

2 June 2009

The Kettering Church of Christ

Dayton, Ohio

Dear brethren in Christ:

A brotherly greetings from the Philippines once again. I hope you are doing well. I also hope you have received my April report dated May 5. I have received my April check. Thank you. If you have sent e-mail for the past month or 2, please resend it both to my 2 e-mail addresses. I suspect my lycos address has a problem receiving and sending e-mails. If you have not received my previous e-mail either, please let me know so that I can resend it also.

I have spent many days this month borrowing money from a number of friends and relatives for our funds in that May 19 Manila medical trip. I have borrowed a total amount of equivalent to \$8,500. I have also spent many hours conditioning my old car that we used with that trip. It should not be fit to travel far, but, considering Beth's convenience to travel in a personal car than in a public passenger bus when she will be discharged from the hospital going home, I decided to take our own vehicle at risk. Fortunately, the car was able to reach Manila and returned home, however, unsafely. The smoke exhaust pipe fell down, the alternator had loosed and almost fell and the steering and engine oils leaked. I did fixing jobs along our way. What an experience!

We arrived at St. Luke's hospital Manila 30 minutes before Beth's admission on May 18, 2pm. We had a 2-hour briefing and discussion by the doctor on the details of the procedure and the possibilities and expectations of post surgery. There was an alarming information that I noticed that led me to cancel the following day scheduled surgery. It is a **risky post surgery condition** which is a possible **uterine rapture** meaning if ever she will get pregnant the uterus will stretch and the scar inside may bleed that will require an immediate emergency reopening of the womb. I didn't want Beth to be in that risky life threatening condition and so I cancelled the procedure despite a pre-arrangement and preparations of the operating room and doctors. Another surgical procedure called **hysterectomy (a complete removal of the uterus)** was proposed by the doctor. It wasn't easy to decide for it immediately and so we didn't bite the idea right away. We want to avoid regretting later for an unwise decision. We were presented another option which we thought the proper medication for Beth at the moment. It is a 3x a day oral medication for 9 months. It is a **progesterone concentrated drug named "Norethisterone"** that will neutralize her estrogen hormone which is a food for the myoma that can make it grow. The method of the treatment is to prevent any food for the myoma so that it will not grow and at the same time the 2 endometriosis may shrink further or even be dissolved. Beth may not even have her monthly period during the medication meaning Beth will be safe. The alarming condition for Beth is when she bleeds profusely caused by the 2 myomas and when they grow again. The first month of oral medication would be critical as she is under observation if the drug fits with her. We hope there are no negative reaction that will occur. If any symptom persists, she will be forced to undergo hysterectomy sooner. We will go back to Manila for a follow-up check-up on June 16, Lord willing.

I have returned back most of the borrowed money as soon as we returned back home to avoid paying bigger interest. We have avoided spending a large amount this time, but, I have likewise spent a lot from our preparations mentioned above and with the trip expenses. Beth's oral drugs cost \$90 per month as well.

The Gospel meeting where I preached At Capaggaran Church of Christ in Allacapan last May 6 went well. There was a downpour, but, attendance was in the 40's including the village government head. Members of the Pentecostal church and negritos tribe were also present. I preached on "Action of Love" emphasizing God's love in action towards men resulting to a realization of upright living. Disciplinary and painful actions are, in some cases, also required to achieve God's goal for every man to realize and do right (Heb. 12:6). I even believe that God punishing sinners in hell in the end is a show of His love because they will somehow repent and realize to live right though it will be too late (based on the rich man in Luke 16:24). There were 6 souls being baptized as a result. 1 among them was a Pentecostal church member.

We arrived home from Manila just in time for a gospel meeting at Nangalinan Church, Baggao on May 22. This is the same church who had invited me for the same occasion the previous 2 years. I was the first of the 4 speakers. Attendance was in the 50's including members of the Pentecostal group. I taught on "2 groups of believers in Mark 16" . First, the doubting Apostles whom Jesus would hope to believe on Him as He charged them the Great Commission. Miraculous signs would follow them if they believe. Second, anyone whom will take heed the Gospel from the Apostles and be baptized for their salvation. I have chosen this lesson to clear the minds of the brethren and the Pentecostal visitors as their radio preachers are repeatedly sounding their false doctrine that there is only one group of believers in Mark 16 who are all recipients of miraculous gifts and that's everyone who hear and believe the Gospel. We are even accused of not preaching the whole Truth because we do not teach that every believer receives the miraculous gifts. Public gathering as this gospel meeting is a way to teach the Truth on any false doctrine being scattered by false teachers. There were 3 baptisms in the meeting.

Thank you for your patience, brotherly love and prayers. Please give my regards to the brethren there.

Yours in Christ,

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