

First of all, Raquel and I would like to wish you a very merry Christmas. Praying that it will not only be an enjoyable one as we celebrate our Lord's visit and mission to this earth, but hopefully it will be a very meaningful one as we meditate on His gift and His act of love.

Raquel and I also would like to thank you once again for your prayers and support for our various ministries.

We had a great month in November at the OMF group house in Calapan, Mindoro. We both are working overtime on the Tagalog translation. Three native Tagalog speakers and one Hanunuu speaker (but very good in Tagalog) would come to our little pad on the OMF compound. They with Raquel would go over suggestions sent to us by others. Most of these were sent via internet on our SIL Paratext software. It was a very productive month, but there are still many books left to work on. Biblica would like us to finish this revision by the end of February. We may need to ask for another two month extension.

Presently we are in San Jose, Mindoro (on the southern end of the island) where we had meetings with Bethany Fellowship concerning partnering with them with regard to setting up a school for the Mangyans. The meetings with us, Bethany Fellowship, OMF, and the Mangyan leadership went very well. Raquel and I also worked this week with the four Tawbuid translators who come down from the mountains a couple of times a month to work for a week on the Tawbuid translation. Thanking the Lord that the three computers are working well. We had received word that one was dead. But when I pressed my finger on the button to turn it on, it started up right away. I told them I just had a magic finger. :)

Once again I was able to further guide them in the translation process and teach them further tricks of the trade with regard to computers and our various computer translation helps.

In about an hour from now Raquel and I will probably be on a boat headed for Caluya. It is a full day traveling on a small crowded boat. I plan to get dropped off at Semirara (the island between Mindoro and Caluya) to visit for a couple of days with the pastors there (around 6 of them whom I disciplined some 30 plus years ago). When I first came to Caluya, there were no churches on the island of Semirara. Now, thanks to the power of His Spirit and the dedication of the young men from Caluya, there are at least 6 churches scattered throughout that island.

After a couple of days running around Semirara I then plan to get back on a boat to take me to Caluya to reunite with Raquel. We plan to be with old friends and her family (mom and dad, 3 sisters, and a ton of other relatives) during the Christmas break. Around New Years day we then will begin our journey to Nasuli, Mindanao (via boat, bus, and more boats and buses and maybe a plane or two – traveling is not that simple here when hoping the islands).

At Nasuli we'll be meeting with our Cebuano team of translators and hope to finish that revision by the end of January.

We once again ask that you pray for our health and that all will go well with all of our travels so there will not be any distractions in our progress as we try to finish off the Tagalog and Cebuano translations.

And once again, thanks for being our partners.

Again, Merry Christmas and prying you will also have a great and fulfilling New Year.

Yours in His service,

Kermit and Raquel Titrud

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