

Vessels of Mercy

Bringing God's Mercy to the Nations

Melbien's Story

Thirty two years ago a boy was born to a family in a rural province of the Philippines. His father had built up the family business to the point of owning a mechanic shop and a fleet of 10 public transportation vehicles called Jeepneys. Then Melbien's mother was diagnosed with cancer. They tried everything to help her including moving to Manila for treatments. In a short time his Dad had sold everything they owned to pay for her treatments and she was no better and was given 2 months to live. Their family was reduced to living in a squatter area with a relative.

Their new neighbor was a Christian and invited Melbien's Mom to a Bible study. This is how Melbien met Pastor Nelson who had a burden for the young people of this community and reached out to Melbien and mentored him. Pastor Nelson had no way of knowing that some years later the whole community would be devastated by a typhoon and the people he was investing his time, energy and life into would be relocated to a government housing project two hours south of Manila. Those people still needed a pastor so Pastor Nelson planted a sister church, but he could not be in two places at once.

In the years that had passed Melbien married Nelson's sister Zeny. He had been mentored and disciplined and the couple felt a call to ministry. They were eager to leave their lives and jobs in Manila and commit to pastoring this new and growing church in the province. So now Pastor Melbien is back in the province. He too has a heart for young people growing up in difficult situations. God used his childhood to uniquely qualify him to minister effectively to a new generation of young people. Like



Young men Pastor Melbien is discipling

Pastor Nelson did for him, he has a whole group of young men he now mentors. Melbien and Zeny are investing their time, energy, and lives in this community. The church is blossoming. Lives are being changed. Recently 5 more young men made commitments for Christ and they are learning to walk out their faith. It is a difficult place to live, but it is overflowing with opportunities to reach out and share love and hope.

Darlene and I were able to spend the last several days with Pastor Melbien and Zeny. They are just one example of many Pastors we are working with who are living out their faith by reaching out to others. We are excited to be a part of their lives. We are excited to be able to be a part of equipping them through Bibles, study books, Sunday School curriculum, livelihood projects, teaching, and encouragement. Thank you for being a partner in this work. People are committing themselves to Christ, lives are being changed, and the Kingdom of God is advancing. Thank you for being a part of impacting individual lives who in turn are impacting multiple lives. And in case you were wondering, God did heal Melbien's mom! After the money and medicine ran out she miraculously kept living and kept improving and is now cancer free. God is still a miracle working God!

Blessings from the Philippines,
Bob and Darlene McCoy.

www.vesselsofmercyministries.com

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Pastor Melbien, Pastor Nelson and Bob

THANK YOU FOR PRAYING:

Many of you prayed for our son, Bobby, in Africa last month when he had malaria and typhoid. He is better now and regaining strength. What a tremendous blessing to have family all around the world standing with us!

TRAVEL PLANS:

- April 25-26 Travel home
- June 28 Travel to Kenya
- July 12 Travel to the Philippines
- August 27 Travel to Bangladesh



Pastor Melbien & Zeny