Yes, Lord!

The people who know their God shall stand firm and take action.

Daniel 11:32b

We All have a Unique and Important Ministry

News from
Jeff and
Mary Ann
Anderson,
serving
globally with
Action
International
Ministries

1st Qtr. 2024 Volume 39 In Luke 8:1-3 we read about Jesus Christ proclaiming and bringing the Good News of God's Kingdom in Galilean towns and villages. He was accompanied by the twelve Apostles and women who financially supported their mission. Luke 9:1-2 records that Jesus "called the twelve together and gave them power and authority (power is the ability to do a task, and authority is the right to do it) over all demons and to cure diseases." He then sent them out to "proclaim the Kingdom of God and to heal" with instructions on how to carry out their mission. Luke 9:6 says they "went through the villages, preaching the Gospel and healing everywhere." Luke 10:1 says the Lord appointed 72 other workers (they were anonymous disciples and not called apostles) and sent them in pairs to Judea ahead of Him. After receiving their appointment, Jesus sent the 72 disciples to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom of God in every town and place where Christ was to go. Through all this we see that Jesus multiplied disciples as He traveled and preached the Good News of God's Kingdom. In Luke 10:2 Jesus said that the 72 disciples He sent to proclaim the Good News in Judea were not enough workers to reap the abundant ripe harvest of a vast field. The disciples were not to pray for an easier task. They were to pray for more laborers.

Jesus was sent by His Father to save lost people (you and me) not to condemn us. That was His ultimate mission. Jesus then taught, empowered, authorized and sent His twelve Apostles to the nations of their day to proclaim the Gospel, do good deeds and make disciples. Later He sent the 72 disciples on an assignment to do the same. Clearly Luke wanted his readers through the ages to know that reaching the world with Christ's message of hope and redemption is the responsibility of all His followers. Today all Christ-followers are to be

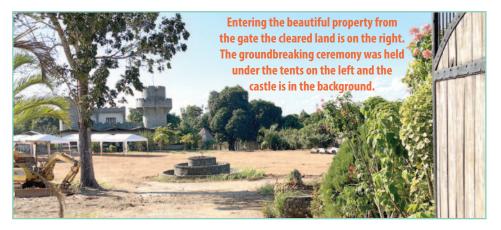
involved in helping carry out Christ's commission to His people (Matthew 28:18-20) by either sending others with the Gospel by praying and giving finances or by going to the nations with the Gospel and making disciples. Some are involved in both ministries. No follower of Jesus is exempt from involvement. All of us have a unique and important ministry.

What can we learn from Luke's record? Harvesting is hard work. We need to pray for ourselves and for others. We need to be hardworking harvesters wherever we are and whatever our calling. We cannot be spectators. We are to make disciples as we are sent by the Lord of the harvest with the Good News to the nations (people groups) whether they are near us or faraway. A key principle of ministry is as we get older and gain more experience in ministry a large part of our responsibility is to mentor young people in life and equip them for ministry that uniquely fits them. When the time is right we are then to turn ministry over to them and walk alongside them as their encouragers.

This describes where Mary Ann and I are in life and ministry. We have a debt of gratitude to Jesus for our lives in Him and His life-time call of full-time ministry to preach the Gospel and serve His people. We are grateful to those who have mentored and trained us in life and ministry, to those who faithfully pray for us and sup-



All Scripture references are in the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise stated.



port us and our work and to those who are following us in ministry to the nations. We are happily passing forward what we have learned and continue to learn.

PCRC groundbreaking

It was a great blessing to attend the official groundbreaking of All4Christ's Palawan Christian Resource Center on February 17. After five years of dreaming, praying and planning it is now being built. The joyful God-honoring ceremony was attended by about 120 people of which were pastors, church leaders, a representative from the governor's office of Palawan Province, a representative from the mayor's office of Puerto Princesa, local community leaders, friends and neighbors. Mary Ann and I had rich fellowship with the A4C and Center for Biblical Studies Institute and Seminary teams during our entire trip to Puerto which included an energetic two-day strategic planning meeting.

Reconnecting with everyone was especially encouraging because while

we were in Manila in late-November and early-December we canceled all our plans with A4C and CBSIS because Mary Ann had a very bad head cold. After a few days of suffering she saw a doctor who prescribed the right medications and supplements and told her to rest so her cold would not develop pneumonia. I stayed to assist her by buying food and preparing meals, helping with laundry and making coffee. We spent many hours together reading our Bibles, praying and listening to messages online. Our days were sweet especially during the quiet early morning hours.

ACTION Philippine's decades-

long desire has been to come alongside local churches to help them identify, equip, send and care for their Gospel workers in local and global cross-cultural ministries, particularly among unreached people groups and the poor such as street children. Prayerfully the PCRC will help fulfill our desire. While the PCRC is being developed small on-sight ministries will be conducted such as conferences, workshops, prayer meetings, gatherings for worship and providing rest and hospitality.

Entered 2024 strong

Thank-you very much for your faithful prayers and generous financial support. We ended 2023 and entered this year strong because of your partnership with us. Our schedule is filling up with local and foreign ministry opportunities. Our challenge is discerning which opportunities to accept and which not to. We want to be fruitful for God's Kingdom and not just busy. Please keep praying and giving as unto the Lord. Your gifts of prayer and finances are a "fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God" (Philippians 4:18). Their profit accrues to your bank account in heaven (Philippines 4:17).



Action International Ministries

Online giving: www.actioninternational.org/anderson

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