



OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Missionaries from Lowestoft to the Philippines

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It takes courage, faith, commitment and determination to do what Errol and Beth Victorio did on the other side of the world. My heart was truly warmed and encouraged by their inspiring story. I hope you will be too. Errol and Beth Victorio of the Lowestoft church went on a self-supporting missionary journey with their three beautiful children to the Philippines last year. Errol works for Scotland Yard in London, where he was brought up as a boy. During his teenage years, he was a 'teddy boy' in a street gang. However, his mum used to pray for him; and, after a serious illness wrought by taking drugs and alcohol, Errol surrendered his life to Christ and married Beth, a young Christian lady. They have devoted their lives to Christ.



Balingasag Outdoor Gymnasium provided by local Mayor



Errol's work in London does not deter him from helping people everywhere. Together they run a health-improvement programme from their home in Suffolk, where people come to stay and improve their health. Their busy life did not deter them, however, from travelling to proclaim the Gospel in the Philippines, and they testified of how God had blessed their mission after offering a family song, entitled 'Nothing Is Impossible with God'. Through the Holy Spirit, 1,000 individuals were baptised in the South Philippines as a result of their 'hope and healing' ministry and the Gospel of Christ.

The whole mission programme was carefully planned beforehand. It was an itinerant programme in which they worked before moving on to the next place.

Baptisms in local river

They offered health presentations, including health screening, over a seven-day period. Most people in the Philippines are Roman Catholics who believe in God but do not know what the Bible contains. In following Jesus' example by ministering to their physical needs, doors opened for them to talk about God and His Word. The mayor in one town offered use of the gymnasium for free in order for them to hold a health expo



and to proclaim the message of Jesus. Some 2,000 attended the event, during which many people were introduced to their Saviour and rejoiced in the hope He offers to everyone. Our missionary family worked closely with the district pastors and the local Adventist church members as they pursued their missionary journey. Their first baptism was of 38 people in the sea. Every weekend after that, the Lord gave more baptisms as people committed themselves to their new life in Christ.

General Santos Prison 2019. View from Prison Chapel.



Their ministry was also taken into prisons packed with inmates, many of whom heard the Gospel of Christ for the first time. There were many young people incarcerated for their crimes; but, as a result of Errol and Beth's ministry, many prisoners gave their lives to Christ and were baptised. Since one particular prison was unable to provide a suitable baptistery, the prisoners were immersed in oil drums filled with water.

Errol watched in amazement as a rather large prisoner stepped into the oil drum— he looked too large to duck down into the water!

Yet, as the baptismal formula was pronounced by the pastor, he somehow went down and came up again with the greatest of ease! In another city jail, all the prisoners who attended the Gospel meetings were baptised. During their ministry several couples who had been co-habiting decided to get married, resulting in counselling, a mass wedding, and baptism.

Feeding the children



Errol and Beth were invited to run family seminars on Hope Radio, and they were involved in feeding the poor on the streets, clothing them, and a host of other philanthropic projects. Their youngest boy, 5-year-old Seth,

preached through a translator, and that resulted in several people deciding for Christ and asking for baptism. There is no limit to what the Holy Spirit can and will achieve through the life of anyone who is surrendered to Him. That family song that Beth and the children sang, 'Nothing Is Impossible with God', was no doubt based on their experience. It reminds me of what the famous missionary to India, William Carey, once said: 'Attempt great things for God and expect great things from God!' That is very true.

Original post: https://adventist.uk/fileadmin/shared-data/gallery/2019/BUC/21_Feb_2020.pdf