



# Mindanao Moments

Real Hope & Transformation in Christ

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August-  
September  
2010

**“GOD MEANT MAN TO LIVE IN A GARDEN; sin has sent him to the slums. The Gospel is the power of God for salvation from sin...its consequences as well.”**

- Vishal Mangalwadi in the forward of *Discipling Nations* by Darrow Miller

## Making A Difference

**One of our greatest blessings has been the privilege of having interns serve as partners in ministry.** In June and July we had an **agricultural intern, Ryan Goeken**, serve with us at Hope Mountain. Ryan grew up on an Iowa farm and graduated from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa in 2009. He is a young man who has a



**passion for Christ, a passion to serve, and a passion for missions.** During his time in Mindanao he had hands-on experience in organic, tropical agriculture at Hope Mountain. He traveled into a remote, tribal area with a group from **Tribal Mission Foundation**, and attended horse-care training with a group of tribal pastors in Bukidnon led by **Tribal Horse Evangelism**, another ministry partner. Then he had the opportunity to spend a week in North Cotabato with one of our tribal pastor/farmers, Pastor Felmon Cabigas, where he lived and worked in a remote village. He worked in rice fields and fish



ponds, helped tap rubber trees, and did many things that most westerners have no idea about. Ryan also used his musical skills as he taught keyboard and sang. He even got to preach in a tribal church! **Above all, Ryan demonstrated a willingness to learn, to get**

**out of his “comfort zone,” and to demonstrate the love of Jesus. That’s what missions is all about!** Ryan is a guy that is making a difference! And Ryan is the future of the Church and missions! We praise the Lord for being able to get to know him and to be part of his life!

**Pray for Ryan** as he seeks the Lord’s will for the future. In September he’ll be taking a 9-month course for worship leaders in Colorado Springs. Ryan doesn’t know yet exactly where the Lord will use him, but we sense that God is going to

## Why? Why Agricultural Ministries? Why Livelihood Training? Why Medical Mission? Why Business as Mission? Why?

**Because God cares for the whole person.** The Gospel of Jesus Christ does not only impact one’s eternal salvation, but it impacts how one views the world (*worldview*)—how one views and interprets reality, and then how life is lived out in this world. God cares for the whole person (body, mind, and spirit) and He desires for His children to know Him, glorify Him and to be good stewards of all that He has provided **The power of the Gospel transforms and breaks the chains that hold people in sin and poverty.**

**Many of the people we work with are animists and live in poverty without hope.** Animists view the world they live in as ultimately spiritual and life revolves around appeasing the spirits. Life is an endless cycle filled with fear, and without hope. And even those who have come to know Christ often continue to live with a worldview that is animistic and continue to be held in bondage by a worldview that is contrary to what God has revealed in His Word, just as Christians in the west are held in bondage to *humanism* where life revolves around man and not God.

**Everyone has a worldview** and everyone lives out his/her life making decisions and living in way shaped by the culture they live in. God’s desire is that whether we’re from the east or the west, or whether we come from an animist of a humanistic (naturalistic) culture, that we will trust Him and begin to live life from a Biblical worldview.

Please pray that the Lord will enable us to minister effectively and we will live out our personal lives with a truly Christian worldview. **God has given Christians a message of real hope** and our hearts ache for those who live in darkness.

**Good Reading to Sharpen Your Understanding of Worldviews & Dealing With Poverty**

*Discipling Nations* by Darrow Miller

*Christianity Versus Fatalistic Religions In The World Against The War Against Poverty* by Udo Middellmann

## Five More Tribal Pastor/Farmers Receive Horse Care Training

When one thinks of missions, one usually thinks about evangelism, church planting, teaching, medical missions and more traditional forms of service, but a horse ministry certainly wouldn't usually come to mind. Here in the rugged mountains of Mindanao, besides walking, horses often provide the only mode of transportation for getting produce to market and for doing the hard labor required for farming. Life without a horse would be extremely difficult! Although many tribal farmers have horses, there are not enough nor has there been any training in basic horse-care—care of hoofs, proper loading, basic horse-health and medications, etc.

Thanks again to Darrell & Shannon Nelson, our Canadian missionary friends with **Tribal Horse Evangelism** ([www.crossculturalministries.com](http://www.crossculturalministries.com)) for their unique and important ministry!

August 9, we took 5 pastors to the training facility in Valencia, Bukidnon (the second group to attend), so now 8 of our pastors have been trained and we have received 6 horses from this ministry. Already those who have been trained are sharing what they have learned with others in their villages in the mountains of Mindanao. One of our pastors organized a outreach to young people who have horses or want to learn about horses.



Our Newest Graduates — Left to right:  
Pastors Ben Wata, Marclester Castardo, Juanito Japal, Leo Salatan & Samuel Pagulong

## Hope Realized



Glenda (GiGi) Santander is the daughter of a pastor who works as our maintenance supervisor at Hope Mountain and also pastors a tribal church. A year ago last March GiGi received a bachelors degree from Philippine Women's College in Davao City as a result of a full scholarship from a Filipino organization that provides scholarships to the children of pastors who would not be able to attend college. GiGi did well in college and now she is on the staff of Hope Mountain. In June she had the opportunity as a scholarship recipient who finished the program to be part of a medical mission in Bacolod in the Visayas. This was a great opportunity for Gigi which expanded her horizons and helped her to trust the Lord. This was GiGi's first airplane flight! God is working in the lives of young people here. We are

blessed and we praise the Lord as we see God opening doors where, from a human perspective, there is no hope. **Only in Jesus is there real hope!** Pray for GiGi as she trusts the Lord for her future.

## PRAISE

- In the past two months our female goats have given birth to 9 baby goats (7 male & 2 female). A year ago our little herd of Nubian goats numbered only six and we were discouraged because of three deaths. We praise the Lord, we now have 16 goats! He is multiplying, not only our goats, but also the rabbits and our *mga pugo* (quail).
- Praise the Lord for the CBAP Church Planting Seminar held at Hope Mountain (July 26-28). There were over 50 tribal and city pastors at this very successful training conducted by our national CBAP leaders.
- Praise the Lord for continuing to guide and provide, and for keeping us safe. **The Lord is good!**
- Praise the Lord for continued opportunities to mentor our Hope Mountain staff and Filipino leaders.
- Praise the Lord for continually bringing ministry partners into our lives. We are very thankful for how the Lord creates networks within the body of Christ to enable the work to go forward. **No one can go it alone! We need each other!**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- **Pray for workers!** We need committed, qualified people to be part of our Hope Mountain team. People are needed all over the world. Pray that the Lord will raise up many to serve where He wants them. North America still as the opportunity and resources. **It's a matter of responding to the call and then going! — Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8**
- Pray for **Mike & Ghed Miguel**, and **Brian & Patty Shiel** as they continue to make plans to come to serve in Mindanao.
- Pray for **Duane & Prinie Stark**. They will return for 2-months of ministry in Mindanao. Pray for their safety and health, and pray that the Lord will greatly bless their ministry among the churches.
- Pray that work will be able to continue on our public restroom facility at Hope Mountain. The building has come to a standstill because of lack of funds.
- Pray for us as we attend a two-week *Perspectives in World Missions* course in Butuan in northern Mindanao.
- Pray that WorldVenture our *ministry account* will be replenished. We're very low on ministry funds at this point, but we know God always supplies.
- Pray for continued wisdom, safety and health, and that God will be glorified greatly and His kingdom will be expanded.

**POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS—TRANSFORMED LIVES!**  
**Thank you for being partners with us!**  
Love in Christ, *Timothy & Gloria*