

Vision Trip to Philippines November 2009

This is a brief summary of what we did and who we met on this trip:

We arrived in Tagbilaran City, Bohol, at approx 4.30pm on Saturday the 14th of November 09 (see pic of TAG airport). Thanks to all who prayed that we would make the connecting flight at Manila! We met with Pastor Dexter and Gilda that night.



Naomi & Jin had the opportunity of sharing their testimonies the first Sunday (15th Nov) at Shepherds Arms church. We met with Pastor Junie and Lulu and the children at church that day.



We started the 3-day business workshop on the Monday (16th Nov). There were approximately 25 to 30 participants who attended from different churches and circumstances. We had people who were: pastors, employed, unemployed, students and those interested in starting their own business.



Overall, we achieved our objectives in the workshop to (1) inspire the participants to see beyond the subsistence level and (2) to provide skills in budgeting and how to create a business plan before starting a business. This was definitely a success and the team worked very well together and were involved in various sessions throughout the workshop.

As a team, we also helped Pastor Dexter and Gilda with their ice bar business. We were involved with the filling, sealing, packing and delivery of the ice bars.



After the business workshop, we stayed at the Shepherd's Arms Childrens Home (with Pastor Junie & Lulu and the children) for the next 3 nights. We organised an advance Christmas Party for the children, where we had games, Christmas carols, BBQ at the beach for lunch and a yummy dinner at Jollibee (Philipino fast food). We also 'helped' Junie at the bakery and had a great time hanging out with the children and with Junie & Lulu.



Overall, the trip really gave each of us in the team a better perspective of what God is doing in another part of the world in a different culture, we got to be involved in helping (where we can) at a local church mission work supported by Wellington Elim and we made significant friendships in Bohol with the Shepherds Arms staff. If you have the opportunity, go visit the Shepherds Arms ministry in Bohol, it is an experience not to be missed!