

HARVEST USA

A NEWSLETTER OF WORD INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES USA

Pastors Financial Augmentation Program

Rex Waga, Vice President, Center for Seeds of Hope USA

On November 2016, a meeting convened to formulate concepts on how to help WIN pastors in their financial needs. The attendees were Pastors Babes Paulate - Benevolence Director and US Regional Director, Nurses Cirujales – Philippines Regional Director, Nonie Lim – District Overseer Mindanao and Visayas, Rex Waga – Vice President CSOH USA and Bro. James Jumawan of WIN Dumaguete. A Dream Team was also formed – Pastors Nonie Lim, Mark Albarracin, Blas Arpilleda, Rex Waga and Bro. James Jumawan.

Bro. James made a commitment to formulate a strategy that would address the concerns of the leadership.

On March 2017, Bro. James scheduled a meeting in Dumaguete wherein the Team made very thorough/ detailed, serious and uplifting discussions. They came up with a program, concept and procedure on how to help and address the needs of most of our pastors and the church. The team named the program “Pastors Financial Augmentation Program,” a program that will change the mindsets and conditions of everyone concerned from a “Receiver” to a “Giver” mentality.

The plan is to help pastors be self-sustaining and in the future be able to help those in need and start sustainable and growing livelihood projects. The pastors will commit to sponsor a project for the church, such as a Feeding Program. This is where the transition from being the “Receiver” to being the “Giver” comes to play.

The Dream Team formally presented the program to Pastor Babes to assist in raising funds for projects; after the celebration of WIN Bacolod’s 30th Church Anniversary, March 12, 2017.

All candidates will be pre-qualified and recommended by the District Overseer and later processed by the Technical/Steering Committee. Qualified candidates will undergo required trainings which are designed to reinforce their talents/ giftedness to the specific nature of the projects they are qualified to undertake under the supervision of the Technical Committee.

Formation of A Cooperative

The Philippine Government right now is very aggressive in providing financial assistance/grants to qualified Registered Cooperatives.



... Continued on Page 2

Pastors Financial Augmentation . . .

Continued from Page 1

Pastor Blas Arpilleda, Senior Pastor WIN Malaybalay and Pastor Norman Lim, Mindanao District Overseer were the ones who initiated and proposed this possibility. Inquiries were made from the Philippine Department of Trade and Industry, as well as, from the Cooperative Agency as to the requirements and guidelines on how to form a Cooperative.

The Dream Team is now pursuing this and will be making progress reports as to the results of the efforts being undertaken. We are excited of the prospects of availing of these generous programs the Philippine government is providing especially in Mindanao.



PFAP Launches Its First Project

The Pastors Financial Augmentation Program officially launched on May 19, 2017 with the Pulangbato Bakeshop and Refreshment as the first project in Dumaguete. James Jumawan stated, *"The hope and intention is to send a positive message of how fellow Christians help each other."*



Site of proposed Bakeshop

ON PRAYER

Prayer is the prelude to peace, the prologue to power, the preface to purpose, and the pathway to perfection.

Prayer is talking something over with God, rather than trying to talk God out of something.

No one can live in doubt when he has prayed in faith.

14,000 Quips and Quotes, E. C. McKenzie

AROUND THE US REGION!

In Touch With The Community

WIN NEW JERSEY

Word Christian Fellowship, Inc. (WCFI)

WCFI youth volunteer at the **Multiple Sclerosis Walk** on April 29 near Seaside Park, NJ.



WIN Seattle/Tacoma



WIN Seattle/Tacoma join the Federal Way Coalition Against Trafficking (FCAT) - "Break the Chains" of Human Trafficking 5K Walk/Fun Run in Federal Way, WA on May 20.



Word International School of Leadership

Dr. Ferdie Melendres

Word International School of Leadership (WISL) is an educational institution, registered in the State of New York, not-for profit 501©3, which offers various courses in Biblical study, Christianity and practical ministry. The interest is to work hand-in-hand with churches and to open up a dialogue on how we can better proclaim the message of Christ in today's fast-paced society. Many faithful believers would love to teach or preach in the church and do mission fields outside, but don't know what to do and how to start. In today's world, many Christian leaders are not innovating the church but imitating other churches, that ends up to disappointments and ministerial frustrations.

The goal of WISL is to improve the leadership skills and qualifications of pastors and leaders of the church in a complex society that we know today which is highly technical. Specialized, innovative and interconnected. This is the world into which we are to bring the message of hope and the knowledge of God.

Our prospective students are pastors, assistance pastors, cell leaders, ministry heads, missionaries, and the like, that need Biblical and theological advancement of their skills and ministerial focus.

