



Bringing the Good News of Jesus to the unreached in SE ASIA

John Ricards / President's Corner

The Three World Views

Years ago, I listened to a lecture given by a veteran missionary to Afghanistan in which he enumerated the THREE WORLD VIEWS from a missions perspective. Generally dividing world cultures into three main groups, Western, Eastern, and Tribal. This scholar went on to explain how the Gospel of Jesus Christ has great appeal to each of the worldviews of these very distinct world cultures.

The worldview in the Western world is described as kind of a continuum, or sliding scale on the matrix of GUILT and INNOCENCE. The matter of innocence is very important to us here in the west. Thus, the prominence here of legal professionals whose job it is to establish that innocence in courts of law.

The aspect of the Gospel that appeals greatly to us Westerners is that Jesus took our guilt upon Himself when He died on the cross, declaring to all who believe, "you are now innocent of all charges against you"

In Eastern Cultures, that worldview is described similarly on the grid of SHAME and HONOR. Losing face in Asian cultures is tantamount to being found guilty in the west. Family honor must be preserved at any cost, even the cost of loss of innocence in a legal sense. But the amazing thing is, the death of our Lord Jesus on the cross of Calvary also takes away any shame, and elevates the believer to the status of honored son or daughter.

Tribal cultures the world over wrestle with the worldview of FEAR and POWER. In primitive animistic belief systems, it is believed that spirits animate the objects of nature with which these people are all too familiar. They live in the fear that, if these spirits are not appeased regularly through sacrifice and oblation, terrible personal consequences will result. There is a dark world of terror and superstition. The Gospel declares that, "perfect love casts out all fear." Where the power of Christ is declared and lived, the onus of spiritual defeat and bondage is wiped away.

Remarkably, this amazing Gospel meets the people of the world where their need is the greatest. Guilt, shame, and fear are swallowed up as the brilliant light of the Gospel radiates through the peoples of the earth. This is why we do what we do at MCN. It is for freedom that Christ has set us free!

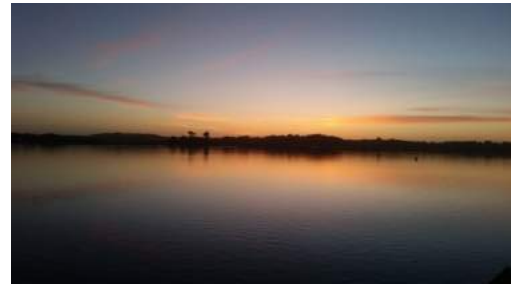
The Most Glorious Sight

By Justin Allen, Director, MCN International

The past few months have felt like a whirlwind. I've traveled more than 20,000 miles. I've watched the sunset on beaches on the eastern and western extremes of the Pacific Ocean. I've felt both snow and tropical sun on my face within 48 hours of each other. I've watched whales breach and play on the California Coast. I've seen awe inspiring Redwood trees estimated to be over 1000 years old! Out of all the places I've traveled and all the things I've seen in recent months; the most magnificent was in the tiny Mamanwa village of Daculang high in the mountains of Northeastern Mindanao. Pastor Claudio Mantilla started an outreach in Daculang several months before our arrival. The village had recently been badly damaged by Typhoon Basyang, and was still rebuilding. We were told that the day before our arrival there had been a fierce gun battle nearby between the NPA (New Peoples Army) and the Filipino Military. In this humble little village I saw the



most glorious thing! A tiny woman in her 70's dressed in yellow sat in the crowd. Pastor Claudio invited me to speak to the group. As I shared the Biblical narrative of creation, fall, and redemption the little woman in yellow interrupted and beat me to the punch at every turn in the story! She was so excited about the Gospel that she was unable to contain herself! She simply had to talk about it! Jesus had been presented to her only months before and now she is sold out in love with him. In that moment, the scripture Luke 15:10 came to mind, "there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents." At that instant I felt that joy. It was truly the most glorious thing. I look forward to the day when we will see so many like her as we worship together in heaven. Thank you to all who pray and financially support our work. You won't know how many others like this woman you'll help reach, until you meet them in heaven!



TRIBAL CHILDREN'S LITERACY PROGRAM (TCLP)

Byron and Joy Gary

...BALEGUIAN



Two years ago we started reaching out to the Mamanwa settlers in Baleguian. We initially enrolled twenty Mamanwa children from this small village in the TCLP (Tribal Children's Literacy Program). In June, the start of the new school year in the Philippines, we'll be officially beginning our third year working with this community.

The 12 families that make up this community were displaced from their homes, first by fighting in the mountains between NPA rebels and the military, and more recently by a town road widening project. They previously lived much closer to the local school. Now, they live far down in a valley, forcing them to walk much further over narrow muddy trails. These trails can be very difficult to traverse even in the best of conditions, but they are especially treacherous during the rainy season when the entire valley is flooded.

The relocation site where they live is owned by one of the local businessmen and so the villagers are unable to establish a permanent home. This has left them feeling like outcasts from the local community. In addition Datu Aneslagan, the chieftain of this community, tells us that many of his people are presently separated and still living in the mountains. They are unable to join the existing community of Mamanwa families who are living in Baleguian because there's no space for them to set up their nipa huts. The landowner also refuses to allow them to bring in more people. Datu Aneslagan is asking for prayer for God's financial provision so that they can purchase their own property and put down roots. The Mamanwa families in Baleguian are also praying that they will be able to start their own church where they can worship in their own language and where they can feel at home, and not like outcasts.

