



DEAN & SHEBA PADAYHAG

*“For the Sake of His Call...
Serving God Together in Love*

MINISTRY ECHO

Your TCM Missionaries to South Africa
...back in the field

March - May 2010 issue

PRAISES & PRAYERS

- We thank the Lord for the sinners we have led to His feet and saints to whom we ministered making our Philippine furlough fruitful and meaningful.
- We thank the Lord for our visa, provision of our tickets and safe trip back to South Africa.
- We praise the Lord for the provision of new office equipments. We bought a 4-in-1 printer, book binder and laminator. We also bought 2 quality sound speakers. Bless the donors, Oh Lord!
- We thank the Lord for the answered prayers. We've found a suitable house in a secured suburb just about 10-minute drive to church. The Lord also provided a bigger car for us, a 7-seater Renault Espace van.
- We bless the Lord for you, our faithful prayer and ministry partners that in spite of your own personal and economic difficulties you have not withhold the liberality of your love and gift for us and for the work. We love you!

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Last Days In The Philippines

Our last week in the Philippines was a stressful one. We called the RSA embassy on Friday (March 19); the officer said our visas would be ready for pick-up on Wednesday afternoon (March 24). We even confirmed if we can go ahead purchase our tickets. Sheba went to RSA embassy on the said day and found out that it was a mistake. Our visas were not really processed yet. But since we were already scheduled to fly on Friday (March 26) and it was their information error, we made some pushing

requests. Finally, the visas were released on the very flight day at 2PM. Sheba had to rush home from the embassy to join with us to the airport. We arrived less than two hours before the flight. Praise the Lord, Shedeade did wonders in the lines. She was our advantage pass. We were led to check-in at the business class counter, paid the terminal fee, proceed to immigration on the VIP line. A Muslim immigration officer stamped our passport without any problem. Thank you Lord for preparing our way!



10 hours on each connecting flight

Trip Back to South Africa

We had a tough flight from Philippines to Qatar. Shedeade was restless and awake most of the time. Our flight from Qatar to South Africa was better though. She slept most of the time and the flight attendants who were fond of her were very helpful. We arrived at Johannesburg International Airport on March 27 at 2PM. Almost the whole Kempton Park congregation welcomed us at the airport.



7.5 hours stop-over at Doha International Airport (Qatar)



Fathers, mothers, youths and kids from Grace Berean Church - Kempton Park excitedly met us at the airport.

First Sunday At GBC-Kempton Park

More than a year ago we bid goodbye to both our congregation in Kempton Park and our campus ministry at Oxford Combined College. It was difficult as they are still young in the Lord and we were leaving them for an extended period of time. But our awesome Lord really worked in wondrous ways. The message of grace that we have devotedly instilled in them and the sincere encouragement to hold on to it evidently have found place in their hearts. Our absence became their challenge to grow in their relationship with the Lord and a chance to practice the things they have learned from the Word and from us. During our farewell service they promised to never forsake and abandon the ministry. What a soothing relief to know that God has given us not just members but also partners that are committed and are willing to carry Christian duties. They have understood that ministry doesn't belong to us only but it is of the Lord and theirs too. Our Bible students faithfully performed their scheduled tasks of teaching and preaching. Officers in-charge of different departments have done their job as well. We praise the Lord also that even though we were on the other side of the world but we were able to keep an eye on them through modern communications technology.

On our first Sunday at GBC-Kempton Park, our hearts were so blessed to see our children in the faith whom we have begotten in the Lord unswervingly standing in the grace of our Lord. We were deeply touched by their testimonies on how they faced various trials and discouragement and yet remained strong in their relationship with the Lord and respective responsibilities in spite of our absence. They are truly our joy and our crowns in the Lord.

Joint Easter and Welcome Service at GBC-Kempton Park



April 4, some members from different branches came together to celebrate Easter Sunday with us. It was also a special fellowship to welcome us back to South Africa. Preachers spoke about the importance of Christ's resurrection. Our hearts were gladdened by their speeches and recognition of our importance in the South African ministry and in their personal lives. Many commented how they have missed us and our ministry. Baby Shedeaa had her time of familiarizing new faces. Some of our Bible students also were given time to share devotions. Kempton Park Music Team serenaded us with real African songs good enough to make us feel at home. I spoke on the reasons to believe Christ rose from the dead and concluded with a challenge that because Jesus Christ is alive, our faith is not in vain, our service is counted, and our sacrifices are meaningful.

Update on SHEDEA



Our little Shedeaa is growing so fast. She is now 10 months old. Aside from being observant, she has developed love for books and music. She enjoys going out and loves sleeping in her car seat. She is generally in good health except for occasional cold and flu due to the very cold weather here. Her doctor prescribed additional vitamins to boost her immune system for the upcoming winter. The Lord has been very faithful in upholding Shedeaa through this adjustment period. It's amazing how she has gradually coped up with the different people, places, time and temperature. She is truly a real source of joy and inspiration to us. Please pray that we will be able to raise her in the ways of the Lord!



- Due to the 2010 Soccer World Cup the schools will be closed for more than a month. We'll restart our campus ministry on the second week of July. Many of the CM students are now faithfully attending our church and are actively involved in both local and national youth ministries. Pray for their spiritual growth.
- Please pray for our Bible students both in local and by correspondence. We have students taking courses from different parts of the country. Pray that God would give them hunger for the Word and care for the world! Pray for our Bible studies and lesson materials.
- Continue to pray for new opportunities to preach the wonderful gospel of God's grace and plant new churches. Pray for the edification of the existing churches.
- Pray for the monthly joint fellowship with the neighboring GBC churches. It's been a wonderful opportunity to massively indoctrinate the saints with deeper teaching about the Grace message plus a great resource of encouragement. Pray also for the upcoming national conference on the first week of October this year.

"A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed," Proverbs 11:25

Our ministry website address is... www.deansheba.net