WISL offers the following courses that lead the degree program of Associate of Arts in Biblical Studies (AABS), as follows:

1. Old Testament Survey
2. New Testament Survey
3. Hermeneutics
4. Homiletics
5. Church History
6. Systematic Theology
7. Spiritual Formation, Christian Ethics, & Church Management
8. Missions, Evangelism & Church Planting

Continued on Page 5

Salem, MS



Honolulu, HI



Queens, NY



WORD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP
Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. Psalm 119 - 105

Campus

Arizona

Northern California

San Francisco

Southern California

Los Angeles

San Diego (coming soon)

Hawaii

Honolulu

Massachusetts

Salem

New Jersey

New York

Queens

Manhattan

Texas

SE Houston

Dallas (coming soon)

WISL . . .

Continued from Page 4

The number of hours to complete each course are 32 hours or 2 hours per meeting for 16 meetings including lectures, discussions, practicum and exams. Classes shall be conducted in church's facilities, or in one of the member's house, weekly or bi-weekly. Materials and other books are provided in soft copies. The unique feature of WISL is that, the school goes to the students, instead of the students going to the Bible School.

The expected result of WISL to each student is fruit that will last as mentioned by the good Lord in John 15:16. Since this leadership study is a collaboration between school and the church, the goal is not focused on rational consensus in doctrinal construction, but to provide authentic worship and service both to God and to fellow men, not in an abstract way but in practical ministry. These means are totalistic, and the study should be part of every activity and conveys a way of life.

Students are envisioned not only to be effective and successful in the ministry, but also a transformed individual into the image of Christ. They will both learn and employ the acquired spiritual and Biblical knowledge by deepening their commitment to Christ, and become competent to live out faith in their knowledge, emotion and action. That all of these understanding must be dedicated to the glory of God.

Students are expected to form, organize and lead a new group of believers at the end of the program, that will lead to the growth not only of the local church but of the kingdom of God as well.

Instructors are highly qualified and graduates from known Universities, Seminaries and Bible Schools in the country. They have many years of experience in education, pastoral and practical ministries, counseling, and missions in various parts of the world.

For more information, please call 347-837-0592 and ask for WISL.



Los Angeles, CA



Manhattan, NY



New Jersey



The WORD on the STREET



The Greatest Need of The Church Right Now

Local churches in general, and our WIN-USA churches are exposed to various perspectives and philosophies about preaching. The depth of experience of our preachers and the diversity of options that are open to WIN-USA preachers range from “water-cooler” topical chats to self-help/psychological health teachings... from socio-political commentaries to opportunities for “hot-button” topical conversations. Of course, there is still the option of solid biblical exposition as a key ingredient for growth and discipleship, incorporated as a necessary element of our regular Sunday gatherings. This latter option is what I wish to emphasize and encourage in this conversation.

If you look at our services/ministries and pay attention to the way we share the Word, we will observe two prevalent types of preaching, both of which are rooted in New Testament patterns of preaching: The first is called “*kerygma*,” the second is called “*didache*.” This distinction refers to the difference between “proclamation” (*kerygma*) and teaching or “instruction” (*didache*).

“Kerygma” (from the Greek “*keryssein*”) refers to the initial and essential proclamation of the gospel of Jesus. Simply, kerygma is the core message/mission of the Christian faith that all believers are called to proclaim. It is distinct from *didache*. While kerygma refers the initial gospel proclamation designed to introduce a person to Christ and to appeal towards conversion, *didache* (from the Greek “*didaskein*”) concerns the fuller and more extensive doctrinal, moral and ethical instruction in the faith that a person receives after responding to kerygma. Both kerygma and didache are necessary biblical ingredients for true evangelism and discipleship. If I understand it correctly, simply, *didache* follows up on the fruits of *kerygma*.

The concern of this article is the trend in many US churches (hopefully not WIN churches!) towards “preaching” messages that are mere therapeutic assurances that have to do with purposeful living and personal fulfillment by believing in Jesus. These messages are great motivational speeches but usually focused on the self rather than on Christ! While preaching may involve more than just proclaiming the good news of Jesus - it can never be less than that! Our sharing and sermons, while they may have the effect of making our listeners feel good, should never be characterized as simply “feel good” sermons that “pick you up when you’re down.” It is the power of God unto salvation for those that believe!

While may involve more than just proclaiming the good news of Jesus - it can never involve less than that!

Continued on Page 7

Pastor Vino B. Atienza,
Senior Pastor, WIN Seattle/Tacoma



The Greatest Need . . .

Continued from Page 6 . . .

