism manifesting itself in conjunction with her normal development. That is, as she develops as a normal child would the autism now has greater means to demonstrate itself. This is understandable but one of the pediatricians did reclassify her to moderate whereas the other doctor kept her at mild.

One last thought, as a requirement for membership in our church we had to submit our testimonies. So we typed out Gloria's and if you wish you can [read it here](#).

God bless,

Jim Craig
Until He Comes

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If you would like to give you can make checks payable to Action International Ministries, P. O. Box 398 Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398 or 3015 A 21st Street NE, Calgary, Alberta T2E 7T1, Canada. Note that your check is for support of the Craig's.