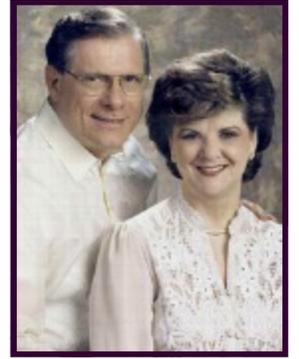




News Gram

March 2004



Del and Lora Hooge

Training Asians To Reach Asia and Their World

Dear Praying Friends,

Let me first of all greet you as you are in the last part of the first quarter of 2004. We are rejoicing in the blessings of the Lord as we see Him work. I also want to thank you for the regular prayers, support and interest in the work, not only in the Philippines, but also all over Asia as we see God open doors for service.

This NewsGram will bring a general report of many of the things that the Lord has allowed us to be a part of in the last year. Sometimes my head spins when I think back. But then as I see what He is doing in this new year, I am further amazed at His power, strength and grace in allowing us to be partners with Him to reach this world with the message of Salvation.

Lora and I are here in the States for just a few more days as we gear up for a greater effort in Project BLESS ministry. This is a project that brings the gospel to those who are on the fringes of society with a 14 week literacy program. The materials have been tested and are producing the results that were expected. We are seeing children saved and in many cases the entire families are brought into the church through these outreaches.

Right now we are operating in the Philippines and are opening in South Africa soon. We have applications from Thailand, Cambodia, China and even Russia. We are working on getting the materials in Spanish, French and Portuguese. You will find a greater explanation on the last page.

We ask for your prayers as we seek the Lord's leadership in many decisions we are making. We believe that this ministry will result in many local churches being able to reach out into their communities with a greater impact than ever before. God is touching lives with the message of His love as we reach the children of the world. Our goal is to be a part of over 250 million children knowing of Jesus Christ. Please pray for this effort.

You are a a vital part of this ministry and your regular support and prayers make it possible for us to continue. Someone asked the other day how many people I thought were being reached each year through our ministry. In great gratitude I told them probably around 2,500 per year. We believe that there are greater days just ahead!

Thanks for your support and prayers.

Del and Lora Hooge

Missionaries since 1967

Report

JANUARY—2003

National Student Convention:

Over 1700 attended the 10th National Student Convention in the Metro Manila area. Hundreds of young people heard the messages and responded to the call of God in their lives. The emphasis continues to be MISSIONS and many surrendered to God's leadership.



February—2003

Speak at Educator's Seminar and introducing BLESS:

While working with our staff we began the "brainstorming" for a means to provide an educational tool to reach the children of the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The concept of **B**asic **L**iteracy **E**ducation & **S**upport **S**ystem was developed. Below you will see some children in Cambodia who have never been to school. We believe that BLESS will allow us to reach millions like them.



We were then able to introduce this to educators here in the US while speaking in California and Tennessee.

March—2003

Closing of School with graduates from our Home School and Model School.

The month of March is the closing of school in the Philippines. And we were a part of the first graduation of Living Heritage Academy. The Academy is made up of over 500 home school families with over 600 children enrolled.

In our Model School, The Philippine Christian School of Tomorrow, there were three who graduated from High School.



APRIL—2003

Summer Training and Negotiations for new location for School

When we returned we began to negotiate for the Facilities for Warehouse and Model School.

MAY—2003

Taking Possession of Property Taking Students to International Competition at Liberty University

The remodeling of the new facilities was temporarily halted while we took 62 for the International Student Competition. In addition, we finished the Curriculum for Project BLESS and began to gather people willing to begin pilot projects.

JUNE—2003

Opening of Classes in New Facilities—

We moved into the new school location. The student are excited
Starting Building of Warehouse



JULY—2003

Remodeling of Facilities for the move of the headquarters and warehouse

for 2003

AUGUST —2003

Trip to South Africa/ Kuwait City
Grand Opening of New Facilities



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the new home of The School of Tomorrow, Philippines headquarters and Philippine Christian School of Tomorrow's 4 acre campus.



All our Family was with us for this wonderful time. How thankful we are for their lives.

25th Anniversary Christian Educator's Celebration with 1800 attendees.



OCTOBER —2003

Junior Student Convention &
First BLESS Training

Here you see the hundreds of boys and girls who gathered for the awards to be given.



NOVEMBER —2003

2nd China Educator's Convention



Group of Educators in Guangzhou, China. Many parents are preparing to home school. We are praying for 5 new schools in China this year

DECEMBER —2003

Concerts in 3 Major Malls in the South Metro Manila Area



Hundreds gather to hear the Gospel in the Malls where the musicals were presented.

Project BLESS

The concept of Project BLESS (Basic Literacy Education & Support System) envisioned 250 million children of the world, too poor to afford any education, to be provided a literacy program, and be brought to the saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Globally, today, there are over 860 million illiterate adults, and over 100 million children have no access to education. There are also countless children and adults that do attend school but fall short of the required level to be considered literate in today's complex world. These people would never be able to read God's Word



This crisis if left unattended, will result in a global catastrophe, leaving billions of people deprived of basic literacy education. As soldiers for Jesus Christ, these billions of people translate to souls who can possibly spend eternity in hell. We must use this tool to reach the lost. **WE MUST DO SOMETHING!**

In the Philippines, we and the staff of School of Tomorrow (ACE) Philippines, initiated efforts to realize this vision. We came up with the name and began to work to make a curriculum possible so that people with any means could assist with sponsorships. They embarked on a program which will be the answer to the crisis of illiteracy, not only in the Philippines, but all over the world.



In August 2003, Project BLESS was introduced to a host of school administrators and pastors. It was then formally launched during the Administrators' Seminar held last Aug. 27, 2003 at the School of Tomorrow Philippines' Headquarters.

October of 2003 marked the first training program for Project BLESS enthusiasts. Twelve (12) individuals signified their interest to pursue Project BLESS in their respective ministry areas. By November 5, 2003, four pilot projects were launched. Full opening of 500 BLESS Centers is targeted for April 2004.



For \$20.00 a child can be enrolled in a 14 week program that will allow them to learn to speak and read English. We are working on Spanish, French and Portuguese. Children are being saved and whole families are being reached with the Gospel. Churches, schools and missions are using this great tool to reach into their communities. If you are interested in knowing more please contact us at dhooge@mydestiny.net or send all donations to **BLESS—Del Hooge** P.O. Box 191—Springfield, MO 65801

