

BriscoE-UPDATE

July 2008

The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD thunders over the mighty waters.
The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is majestic. Ps 29:3-4

Tagalog: The average person in this area of the Philippines speaks Tagalog. We hear it all the time. The people at church, the Filipino staff at school, the clerks at the stores and the staff in our condo building are all happily chattering away everyday. After only 10 lessons, we are not yet ready to amaze the world with our abilities in Tagalog, but we do understand a lot more of what's going on around us. We can now say a few things and actually be understood. Our teacher, Ate (pronounced AH-tay, a term of respect for an older sister) Susing Quindoza, comes twice a week and fills our minds to the exploding point with grammar, vocabulary and idioms.

Typhoon: We had a little visit from an unwelcome relative on Sunday, June 22. He keeps changing his name and coming back in slightly different directions and intensities. This time he came as "Uncle" Frank (or Fengshen in Chinese areas). He was just far enough off shore passing by Manila that we were spared major wind damage. Power was out temporarily and there was flooding from the heavy rains, but Metro Manila got off pretty easy. That was not the case south of us. The island of Mindoro took a direct hit right across the middle and suffered great damage. The biggest loss of life occurred when a sea-going ferry capsized and 800 (yes, 800) drowned.

Traveling: We will go on our first trip to Mindanao on Monday. Mindanao is the second largest of the Philippine Islands. Wycliffe Bible Translators (known on the mission field as SIL, which stands for Summer Institute of Linguistics) has a support base there where we will stay. The Fleming family invited us to go with them, the same family highlighted in our March newsletter.

Praises: For God's help in finding a good, encouraging Tagalog teacher.
For protection during Typhoon Frank.
For the opportunity to visit Mindanao with the Flemings.

Prayers: For perseverance in our Tagalog studies.
For protection during our visit to Mindanao.
For the new teachers who are coming to Faith Academy this year.

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