

Worldwide Preacher Training

Worldwide Preaching Training is overseen by the Summerdale church of Christ in Summerdale, AL

Andy Erwin
Evangelist

Good-Newsletter

January – February 2022

PREACHING IN THE PHILIPPINES

On Sunday, February 19, I was blessed to preach for the church in Mangaldan. My first impressions are that this is a fine group of the Lord's people. Junas Sagurit (ACU President) is one of the leaders in the church. Also, one of my students at ACU - Cedric de Mayo - will be preaching for them after he graduates from the university. He is a top-notch student and should do well there.



A lady with polio was baptized that Sunday as a result of the work the church is doing in evangelism. Each Sunday, a group of 20-25 Christians will door knock different neighborhoods.



Continued on next page.



Preachers' and Church Leaders' Workshop in Manila, Philippines (Feb. 25, 2023)

Encouraging Preachers and Church Leaders in Manila

Workshops Continue to be Blessed by God!

On February 25, I conducted a workshop for preachers at the Metro Manila church building. A second workshop followed that afternoon for church leaders and was conducted by Bill Rayburn (ACU Vice-President). I did not get a definite head count, but the building was full, and the number grew throughout the morning.

Manila is incredibly large with 14 million citizens. Yet, there are only around 20 congregations of the Lord's church numbering approximately 2,000 brethren in total.

It is also noteworthy that no school exists in Manila for the training of preachers. A few of the brethren at the Metro Manila church indicated

a desire to begin a school there for the purpose of training preachers. Starting such a school would be a tremendous undertaking and would require much prayer, thought, and planning. The need for more workers clearly exists.

ACU is located about 4 hours north of Manila, depending on traffic. Perhaps some of the graduates of the school will take an active interest in working in this great city. Please pray that God will bring more laborers to this place. "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few" (Matthew 9:37).



Continuing Preachers Education Lectureship at Asian Christian University

It is a tremendous blessing to be involved in the work at ACU. The Filipino brethren are impressive. They are sincere, faithful, intelligent, and capable. I was impressed by every person associated with the school. If all our colleges and universities were operated by men and women of like precious faith, the church would truly be blessed!

Not only do these brethren do a fine job running a world-class university, but two homes for children are also located on the campus. It is incredible to see the good they are doing and a cause worthy of support.



Students, Alumni, and Faculty of Asian Christian University Enjoyed a Week of Fellowship



(L-R) Junas Sagurit (ACU President); Bill Rayburn (ACU Vice-President); Andy Erwin; Derek Brown; Kevin Kim (ACU Dean)

Preaching in the Philippines *(Continued)*

On Sunday, Feb. 26, I preached for the Metro Manila congregation. Once again, the church building was full, with several more watching via livestreaming. Visitors were in attendance from the US, Cameroon, and India.



It was interesting to learn that one congregation did not offer a typical invitation song while the other did. Responding to the invitation involved standing instead of coming forward too.

More about ACU...



The president of ACU is Junas Sagurit. Junas is a lawyer by trade, who was trusted to serve as the school's president. One thing Junas insisted upon before agreeing to take the job was for independent audits to be conducted for the school's funds. I was able to meet his wife, Alma, her parents, and his parents. The whole family is a blessing to the church in the Philippines.

Kevin Kim is the dean at ACU. He and I discussed working together on a four-volume set of books for practical Christian living to be published in English and their native tongue of Tagalog. We hope to begin this work in 2024.

The singing of the brethren also stood out to me. It was beautiful! I have posted some links of their singing on my Facebook page. I hope you will get the opportunity to listen to them. Coming from someone who can only muster a "joyful noise," it is truly impressive to hear others who know how to sing and lead the church in a fine and commendable way.

More Pictures from the Philippines



Left - Members of the church at Mangaldan including some of Junas' family. Right - the church building for the Mangaldan congregation with the vehicles they use to conduct their work.

What does your husband do for a living?

Melanie Erwin

It's a very normal question. My husband and I realized years ago that there was a shortage of preachers...worldwide. How can they love Jesus if they don't even know who He is?

So, we prayed. God heard. Last year he was able to train 250 young men to preach. This year, God willing, even more. Worldwide Preacher Training can't grow without Christian support. If you'd like to be a part of this, or have questions, just let us know. Be one to make an active difference.

Worldwide Preacher Training is a work of the Summerdale church of Christ in Summerdale, AL.

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Time with My Students

One evening, I was able to conduct a devotional period for the preaching students. We discussed a few key passages of scripture relevant to preaching, had songs, and prayer.

I encouraged these men to preach for the Lord and not to please men (Galatians 1:10). I did my best to stir up the gift within them, to be faithful to the word, preach Christ, and do the work of an evangelist.

In a short time over these past few semesters, I have grown very close to these men. I expect to hear of them doing great things for the kingdom.

So far at ACU, I have taught second year, third year, and graduate Bible and Ministry courses. I cannot say that I have had the first "bad" student. They are truly a blessing to me. I pray that I am to them.



Andy and Melanie Erwin and Family

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