



SOUTHLAND
BAPTIST PRESS

Southland Baptist Press is an outreach ministry of Good Shepherd
baptist church

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"That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving,
and tell of all thy wondrous works." Psalm 26:7

Sep-Oct 2007

Warm greetings in the blessed name of our Saviour Jesus Christ! This prayer letter will focus on a print ministry we visited in the Philippines. Thank you for covering our missions trip with prayer! Bro Dieter Barzyk, our volunteer printer, accompanied me and the Lord truly blessed our time there.

The Philippines is one of the countries that receives the most support from Southland Baptist Press. I'm glad to report that all is in order with regard to your spiritual investments there. The 1.6 million tracts sent in May were received without difficulty from the Bureau of Customs.

One purpose of our trip was to visit Pastor Ruben Sulapas and his print ministry in Iligan on Mindanao. Pastor Ruben heads FREE Inc. (Filipino Resources for Evangelism and Edification), a work that supports Cebuano-speaking churches. FREE translates, prints and distributes Scripture portions to a fraternity of several hundred preachers. Southland Baptist Press tracts are distributed alongside their publications.



Pastor Ruben & family

It was a delight to meet the labourers at the print shop who joyfully serve the Lord. Printing is made difficult by the heat and high humidity. Apart from the printing, everything else is done by hand - folding, collating, book-binding, etc. - all very labour intensive! They were producing parallel English-Cebuano



Print shop staff enjoying an evening meal

New Testaments during our visit. Although they serve in difficult conditions, I sensed a beautiful servant atmosphere among the volunteers, all deeply dedicated to their cause.



Dieter & Reinhart the printer

We were glad to witness the safe arrival of the printing press and folding machine that Good Shepherd Baptist gave. We pray that this machinery will serve FREE well, just like the guillotine that GSBC previously sent.



The guillotine in full use

We also met the translators and editors that serve on the FREE committee at a prayer and fasting retreat attended by 130+ pastors. These men came from all over the Visayas and Mindanao to fast for a week and enjoy fellowship and preaching. Most of the 1.6 million tracts were distributed at the retreat - all gone in one day!



Fasting & praying pastors

Dieter and I were greatly encouraged to meet the very men who we have been helping. **They asked me to express their appreciation to supporters of Southland Baptist Press.** Our time with these preachers helped us to see how vital the Southland Baptist Press' ministry is to the mission field. So please pray for us; we want to do all we can to help these pastors.

Space does not permit me to further elaborate on the necessary work of FREE. If you would consider supporting this ministry, I will send a short video presentation and share with you some pressing needs that FREE has. Please let me to say that I've known Pastor Ruben for more than 2 years now - he is an honest man who sacrifices much to help his fellow preachers. I've spent many hours with this humble, godly man, have witnessed their genuine needs first-hand, and conclude that FREE is very worthy of your support. Thank you for allowing me to put before you an opportunity to give.

Apart from the print shop, we carried out some missions business on behalf of Good Shepherd Baptist Church and visited many other churches. There were SBP tracts in most church foyers. Praise God we have trusted men like Pastor Ruben who distribute tracts in a quick and equitable fashion, even across different Independent Baptist 'camps'. We also briefly visited Aussie missionary



The Jackson family

Graham Jackson and his family and lovingly showered them with gifts from Good Shepherd Baptist Church. We had a great time of fellowship, did some tracting for him, and learned more about his ministry near Ozamis City.

After our return, we started printing for both PNG and the Philippines. We're asking the Lord for direction about the timing of these shipments. Do drop by our display stand at the NBF in October for a chat if you wish to. Catch you there!

Because the fields are white to harvest...

Sylvester Chong