

Philippines-Palawan Mission Project Update



Dilemmas, written by Edgar

At our last Pathfinder camping trip, we taught our group of children what they needed to know before we went camping. They ended up knowing their skills so well that the other campers could not tell that this was their first camping trip as Pathfinders!

Shortly after the camping trip, our world was turned upside down and everything went into lock-down.

Before that happened, the area Pathfinder leaders discussed having an Induction Ceremony in our church in Sagpangan. Now, what was once a short 1 km trip to the church was now 8 km going around the long way. We met with the village council and they conceded that if everyone wore face masks, and the church was kept at 50% occupancy, we could hold the ceremony. Unfortunately, we could not meet those mandates since we had 80 kids to be inducted, excluding their families and current Pathfinders and Master Guides that would be present.

The Pathfinder leaders met and decided we would combine the smaller churches from the bigger ones to do their ceremonies separately. My quandary as the Deputy Director was that I needed to attend every induction ceremony at each church. I also needed to evaluate every child's readiness for investiture. Despite dilemmas, I am happy to report that working for God is always rewarding!

The kids were excited as they memorized their parts of the Pathfinder Pledge and Law and its meaning. They come from poor families, but we were able to provide uniforms for those









without. When the special Sabbath came, the church pews were filled with children reciting their pledges and singing songs to God. Covid19 did not stop God's work. It has made it challenging, but His work still goes on. Please pray that these children continue to dedicate their lives to their Lord and will grow up to be spiritual leaders and soldiers of God.

Trials of Life, written by Betchie

Ate Grace is one of the closest people to me. She is always there with a listening ear and guides me to make the right decisions in life. You see, Ate Grace has life experiences and lessons she is willing to share. At an early age, she began a relationship outside of marriage and had a child named Janjan. Unfortunately, the relationship did not last so she became a single mother.

Janjan is a sweet and kind child. My family and I began to fall in love with him early on. I noticed that Janjan looked sad when he saw a family with a mother and a father. My family included him so he would feel loved and whole.

Early March of this year we saw the biggest test for Ate Grace and JanJan. Janjan developed a skin condition (looked like skin fungus). I shed tears the first time I noticed people making fun of his skin, and Janjan feeling ashamed of his condition. He did not want people to come near him. Ate Grace and my whole family did everything we knew to help him and even took him to the clinic, but his skin condition got worse.

Then I remembered the charcoal powder donated to AWA which the Wilkersons instructed me to use as a natural remedy. Ate Grace and my family prayed for Janjan's healing before we applied the charcoal to his skin. God is so good; after a week we saw that his skin was gradually drying. After two months, Janjan's skin condition healed! I would like to take this time to thank AWA partners and supporters for even the small things shared that make a huge impact on many lives.

Janjan's healing encouraged Ate Grace and Janjan to gradually return to attending church every Sabbath. I believe that every trial and challenge in life that God allows has a hope. I am very thankful for life's trials that strengthen our faith. In 1 Corinthians 10:13 it says, "There hath no temptation taken you, but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

Prayer Request and Project Need

 Spirit led project manager, pilots and mechanics, and anyone willing to answer the Call to serve with AWA's ministry of reaching the hard-to-reach.

God bless you!

Your AWA Philippines - Palawan mission families, Betchie Albaracin, Christine Cayetano Edgar and Raylene Espinosa Bruce and Monique Wilkerson

