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Indonesian Challenge

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Reaching Indonesia for Jesus

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith,...” Heb. 12:2

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HIV/HOPE FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS On August 29, we went to Salatiga, Central Java to hold HIV-Hope follow-up meetings.



PEARL FOUNDATION

Both the women’s social welfare foundation, Yayasan Pearl, and Lemkersa, the Christian minister’s association gathered about ten people. We worked through the follow-up questionnaire with quite a lot of good discussion. When it was time for me to work through the Power Point presentation designed to teach new groups about HIV and AIDS, everyone was able to make the presentation effortlessly. One of the Pearl Foundation attendees volunteered to team-teach with Duane next year, and when she did, the others immediately said, “We’ll help you.” This was very encouraging for our efforts to get Christian churches and social agencies reaching out to their communities. This is noteworthy in that various statistics and estimates indicate it is a wide spread and significant problem among the general population. The lady who wants to team-teach a seminar next year has since our seminar session in April enrolled in a Master’s program studying social welfare, and tells everyone everywhere she goes about HIV and the need to educate people and to provide medicine and counseling to those infected. This is in marked contrast to her behavior before the April HIV/Hope seminar. She had a relative die from aids just a month before the seminar; she had not been involved with the work of the Pearl Foundation. In fact, she only came to the seminar because a friend thought it would be valuable to her and for us to hear from someone who had to deal with HIV-AIDS up close. Before this seminar, she and her extended family had been ashamed and very sensitive about their loved one’s disease and didn’t want anyone to know what he died from. But after learning about the hope for people living with HIV, she has become an enthusiastic advocate of teaching the public about HIV.



LEMKERSA MINISTER’S ASSOCIATION

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BU HESTI AND PAK BERLIAN

BIBLE STUDY BOOK TRANSLATION NEWS - A

Second Honeymoon – On Saturday, September 1, we met with our translator, Berlian, on book projects. He rode his motorcycle an hour and a half to meet with us in Salatiga. He brought his wife, Hesti, both bundled up for protection from the hot air. After a two-hour meeting, they rode home to Solo, another hour and a half. We sent them an e-mail thanking them for coming and for the ole-ole (gifts) they brought us. In a clearly written e-mail in English he reported, “My wife said it was like a second honeymoon.” They have three small children

that they left at home with their grandma. These two closed a successful business in the Jakarta area when Berlian’s father died. They took over his father’s ministry in Solo and moved in with his mother to

provide a home she could no longer afford. They both work – Berlian for World Vision and translating for ICM, along with being in charge of a little church. There are times when I think of all we have – sometimes without much appreciation. Then two hard-working young parents spend three hours on a little motorcycle in the hot tropical sun at the equator and say, “it was like a second honeymoon.” I am humbled.

MEETING WITH KIKI -

On Sunday evening, a friend brought one of his fellow evangelists and team members, Kiki, to see us. Several years ago Kiki had studied under Bob at the Bible College in a two-week intensive training class, and wanted to see him again. We had a delightful evening fellowshiping with him. We had rented inexpensive accommodations - a bedroom with kitchen privileges in a nine-bedroom house, a fifteen-minute walk from our son, Michael's. There were other renters too. They were two charming Filipino school teachers studying Indonesian language in preparation to teach English in a small town in Sumatra. The next day after meeting with Bob, Kiki brought his wife, Nova, to meet the Filipino ladies because she is from the town in Sumatra they are going to. In another happy coincidence we discovered our long-time friends, Ron and Ellen Ritchey also live in the same town. We've connected everyone and feel the Filipino school teachers will be well looked after.



KIKI, NOVA, REBECCA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



PAK BOB & PAK BUDI AT VICTORY CHRISTIAN CHURCH



CELEBRATING WITH FRIENDS AT OUR HOME IN BUKIT INDAH

You will receive this about the time of Bob's birthday, October 9th. For several years he has celebrated in church with Mr. Budi Santoso who will be 47 October 9th. Bob also shares this birthdate with his nephew, Scott Gilmore. Budi is the man who once stood

before the congregation with his tithing record book trying to induce greater commitment from other church members.

PRAISES:

1. New ministry in Salatiga is going well.
2. A substantial gift was made to ICM to help catch up on pension and salary shortfalls.
3. Besides good meetings in Salatiga, Bob and Jan were able to spend time with son, Mike and wife, Corrin, and five delightful grandchildren.
4. A six-volume workbook series is finished and ready to go to press.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

1. Our ministry with the little BSD church that they will catch the vision to share their testimonies with neighbors and co-workers.
2. We are in good fellowship with two evangelists we have worked with in the past; there is reasonable hope we three can start a new Bible study.
3. Our long-time friend and neighbor, Lester, will be operated on next week to correct an umbilical hernia. Please pray for successful surgery and his salvation.
4. Pray for new income to meet the mission budget enabling us to accomplish mission goals.