Please pray for this community to thrive in the midst of this difficulty. Please pray for the children participating in the TCLP program. Pray that they will continue to grow in Christ more and more as we hold Kids Klub there every Saturday. Please pray for their parents. Pray that they will receive Jesus into their hearts as well.

TCLP is a Sponsorship Program: MCN looks for concerned people who will commit to at least one year of sponsorship to help provide for the educational needs of a tribal child. Our hope is that sponsors will continue their sponsorship for the entire duration of the education of the child. MCN asks that sponsors give \$25/mo. for each sponsored child (\$75/qt, \$300/yr.).

2018 MCN Missionary Conference

By Justin Allen



Claudio Mantilla sharing about his work with the Mamanwa.



Pastor CJ Coffee, from the Well Community Church, Portland, Oregon.

March 5-8 MCN held its biennial Missionary Conference in Cebu City Philippines. Filipino missionaries working in Indonesia, Cambodia, and cross culturally in the Philippines on Mindanao and the Sulu Archipelago were present at the conference.

The theme of the conference was, "Finish The Race, Eyes on Jesus." The emphasis of the conference was endurance in the life of Christian service. The theme is based upon Hebrews 12:1-3, "*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.*"



Pastor CJ, speaking to the assembled MCN missionaries.

I was blessed to have my good friend, and brother elder at the Well Community Church, Pastor CJ Coffee as the featured speaker. Other speakers included Pastor Randy Reams from Kindred Bible Church of Nampa, ID; MCN President John Ricards; and myself. It was a great time of motivation and encouragement for our missionaries who sacrifice so much to proclaim the gospel among the unreached. Many of the missionaries approached me to say how blessed they were.

Each of the MCN missionaries had a time to share about his or her ministry. After each missionary presented, the entire group joined in prayer for them. It was a blessing and a challenge to hear their stories. Some are risking even their very lives to serve and advance the Kingdom of God!

We are continually praying and seeking the Lord for where MCN should go next. Please pray with us for God to open doors to new nations and new people groups. Please pray for the safety and effectiveness of our workers. Pray for their marriages and for their families. The enemy frequently uses these relationships to limit the witness and effectiveness of Christian workers. *The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. - Luke 10:2*



Our Work IS NOT Done!

By Janice Tompkins, Ten-40 Go Missionary Communications Coordinator

If you can't **GO** yourself, help **SEND** someone in your place.

MCN has Filipino missionaries reaching out to the unreached Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and Tribal people of Southeast Asia. They are faithfully serving the Lord even though their support needs are less than adequate and their area of outreach is often difficult and dangerous. The Lord has seen and blessed their sacrifice.

Muslims are being delivered from life-long bondage, receiving healing, and placing their faith and trust in Jesus. Tribal people are turning to the Lord and Buddhists are hearing the Gospel for the first time.

MCN sends out eleven families and five single missionaries from the Philippines. They are able to go into areas where a Caucasian face is at best a disadvantage, and at worst a death sentence. Yet, all these Filipino missionaries combined receive less financial support than the average American family sent to the mission field. Even \$5 to \$10 can make a difference in the lives of these faithful workers.

Please pray and consider supporting one of these amazing brothers and sisters.

Mt. Moriah Tribal Training School Graduation 2018

By Justin Allen

On March 14, 2018 we celebrated the 25th Commencement Exercises at Mt. Moriah Tribal Training School (MMTTS). For 25 years MMTTS has been training future tribal pastors. MMTTS has a three year curriculum. The first two years are didactic and the students live on the MMTTS campus. The third year is a practicum year. The students study and serve with a pastor at a tribal church. Students are trained in farming and pastoral studies. In the morning students work on the school farm, they then take lunch and a break, and in the afternoon they attend classes. Over 100 tribal students have graduated from MMTTS, these graduates have gone on to start over 30 churches. The focus of MMTTS is on the special needs of tribal students so only those from a tribal background are accepted.

This year MMTTS had three graduating students. Next year we have seven students scheduled to begin their studies. At right is a photo of the 2017/2018 teaching staff at MMTTS. Left to Right, Pastor Nelson Arnoco (also serves as the school farm manager), Lizlee Banda, and Albert Tinda (also serves as the dean of students). This year Edgar and Adelfa Cabasing, the long time leaders at MMTTS, took a well deserved sabbatical. They will be returning at the beginning of the next school year in July. Below is a picture of the visitors from the U.S. with the 3 graduates and one second year student. Left to Right are Janice Tompkins, Justin Allen, the four students, Pastor Randy Reams, and Timothy Davidson.



MMTTS does need financial help to accomplish this work. The labor that students perform on the school farm provides for their food needs. Other expenses such as books, pens, paper, staff salaries, building maintenance, transportation, etc. are needs that MCN must provide to MMTTS each month to keep the doors open. Please prayerfully consider a gift to help fund the training of a future tribal pastor.

Giving...

You can be part of the work of MCN by praying for us or by contributing financially. You can donate by sending a check to:

**MCN International
PO Box 55938
Portland, OR 97238-5938**

Or by going online to mcni.org

You can communicate with us by calling John at 541-288-3017 or Justin at 503-869-0375.

You can email us at mcni.usa@gmail.com