D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, states *“The most urgent need in the Christian Church today is true preaching; and as it is the greatest and the most urgent need in the Church, it is the greatest need of the world also.”* A return to true biblical preaching – the proclamation of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus towards repentance and transformation of the hearer – is the greatest need of our churches today. R.C. Sproul, of the Reformed tradition, further states: *“It is this kerygma that the New Testament indicates is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1:16). There can be no acceptable substitute for it. When the church loses her kerygma, she loses her identity.”*

Kerygma, that’s the “word on the street.”



Word International School East (WISE) Taytay - 13th Moving Up School Year 2016-2017

Nickie Paulate

On March 17, 2017 we had the privilege to attend the 13th Moving Up School Year 2016-2017 graduation of the children from Word Integrated School East (WISE) Taytay, Rizal. 17 moved up from Prep to Grade One, and 24 moved up from Kinder to Prep. A total of 41 children graduated from Prep and Kinder. The children sang, performed dances and recited Scripture verses with much enthusiasm. Each parent was so proud of their child as they were presented with the child’s medal and certificate of completion. Parents made sure their children were at their best; with either, bought or borrowed clothes and a generous donor provided for their shoes.

The kids proudly marched up front as Teacher Lealee Tria called them out by name and said what profession each child wanted to pursue in the future. Before us marched future doctors, teachers, engineers, policemen, military personnel and government officials. This could just be a dream for each child and you have been part of this dream coming true in the future. These children come from families considered living below poverty level. They did not have hope to pursue education at a young age and you have made this possible by your faithful sponsorship.

When the children came to class in the morning, some of them did not have breakfast or did not have the opportunity to bath and dress properly for school. Praise God for the teachers and volunteers who lovingly fed and bathe these children. The children have felt the love of God through them that they now walk with confidence in the knowledge of a good future and the presence of God in their lives. Our prayer is that they will keep in their hearts what they have learned about God’s love and constant presence in their lives.

Thank you Teacher Lealee, Joy Santos and Sol Consul for your dedication to the least of these.

Thank you Donors, you have made a difference in the lives of the children you sponsor.

Your reward is great in heaven!





Gone Fishing

I'm not much of a fisherman. In fact, the extent of my fishing experience involves going to the local market and pointing to a fish behind a refrigerated glass display case. I have, however, watched fishermen in action many times before. As a child, I would spend my summers at my grandma's house, which was situated right along the ocean. All throughout the day I would stare into the horizon watching both commercial and recreational fishermen at work. I found it to be fascinating work—one that required patience, skill, and passion. I'm equally fascinated with how Christ likened Kingdom work to fishing. The evangelist Matthew recounts how Jesus called his first followers when he wrote:

One day as Jesus was walking along the shore beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—fishing with a net, for they were commercial fishermen. Jesus called out to them, "Come, be my disciples, and I will show you how to fish for people!" And they left their nets at once and went with him. A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, mending their nets. And he called them to come too. They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind (Matthew 4:19-22).

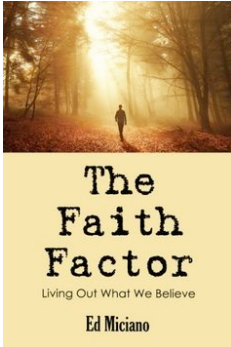
The first thing that the reader notices is Jesus walking along the shores of the Sea of Galilee. It is interesting to note that Jesus' ministry on earth involved seeking individuals who would partner with him in the work of God. Although the ultimate act of redemption, death on the cross, is the work of Christ alone, the mission of proclaiming salvation through the redemptive work of Christ is the task of individuals called to be Christ's ministry partners.

The second thing that is noteworthy is the location where Jesus was looking for ministry partners. He looked among the fishermen of Galilee. In fact, Matthew refers to Peter and Andrew as "commercial fishermen." As such, they were already knowledgeable of the task of seeking and gathering. Jesus, in effect, was in search of people who were not only potentially effective in the task of gathering but who were proven to be successful in it to a reasonable degree.

Thirdly, Jesus invited the fishermen to take their fishing skills to the next level by being fishers of people. The way Jesus phrased his invitation is equally striking. First he said, "Come, follow me," which literally means, "align yourselves behind me." It is clear that the task of gathering the lost is primarily the task of God and those who seek to engage in the mission of God are invited to align themselves to his movement in the world. Furthermore, Jesus said, "I will make you fishers of people." With these words he redefined the work of the fishermen, not in terms of the task but in terms of the object. That is, instead of gathering fish they were now called to gather people.

