

BRO. DONEL RODRIGUEZ

MISSIONARY TO THE PHILIPPINES 



June 23, 2016

Dear Pastor Mark Montgomery:

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

These past few months has been an exciting time of our new life with my wife as a newly wed couple and at the same time with our ministry. God has been so gracious to us. God has graciously given me not just a partner in the ministry but a good lifetime partner.

This second quarter of the year is usually the hottest part of the year here in the Philippines. It's summer time, and vacation time for students. This is also the time where graduations and closing programs for school is usually happening. I had the privilege to preach the word of God to the students and to different churches this summer. When God opens the door you better get in to it. What a joy to serve the Lord and share the gospel to others.

April 12, 2016 - I had the privilege to preach for the 23rd Church Anniversary of Bantayan Bible Baptist Church in Bantayan Island Cebu. It was a time of exhortation and fellowship with the brethren.

I had the opportunity to minister to the students and share the gospel to the parents during the Grace Child Care Center 9th Commencement Exercises and Move Up Day. It was a blessing to see the kids learn the Bible and know God.

I also had the privilege to preach for the graduation day at Carmen Christian School in Carmen, Cebu. Hundreds of students were challenged and many of their parents and guardians that are not Christians were able to hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is important for our young people to be nurtured in the word of God while they are still young because they are the bearers of the hope of our country.

April 24, 2016 - I was able to preach at Amazing Grace Bible Baptist Church in Malabon, Metro Manila. Two souls accepted the Lord Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior. Luke 15:10 *"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth"*.

May 22, 2016 was the 11th Church Anniversary of Fortress Bible Baptist Church in Lahug, Cebu City. I was able to preach on their theme; "Let Us Rise Up And Build". It was indeed a fruitful day because two precious souls accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior but at the same time an emotional day for all the members because its going to be the last Sunday that they can use the building and place for worship. Since they are only renting the place for more than 10 years the owner didn't let them renew the contract, so they have to look for another place for worship. It was a blessing to be a part of such a great work of God.

These past few weeks my wife and I were praying and looking for a lot that we can buy to build a church. With God's leadership we were led to a place in Lapulapu City, Cebu and found a vacant lot of 231 square meter for only \$17,800. Yes, I do have the money to buy the lot but I don't have the funds to build a church. I will be needing at least \$50,000 to maximize that small area and build a church.

I supposed to have raised that enough funds to build a church while I was there but sad to say that the church that promised to give that funds to build the church didn't fulfill their promise. But I thank God for the churches like Echoes of Mercy Baptist Church in TN and Bear Creek Baptist Church in NC that gave so I could buy this lot. I believe if the Lord provides for the lot He also will provide for the church building. I will just wait for the Lord's provision. Brethren, I would ask for your help and prayers in building this church here in Lapulapu City, Cebu. God knows my heart that my desire is to please Him and to evangelize the people in this island and disciple the christians. I believe "where the Lord guides, He provides".

The verse that has been running through my mind all this time is in *Psalms 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God..."* There are times that seems like things are not working for you but just calm down, be still and let God work in you and through you. God did not promise a smooth sailing journey but He promised peace that passeth all understanding.

P.S.

I am praying for **50 churches** or **individuals** who would be willing to give a one time gift of \$1000 to the building fund. Your sacrifice for this project will bring honor and glory to our Savior. Thank you for your prayers and consideration to the building of God's work here in Cebu. Your giving and labour of love is not in vain in the Lord. God bless you!

Your Missionaries to the Philippine Islands,

Donel and Michelle Rodriguez



