

Life-Discipleship

# Ellis Expressions

First Quarter - 2009

... Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments. Col. 2:2-4 ESV

Action International Ministries, P. O. Box 398, Mountlake Terrace WA 98043-0398

*With counseling, a pastor came to understand from the Scriptures what his real marriage problem was. It was not his wife.*

*Filipino pastors are learning how to counsel & teach parents on disciplining children with biblical instruction and to lead effective family devotions.*

*These pastors are also being challenged to train Overseas Contract Workers as "tentmakers" for missions work.*

*Ellises need co-missionaries for the Life-Discipleship ministry. We will provide the training. Local pastors of the Philippines are eager to learn from those who are trained.*

*Phone numbers needed. Paul's Daytimer directory was lost/stolen and he is rebuilding a new one. So we are giving you opportunity with this newsletter to respond to that on the response form.*

*Check out the manual project chart update in this newsletter!*



## Prayer needed for

- the training manual project.
- recruitment of more Life-Discipleship missionaries.
- Life-Discipleship training of prisoners by a local trained pastor.
- the video production of the Life-Discipleship ministry.

## Praises

- There are wonderful testimonies in the lives of current students/pastors.
- 34 pastors/pastors wives will graduate April 24.
- 1,000 of the 3,000 manuals will be shipped from Hong Kong to Manila soon.
- Our health is basically good.

“... to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God’s mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments. (Colossians 2:2-4, ESV)



ourselves with truths of God’s Word to know what He sees going on in our hearts. I am coming to understand that biblical hope is for us to undergo biblical changes and practices in our own lives in our response towards her.”

Dear Friend,

Are there “plausible arguments” that challenge evangelical churches today concerning biblical standards for marriage relationships and rearing children? Should disciples of Christ compare: “You have heard that it was said ...” to “But I say to you” (Matthew 5:27-28), especially on issues that are clearly pointed out in the Scriptures? The pastors we meet with in weekly sessions definitely believe so!

One pastor has two adult children still living at home. He told us that his wife was involved in their church ministries until she changed to a day office job in a nightclub for a salary. She succumbed to their influence over time and left for work abroad, informing her family only when she was already at the airport! She returned (in disgrace) and, after a few months at home with a job in a Christian organization, left to live with another man.

The family’s natural result was bitter feelings and judgment. With our counsel, he came to a clear understanding from the Scriptures of what his real problem was. It was not his wife! After the class review on Marriage Relationships, he said,

“Now I know why the Lord has not brought my wife to repentance and restored her to our family. We are not ready to receive her until the Lord has humbled us from all the finger pointing and we have examined

In another lesson Paul asked, “Does your church have any small-group sessions to teach parents about the biblical principles and guidelines for discipline and instruction in the home?” Every pastor indicated that there is no such training going on in their church nor have they had resources to help them teach these for their families until this class. None of them were aware of any church in their region that is training couples to provide these critical needs for the children. Paul then asked, “Who will teach them if the church doesn’t?”

Many pastors are telling us there are thousands of needy pastors in the Philippines who seriously need training in practical applications of Scripture when dealing with common issues of life. Over and over we are told the Bible schools and seminaries are not teaching the practical truths we teach. Who will come over to help us?

We deeply appreciate your faithfulness to the Lord in support of this ministry (Isaiah 55:10-13, I Corinthians 15:58).

For Life-Discipleship updates, go to <http://www.lifediscipleship.blogspot.com>

**Tax-deductible investments to the Ellis’ ministry:**

Action Int’l Ministries. USA - P O Box 309, Mountlake Terrace WA 98043-0398 For Canadians - 3015 A 21<sup>st</sup> Street NE, Calgary T2E 7T1, CANADA

## Special projects

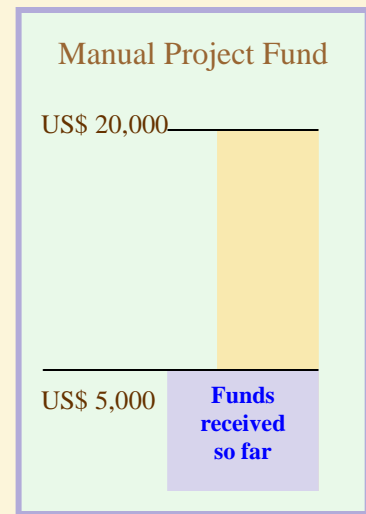


### *Training for prisoners!*

Pastor Lito De Guzman has been ministering to prisoners for well over a decade. He coordinated our Life-Discipleship ministry to a select group of prisoners at the Medium Security compound, National Penitentiary. In 2007, He completed all training requirements to actually teach the discipleship and biblical counseling materials we use having been a member of the Friday Life-Discipleship group of pastors during that time. Last year, he taught 22-lessons of the course to a group of 12 choice prisoners who were in training to become full-time pastors and Bible study leaders. This year, he would like to teach yet another group of 12 prisoners in the same way. For this group only, leaders of our mission (Action International Ministries) gave their approval to accept this ministry opportunity as a special project. The total budget for this project is US\$700, which includes the costs of all training material & supplies, their snack & noon meals for 22 one-day weekly sessions. If you would like to have a part in this ministry, please indicate your interest on the response form.

### *Self-Confrontation Training manual update!*

One thousand new training manuals have recently been purchased and ordered to re-supply our stock which serves to both provide the supply for our training of pastors and to supply each of them who qualify with 10 manuals each so that they may train other pastors and church leaders in areas where they minister. Our plan is to order 2,000 more manuals when the Biblical Counseling Foundation plans to submit their next order of training manuals to be published sometime 2010 or 2011. This foundation offered us a special bulk rate per manual. This allows us to train needy pastors at no financial burden to them. If you would like to both prayerfully and financially participate in this project, please indicate your interest in the response form.



## ... Response Form ...

Dear Paul and Pat,

I (We) would like to have a part by:

- being a prayer warrior for the prayer corner in your newsletter.
- offering a special contribution for the training manuals.
- participating with my (our) contribution for the next group of prisoners to be trained.
- Other \_\_\_\_\_.

Amount enclosed. \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. # (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_



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