

GREETINGS FROM
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

The Ransom Note

THE RANSOM FAMILY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2008

"The son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

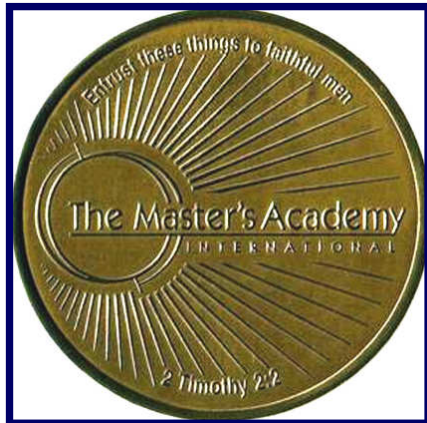
Mark 10:45

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- TMAI accreditation 1
- Grace Ministries Int'l 1
- Sean's Module at Talbot 2
- Wedding of dear friends 2
- Hundreds of Bibles! 2
- Savoring the Moments 3
- Open House 4

The Masters Academy International Philippines

It's official! The training center we started in Manila has been formally recognized by an association of schools called The Master's Academy International (www.tmainternational.org), a seminary planting movement started by graduates of The Master's Seminary. Our school in The Philippines will be the seventeenth TMAI school around the world. As a TMAI school, we have access to resources from The Master's Seminary, Grace Community Church, and other TMAI training centers. We also have instant credibility from the Filipino pastors who have respect for John MacArthur, Grace to You, and The Masters Seminary. It has only been a few weeks since our TMAI affiliation was announced, but already we have received several emails from pastors in the Philippines who would like to be trained in our center.



Here is an excerpt from one: *"Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus! I am Norberto "Boyeen" B. Mizal . . . an ordained pastor from the Baptist Conference of the Philippines. I am actively TMAI's prayer partner. I am an alumni of GTY-Philippines Shepherd's conference when GTY was still operating in the Philippines. We were the pastors who wanted to have Logos Institute in the Philippines. We dreamt and prayed hard that God would grant our desire to be equipped and trained by men of God in the area of expository preaching so that we may be qualified to serve God in our place of ministry. I just happened to learn about TMAI-Philippines. I praised God that after all the years of wanting, He finally granted our desire. I would like to know more on how I can get (involved in) your program . . ."*

It is very exciting to see God using TMAI to answer the needs of his workers in The Philippines.

Grace Ministries International

We are excited to announce that we have become a part of the Grace Ministries International (GMI) family, the missions agency that is an outreach of John MacArthur's ministry and of Grace Community Church. One of the key advantages for us is that we now belong to a network of missionaries who are also leading TMAI schools in other parts of the world. Another benefit is that the switch will help us get closer to our monthly support requirement because GMI does not charge any administrative

fees to its missionaries. In fact, though we are currently under-supported by about 15%, joining GMI brings us up to being only about 5% under our target (or just a few hundred dollars short each month). All in all, GMI will provide us with more resources for our ministry in many different areas. Please note that nothing will change in our ministry. We will still be training ministers in The Philippines, serving our friends at The Manalo Bridge, holding bible studies, and discipling other, same as before. The only main



difference to our supporters is that there is now a new address to send your support into. So, beginning with contributions for August 1 and after, please send all future donations to:

**Grace Ministries International
13248 Roscoe Blvd
Sun Valley, CA 91352**

Checks should be made out to GMI, with SEAN RANSOM in the memo line. We're grateful for your support.

Two Week D. Min Module at Talbot

Sean sitting in class at Talbot Seminary



This summer, Sean attended the 2nd module of his Doctorate of Ministry program at Talbot, so from June 2nd-13th, he stayed in the dorms on campus so that he would not have to commute each night and also have more time for studying. Pictured at right is his cohort of fellow D.Min participants, with the program's director, Dr. Kent Edwards, shown in



the back (black shirt). Sean has one more module to attend in 2009, so he will be in the US again in next June. After that, he will begin his dissertation.

Sean and Jess with the new Mr. and Mrs. Lester Silla



One of "our kids" Gets Married

On June 14th, we attended the wedding of our dear friend, Sandra Kim, to a special young man named Lester Silla. Sandra is like a daughter to us, Sean was her college pastor when we were in the states, and we remember first beginning our friendship with her 9 years ago when she was just 18. Now what a gracious young woman she has become! Please pray for God to bless their new life



Isabella dancing at the wedding

together and for Him to be glorified in their marriage.

