



"Knowing God, Taking Action"

Hands & Feet

Erin Johnson's Ministry Update



July 2010

Hello from the Philippines to family and friends worldwide! As I sit down to write my newsletter I'm overwhelmed with so many things I want to share with you. I'm doing well! After a challenging adjustment period my first few months back here, I'm finally starting to feel settled again. I recently moved to a new house closer to my language school, again sharing with another missionary. I'm really enjoying the new place, so I'm praising God for His good provision yet again.

It's hard to describe how much our ministry has grown during the last 6 months! My dear friend Mervi has been faithfully teaching a Bible study to the kids on the streets of Silang every week. We also visit another group of kids in Pala Pala, and teach there when we can. We are learning that the most important thing we can do is to build trust and relationship with the children. It's only then that they begin listening to what we have to say and we can really start to help them. My ministry partner, Krista, who just graduated in Social Work, is doing an amazing job taking charge of that aspect of our ministry.

Here are some news blurbs of what's been happening:

- In Silang, 5 kids are no longer sleeping on the street but now attending school every day instead! We launched our scholarship program in mid-June. (Gerald, Leo, Wilbert, Patrick, and Christian)
- Last week we had 30 kids at our Bible study in Silang!
- In June 5 kids from Pala Pala were taken to jail, were released to us, and we were able to take them each to their homes (all but 1-Billy Boy). Two of them are now off the street and in school (Serio and Ian).
- One girl Shona* (not her real name), who was being abused on the street has now been informally adopted by a Christian family and is doing well!
- Geralyn, a girl from Silang, along with Shona, just enrolled in a schooling and discipleship program through ACTION's partner, Papa John Center.
- Patrick and Christian's baby sister Charice has been in the hospital for 3 weeks due to pneumonia, sepsis, scabies, and mal-nutrition. She is slowly improving. Their whole family is deeply affected by scabies so we are working on a plan of action to help them too.
- We've recently learned that two boys in Silang (J. and R.) are very discouraged and have been harming themselves. Please pray for wisdom how we can help them.
- At least four of our kids (Celson, Carlo, Geralyn, and Shona) will be attending ACTION's street kids camp in August!

I wish I could go into detail about each one of these stories! Please feel free to email or write me with further questions if you want a story! In the meantime, we would like to ask for your prayers for EACH of these kids. Over and over we have witnessed God answering prayer above and beyond what we could have asked or imagined, so keep praying with us! Also please pray for financial provision as with the increase of ministry comes an increase in expenses. We are trusting that God will provide for all that He leads us to do, so thank you for partnering with us in support and in prayer! We couldn't do it without you! Keep in touch and may God continue to bless you and keep you.

~ Yours in Christ, Erin Johnson



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