



The Bruce Rice Family

IN THE PHILIPPINES

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Dear Friends:

In May of this year, just before we returned to the United States, we enjoyed an unusual experience that provide a great illustration of the continuing fruit of world missions. On **two successive Sundays in May**, I preached in two churches started by men who were saved just a few months apart 36 years ago.

In June of 1987, I witnessed to a 14 year-old boy named **Melvin DeGuzman**. His parents had recently been saved, and we were on a follow-up visit in their home when Melvin put his faith in Christ. The whole family became faithful to the Lord. Melvin's father became our first head usher. Later, the Lord called Melvin to preach, and he has now been **in ministry for over 20 years**. Recently, he established a new church in a small town on Mindanao Island. In May of this year, I preached for **Pastor Melvin DeGuzman** during the formal organization service for **Baclayon Baptist Church**.



In October of 1987, I explained the Gospel to **Edmund Tomas**, a 37 year-old captain in the Philippine army. He was in the military hospital in Cagayan de Oro City with a very serious case of hepatitis. We had never met him before he was hospitalized, but Jeanne and I had become acquainted with his wife Marietta a few months prior to this. Three days after Captain Tomas received the Lord, Marietta also got saved. They immediately



began growing in the Lord. Edmund became an usher and Marietta became our first church pianist. God called Edmund to preach, but he resisted the Lord's will for several years. He finally entered full-time ministry at **the age of 59 years old**. In May, the Sunday before preaching for Pastor Melvin DeGuzman, I had the privilege of preaching for **Pastor Edmund Tomas** at **El Salvador City Baptist Church**, which he established ten years ago.

Thank you to the churches, pastors, and Christians who faithfully assist the work of world missions through consistent prayer, financial support, and timely encouragement. May God continue to bless you and keep you by His grace.

Bruce, Jeanne, and Emily Rice