1000 Bibles En-Route to Manila!

Pew Bibles from Grace Community Church



When our friend, Marnie Lacsamana noticed the new bibles in the pews of Grace Community Church, the gears quickly began turning. He knew that meant that the old pew bibles would no longer be needed by Grace

Church, so he put us in contact with Pastor Jesse Johnson, who would be the one to decide what to do with the old bibles next. We shared with Pastor Johnson the great blessing these pew bibles would be to our Filipino pastors, who would distribute them in their churches. By God's grace, we were given about a thousand copies of NASB bibles for the

churches, along with a donation of brand new MacArthur Study Bibles for our pastors to use. We loaded the boxes into a shipping container with the help of some friends, Dan Kolker, Chey Ban, and Michael Kahn, who drove 2 hours to come help us get all of our things packed, loaded, and shipped to Manila. They were really a blessing to us.

Our time in the U.S.—Savoring the Moments While they Last

Our days here in the U.S. are numbered, as we draw nearer and nearer to July 8th, the day we fly back to Manila to begin our next four year term. We have really enjoyed getting to do some of the things

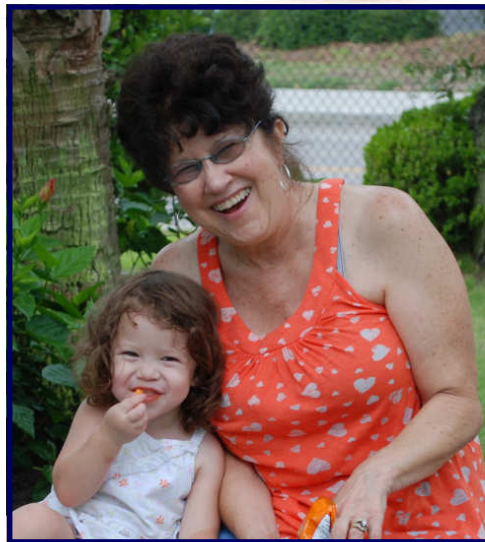
we aren't, or haven't been, able to do in The Philippines, like visiting our favorite places to eat. How we have missed In & Out Burgers, real Mexican food, fresh strawberry pies, and See's Candies. You bet we had our fill of these over the last few months, and also enjoyed some new experiences as well:



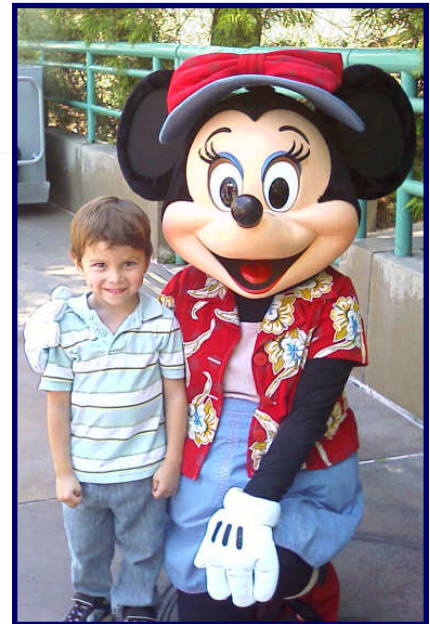
One of our special treats while in the U.S. included time at Disneyland. Praise God for a friend who works there; The Magic Kingdom is just all the more fun when you can get in for free!



Tyler celebrated Fourth of July in America for the first time and had a blast with the fireworks.



Isabella enjoyed cuddle sessions with her Grandma Mereau as we got to spend extra time with family.



Christian got behind the wheel to mow the lawn during our visit to his grandparents' home in North Carolina

Kian tried surfing the California waves. He and Christian also tried snow boarding & sledding.



Grace is shown here with her cousin on Easter Sunday — baskets in hand! The last time she hunted Easter eggs, she was only two; now she's six!

Sean and Jessica Ransom

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CONTRIBUTIONS MAY BE
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Please make checks payable to GMI and write SEAN RANSOM in the memo line.

Open House

Some dear friends hosted an open house for us. It was a nice opportunity to see many of our supporters and close friends.



July 5, 2008



Please Pray . . .

- For our transition from EFCA to GMI to go smoothly
- For our travel back to the Philippines next week
- For the upcoming Pastors Conference in Manila that will take place a few weeks after we get back.
- Pray that all of the details will fall into place as Sean and his fellow ministers from Petra and GCF continue to plan the event
- Pray for our shipping container that is now currently en-route to Manila. We have no idea how much the taxes will be until it gets into port, and even then its at the "discretion" of the customs officials. Pray for God to be glorified through us as we interact with these officials.