

# Walking into Wisdom

October 2017

Dear Friends and Prayer Partners,

Every day I'm around students, and students are always learning. It's quite amazing to see how much they have learned since the day I first met some of them 3 years ago – not only in academics, but in their spiritual lives as well. Some have grown from total lack of assurance of their destiny with God to strong confidence in their salvation and a desire to share with others. Some have grown from extreme shyness to an ability to now stand confidently before a crowd of peers and with God's confidence lead that group. Seeing the changes has made the hard work these past years really worth it.

But it's not just the students who have been learning and growing; so have I! Moving from ministry to farmers and fishermen to working with university students and professionals has been in itself a big education, but there is a lot more that has followed – even in this last semester. Here are three things God has been teaching me:



*Standing with some of our students (and sometimes my teachers!) at one of our campus booths.*

**The Importance of Waiting upon God.** I love to be busy about God's work, and as such I sometimes have a tendency to bite off more than I can chew. Yet, this semester God taught me a lot about waiting upon Him for direction and empowering. As a result, I actually learned to say no to some ministries, listen more intently to His voice in my personal devotion, and watch more carefully to see how He was moving before I myself did. I learned to look more to His presence rather than to my performance to make things happen, and to trust more in prayer than in my perspiration to get things done. As a result, I got a little more sleep this semester than last – a little – but still saw God's fruitfulness in many ways.

**The Importance of Working Zealously for Christ.** Though waiting on God was a big lesson this semester, God's leading still kept me busy! In fact, by mid-semester we had reached 30 ongoing ministry activities per week, of which I led a third. Besides these, God also opened other doors for sharing on campus. One big opportunity was the chance to set up two booths – one at the College of Science and one at the Bicol University (BU) Welcome Party. We were the only campus group given a chance to place a booth at the first event, and by God's grace we somehow won "Best Booth" at the second. Both booths gave us many chances to talk to students about Christ as well as build reputability on the BU campus.

**The Importance of Walking through the Word.** We have a pretty simple approach to teaching: just walking through the Word. On Sundays we are walking chapter by chapter through 1 Corinthians and on Thursday through the Old Testament (now in 1 Kings). In one campus Bible study we are walking through Mark, and in one home Bible study it's John. These book studies are supplemented with one-on-one discipleship, other evangelistic Bible studies, and Sunday Discipleship Training School, where I am teaching the basic beliefs of the Christian faith to about 18 students. The growing maturity of many in the church and campus ministry has clearly shown the value of such a Word-centered approach to ministry. However, I too have learned so much through the process of having to daily prepare all these teachings!

So, God is still teaching me a lot. But I guess I shouldn't be surprised. When the disciples left their nets to follow Jesus, they learned a lot too. Walking with Jesus is always a walk into greater wisdom – about the things of life that matter most.

Thanks to all of you who have also been walking with me these past years through your prayers, encouragement, and support. May God continue to bless you as you journey with Him into His greater wisdom in your lives as well.

Waiting, working and walking with Jesus,

*Dave*  
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## ***Waiting Upon God Through Prayer***

The work of God depends so much on . . . the work of God. And the work of God is so connected to prayer. Thanks so much to those of you always lifting me up in prayer. I appreciate you all so much!

Here are the latest ministry prayer requests:

### **1. Upcoming Semester-Break Events. We have three of them back-to-back:**

- ***Youth Sportsfest (Oct 27)*** – held at our campsite on Cagraray Island for outreach to youth both from Legazpi and the islands. Please pray for good coordination, attendance, and weather.
- ***Legazpi Church Retreat (Oct 28)*** – We will be joined by a team from Calvary Chapel Wahiawa for this (and the Sportsfest). Please pray that most in the church who are still around can come (many students have gone home to their provinces during the semester break, and so we will be a bit depleted). Pray also for God to greatly encourage the body, and for a safe trip for the team from Wahiawa.
- ***Student Mission Camp (Oct 29-31)*** – I really feel God wants us to plant a vision for missions in the hearts of the students and professionals in our Legazpi church. Please pray that parents will approve of their kids attending, and that God will light the fire for missions in the hearts of the attendees. Please pray also for all the preparation needed.

2. **Strong start to ministry in the coming semester** – School will start the first week of November. Please pray for the ability to restart old ministries and for new ones to start as well.
3. **Church growth** – Please continue to pray for God to add to the churches (the one in Legazpi and three on the islands) those whom He is drawing to Himself and help us know how to assist in His process of growing them up. Pray for a strengthening of the professional ministry. Also please pray for God to strengthen all of us who hold ministries in the church, so that many might be encouraged and strengthened as well.
4. **Health issues** – Thanks for continuing to pray for my back. I'm dealing with it OK, but it still gives me problems more than I would like.
5. **Closer and closer walk with Jesus** – That I might grow daily in the intimacy of my walk with Him! (Psalm 27:4)

For more information and photos of what God is doing here, feel free to check out:

**[www.fianews.wordpress.com](http://www.fianews.wordpress.com)**