

BriscoE-UPDATE

October 10, 2006

But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them that those who love your name may rejoice in you. Psalm 5:11

Typhoon: On September 28 Typhoon Milenyo (whose Chinese name is Xangsane) headed for Manila. Faith Academy called off school. We were home when the eye of the storm passed over about 1 p.m. The house really shook with the 100 mph. winds but we were well protected and only had minor damage to one window. Our power was off for 60 hours but we still had water and a gas stove for cooking. Later we learned that this typhoon was the worst to hit Manila in 11 years (37 years, according to some older Filipinos). Landslides, falling trees, buckling billboards and debris claimed at least 100 lives in the path of Milenyo. We praise God for protecting Faith Academy's family and property. Poorer neighborhoods like the one our fellow missionaries, John & Carol, work in sustained major damage to their tin and plywood homes. Please visit our photo website (<http://JBriscoe1.photosite.com/>) to view pictures of the typhoon damage around us. You can also visit our friends' website <http://www.booksofffaith.org/typhoon/index.htm> and click on the pictures there to see the damage around Faith Academy.

Teaching: After two "typhoon days" from school we were back in the classroom on October 2nd to finish the first quarter of classes. Projects, tests, and assignments were completed and grades entered for the quarter. Parent-Teacher Conferences were held on Thursday and Friday. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet more of the parents of our students and learn about their mission work. It was also a special week at Faith Academy because of the Homecoming Celebration in honor of the 50th year of Faith Academy. Several former staff members and students were on campus with their families. What a privilege to hear their stories of God's faithfulness over the years!

Texting: Cell phones are used by almost everyone in Metro Manila and throughout the country. Most cell phone communication is by texting – typing in a message on the small viewing screen using the number (letter) pad. A text message costs 1 peso (about 2 cents). Most Filipinos are very fast at typing in a message. We are slow but getting better.

Praises: Safety during the typhoon
Meeting the missionary parents of our students at Parent-Teacher Conferences
God's faithfulness to Faith Academy for 50 years

Prayers: John & Carol as they minister in Jesus' name to the Muslims affected by the typhoon
Faith Academy's staff retreat on October 15-16 and SEND's spiritual life retreat on October 20-

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Wise decision about our housing after December (we are considering 4 options)