



Discipleship Small Group

***A Brief Testimony from Sister Mary Ann Diotay, wife of Pastor Rex Diotay from Honda Bay Baptist Church.***

She says, "I praise God for the VSM team introducing our youth to SOAP journaling and for giving me the wisdom to handle the youth in SOAP journaling and small group. We started it last June, 2015, with only eight members, but after one month our attendance has increased to fifteen or more members. The SOAP journaling and small groups has helped us to love and serve God in very simple ways. We have had overnight retreats and fun days in order for our group to have a closer relationship to each other. As their teacher, I have also learned a lot from them. I learned to be more patient and to accept and love them in spite of their differences. We can correct them, discipline them, and they listen and obey because we invested our love to them. I observed that the young people who are faithful to attend our SOAP and small group meetings are the young people who are faithful in attending church and willing to offer their help. We love them and they also love us.

We are thankful to the VSM mission team who introduced the SOAP journaling to our youth during their mission trip in 2015. Praise God! We give Him all the glory and honor for what He has done through the SOAP journaling and small groups."

**VSM Mission Trip 2016  
to Honda Bay Baptist  
Church in Palawan**



Handing out Tracts



Honda Bay Baptist Church Youth



VBS



### ***Update on Maria***

We introduced Maria in our last newsletter and shared her story with many while we were home on furlough. The Lord has allowed us to go more in depth spiritually with Maria and her family by beginning a Bible Study with them once a week. Rita has challenged all three of their daughters to learn the books of the New Testament. They enthusiastically accepted the challenge. It was amazing to hear Maria share how excited her daughters were to get to attend Bible study. The enthusiasm of the family to learn more about God is so fulfilling. Maria's cancer has continued to spread but her enthusiasm for living for Christ abounds more with each passing day. We are praying for a miracle in her health and ask that you will join us in prayer for Maria and her family.





## PRAYER REQUESTS

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- \*Pray for the House of Hope Ministries
- \* Pray for Establishing a Training Center
- \* Pray for Leadership/Discipleship Training In Bicol, December 26th - 28th
- \* Pray for Corridor of Hope Cancer Support Ministry (Maria and her family are a result from that ministry)
- \* Pray for Monday Night Life Group studies
- \* Pray for our health and healing
- \* Pray for more financial support for the ministries here
- \*Pray that God would be glorified through all that we do and say

## PRAISE

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- \*For the new Bible Study with Maria and her family.
- \*For the safety of travels during furlough.
- \*For the warm welcome from all the churches we were able to visit and for their gracious support.
- \*For the new contacts we have been able to make.
- \*For His healing of Rita from her pneumonia
- \*For His love, grace and mercy that He displays to each and every one of us every day.

## THANK YOU!!!!!!!!!!

We would like to thank everyone that made us feel a part of their family during our time of furlough. A special thank you to all the churches who invited us to come and share the work the Lord is doing here in the Philippines. Thanks to the staff at the missions office for all your help and making things easy for us! Finally, to all of our family and friends that we were able to spend time with sharing, relaxing, and loving on us we love all of you!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



## Our mailing address is:

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*(Note: the regular postal service is not that reliable here so please email us if you send something so we can track it. DHL deliverers here through LBC and is very reliable.)*

**Email:** [ballardphilippines@gmail.com](mailto:ballardphilippines@gmail.com)

## To Support us and the ministry:

Mark all contributions for “Danny Ballard” if the contribution is for a particular ministry please make a note on the check.

**Mail to:** BMA Missions  
PO Box 878. Conway AR. 72033

**Or give online at:**  
[www.bmamiissions.securegive.com](http://www.bmamiissions.securegive.com)

*For more pictures and information visit our Face Book pages.*

*If you have questions about a specific ministry please feel free to email us. We would love to hear from you! God Bless.*