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SAN JOSE, TARLAC PROVINCE, PHILIPPINES

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It has been six months since I began my church planting ministry in the town of San Jose. It was in the month of April when I first went here and did my mission work. Working in the field nowadays is different compare to pre pandemic years, it is difficult to approach and talk to the people. The cases of coronavirus in Tarlac province are still high and all the hospital are overwhelmed with infected patients. The people are afraid to get sick and they are hesitant to let somebody in their home. It is hard to get their attention because they fear that they are talking to infected person. Wearing a face mask makes it more difficult to gain their trust because they cannot see my face, but I have no choice as a government guideline to wear face mask in public places. There were times that a certain village would be in lockdown due to rising cases of the virus, and that hindered me from entering that village. The people are not just afraid of getting infected but they do not want to be admitted to a hospital and pay a huge bill. With all of these difficulties, I tried to do my job persistently and went throughout the villages to hand out gospel tracts. I went door to door and asked the residents if they want to hear the good news from the Bible. When I see people on the streets, I give gospel tracts and explain the salvation clearly. Most of them that I encounter has rejected me but there are some who stayed and listened. I am filled with joy and happiness whenever I see profession of faith and acceptance of salvation from persons that I talked to. My exhaustion fades away because of those who showed interest in learning the Word of God and dedicated in having a new life with Jesus Christ. I make visits and do Bible studies regularly to individuals who commit themselves in learning the Bible. I hope and pray that they will grow in faith and give themselves in serving the Lord in building a new church in this town.

I am in need of a motorcycle that I will be using for visiting people through the villages. The car that I have has a high fuel consumption compare to a motorcycle. I thought of selling my car but hesitated because I use it sometimes on a long travel with my wife and daughter. If I have a motorcycle, it would be easy and more convenient to travel to all the villages even to the remote areas where the car could not go in. And with the small amount of support that I receive monthly, it would be a big relief if my fuel budget is lower. The cost of a motorcycle that I plan to buy is \$1000. You can help me buy this motorcycle by giving any amount that you can.

I do pray that you are always in good health and with a peace of mind in these hard times caused by the pandemic. We may be tried, tested and in difficult situation but remember that God is forever with us, guiding us in all our ways.