

On the Dibagat Church Thanksgiving Celebration



During Thanksgiving time, Theo shared: “I thought my youngest son will definitely not survive COVID. The whole family cried when they took him to the hospital. I did not stop praying to God to take care of him. We were truly amazed, because he got well. I am thankful to God. *There is nothing impossible with Him.*”

Theo then invited the Church to have a devotion in his house, where *he accepted Jesus Christ into his life as his Saviour and Lord.*

Several others thanked the Lord for His faithfulness to them. “I have been away from the Lord because of COVID,” Dan shared. “But God said to me, ‘Why have you forgotten me?’ *I was convicted and so I am back here now.*”

Lyn also shared: “When my husband was still alive, he always told us to always pray to God. I was challenged by his faith, and like him, *I want to fully dedicate my life to the Lord.*”



As has been their custom on Thanksgiving, the people brought their Thanksgiving offering to God. Some gave a portion of their harvest, some gave cash, and some gave both cash and in kinds.

On the Translation of the Isnag Old Testament

The checking of the translation of the Isnag Old Testament was finished in July. After taking a short vacation, I started the tedious job of polishing it for publication. I have been checking the

spelling of all the words use in both Old and New Testament. I have gone through about 85% of the words. *I hope to finish the spelling check this month or early next month.*

Along with the spelling check, I get to recheck the translation of some verses and words that resulted in revision.

After the spelling check, *I will begin rechecking the Key Terms, punctuation, verse numbers and then do a read-through.* Often, the *read-through* process will result in more revisions for smooth reading. This will be the last check I am planning to do before I submit it for publication.

Praise Items

Praise the Lord for:

- My complete recovery from the dengue fever I had a couple of months ago.
- My pastor and his wife who looked for donors when I needed transfusions.
- Mark Pugyao who took care of me when I was in the hospital.
- The finished check of the Old Testament, and the progress of the secondary checks.
- The growth of the Dibagat and Tubongan Churches, in spiritual maturity and in number of members.
- Zero COVID case in the Isnag country that the believers can again gather together for worship.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for:

- Wisdom, sufficient strength, energy and stamina as I continue to check the different aspects of the Old Testament translation before it is published. I have migraine that usually comes when I work on the computer for more than an hour.
- Mark Pugyao, my co-translator, as he continues to review the translation. Please pray that God will give him a critical eye to spot possible problem areas. Please pray also for his health, as he has some minor health issues too.
- The Pastors of Dibagat Bible Church and Tubongan Bible Church as they continue to help the believers stay focus in their faith. Please pray that they continue to submit to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

“The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and wonderful results,” (NLT 5:16b). I believe this, and therefore I sincerely covet your prayers, my dear friends and partners in the ministry of Bible translation.

Joyfully serving the Lord Jesus Christ in partnership with you,

Rudy Barlaan

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

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