

## FJ Ministries

A Family Journal - October 2007

Dear

What a fun time we have had sharing with so many the story of God working in and through us this past month. We've had numerous opportunities to share meals and pictures at churches and with families or just to sit and swap stories with friends and family. It has been a blessing. We hope to make more of these connections in the coming month as we realize more and more how God created us for relationship!

We keep hearing exciting news from the Philippines, even since we left. While we were there we ministered for several weeks in Iligan City, the community of 300,000 people that sat about 20 miles from Marawi, the Muslim capital of Mindanao. After we left, one of the local YWAM staffers, Michael Casey, met with the Mayor of Iligan. Michael, a German-born missionary, helped build a ministry on Mindanao called "Nehemiah House." We had the privilege of working closely with Michael each week in Marcos Bridge.

The Nehemiah House was started in 1996 to provide a Christian family ministry for female victims of sexual abuse, abandonment, street children and maltreatment, aged 7-18 years old. The Nehemiah House provides 24 hour live-in care, bible study and spiritual development studies, along with education assistance. Tara had the opportunity to visit the Nehemiah house and meet the girls. It was a highlight for her to see the light of hope in these girls' eyes as they greeted her with a Filipino blessing by raising her hand to their forehead.

As a result of their meeting, the Mayor offered Michael land to build a Nehemiah House in Iligan City and another Christian businessman pledged to build the home. This would not have been possible without the work God allowed for us to do, and you helped us be a part of that. It is an exciting ministry and it will bless so many lives in that city that desperately desires to see its people know Jesus and not turn to false religions. If you are interested in more information about the Nehemiah House or helping support its ministry, please check out their website at [http://www.nehemiah-house.org/english/en\\_home.html](http://www.nehemiah-house.org/english/en_home.html).

Please keep praying for us. We plan to leave the country again in January and will be writing soon about the details of our plans. We also still have our home, due to God's miraculous blessing of providing a family to rent our home during our time away, but with it not being rented now it is a heavy personal debt load we cannot sustain.

Please also be praying about whether God would have you and your family participate in missions, whether short- or long term. Not only did Jesus tell us to go in the Great Commission, but also we know that all of us are called to a ministry of reconciliation

as Christ's ambassadors. 2 Corinthians 5: 11-21. We anticipate putting together one or more opportunities for families for the summer of 2008! I recently read this convicting question: *Did God direct that approximately 90% of all Christian finances for evangelism be spent to evangelize in the United States where only 8% of the world's population lives and where many have already heard the gospel many times over?*

Finally, we are looking for opportunities to share our story. If you have a small group or know a pastor or a family who would love to hear our story, please connect us with them!

Thank you for your faithful support that enables us to share the love of Christ with others on a daily basis wherever we are!

God's blessings,



Bryan, Tara, Tanner, Keaton and Regan Riley  
EJ Ministries