In a sense, the invitation to fish for people is universally given to those who wish to become disciples of Jesus Christ. To follow Christ is to accept his mission. It is incumbent upon the disciple of Christ to fulfill his work of seeking for lost people and gathering them into communities that are committed to this very same mission.

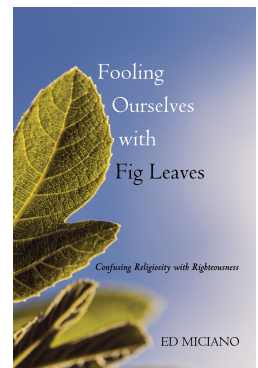
RESOURCES



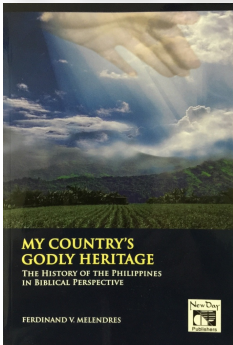
Dr. Ed Miciano, D.Min.

The Bible says that “the just shall live by faith.” Yet too many professional religionists fail to cross over from mere intellectual ascent to a life of total surrender to God and his will. In his exposition of Hebrews 11, Miciano explores the tales of men and women in the Bible who have lived lives of exceptional faith. Each story compels us to rethink what we know about God’s ways and stretches our understanding of what it means to live according to what we believe. “The Faith Factor” offers fresh insight on how people today can enrich their spiritual lives by applying the timeless truths of Scripture to everyday life in the modern world.

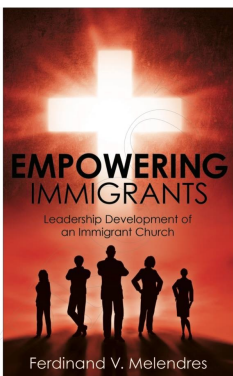
There are those seek to be in a right relationship with God and assume that this is attained through the observance and practice of religious traditions. This quest leads us to believe that our religiosity is sufficient to make us right with God. This, however, is a misunderstanding of what Scripture teaches about the blessings of salvation and righteousness. In his letter to the church in Galatia, the Apostle Paul addresses the inefficacy of religious tradition for salvation and reaffirms the completeness of Jesus Christ’s redemptive work for our deliverance and righteousness. *Fooling Ourselves with Fig Leaves* is an attempt to take the message of the Galatian epistle and apply it to today’s spiritual context. In it, the author takes us through a journey of discovery and insight as he exposes the deceptive nature of religion, and highlights efficacy of justification by grace through faith. As a professor and pastor, Miciano writes with a desire to be faithful to the integrity of the ancient text while being mindful of the needs of believers and seekers today. This makes for an engaging read in exploring the age-old pursuit of knowing God and enjoying him forever.



Dr. Ferdie Melendres, D. Min.



This book narrates the captivating story of the discovery of the earliest races of Christianity in Asia in general, and in the Philippines in particular. It includes the times of Nestorian and Manichaeian missionaries when the first Indian and Chinese merchants settled in the Philippines as early as the tenth century. The book helps to shed light on various aspects of the Philippines' godly history in parallel with some biblical accounts that were unknown to modern scholars and historians. The author's earnest desire to affirm the solid and strong godly historical foundation of the Philippines is not only commendable; it has led to one of the most fascinating revelations ever written in the country's secular and religious history. This book came about in the course of the study of the early works of Christian Missionaries in the East at The University of Holy Land in Jerusalem, Israel.



The strategy that he wrote in this book reflects a good grasp of synthesizing for every pastor’s personal calling and giftedness with the mandate of the church community, be it local or global. The implications are clearly adaptable for the existing local churches as well as the ongoing efforts to plant missional churches around the world. Furthermore, it is important to take into consideration how he emphasized the role of small groups and mentoring as vital avenues for developing leaders. Empowering Immigrants received the highest award of “The Excellence in Ministry Award” at New York Theological Seminary, New York City on May 2014.

CONGRATULATIONS Pastor Ramil Carmen!

Pastor Ramil is one of our WISL instructors and a pastoral staff of Word Christian Community Church (WCCC), Vancouver BC, Canada.

He graduated Summa Cum Laude May 26, 2017 with a Master of Theology at the Anderson Theological Seminary, Albany, GA.



Around the US Region . . .

Continued from Page 3 . . .



On May 28, WCFI WIN New Jersey church grounds once again was used as the staging area of the Emergency Teams participating in the *Annual Memorial Day Parade*. The teams came from various towns in and near Hopewell, NJ.

The church provided snacks and the event became another outreach opportunity to fellowship with the teams and those who attended this community event.

"He who would be great must be fervent in his prayers, fearless in his principles, firm in his purposes, and faithful in his promises."

WORD

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