

Manila, August, 2019

Wet greetings from Manila! It never gets really cold here, but it does get wet! The rainy season has officially started and we have already had the first hurricanes. It is a pity that we now have the rainy season every afternoon from 4 o'clock no more water until the early morning. We hope that the water will be available all day soon again. When we do have water, it looks a bit like iced tea. We are grateful for a good filter for drinking water.

Hospital

Thanks for all the sympathy during my time in the hospital with pneumonia. 18 days of antibiotics, and now I need to have another week, because there turned out to be another bacteria in my throat, that was resistant to the antibiotics I received. Fortunately I get my energy back more and more. A week's holiday was also great to get the energy back on track. In addition, two surprise birthday parties:-).



I want to focus on this newsletter on Langham preaching. Last January we started with the first official training, but a lot has happened since then.

The journey to Langham training

A friend of mine from Indonesia told me about her work for Langham preaching. She said the training

was started with John Stott, and now Chris Wright, to help developing countries make Biblical sermons, despite a much lower level of education, and even many preachers who have never been able to study theology.

We also have a lot to do with this problem in the Philippines, so my attention was drawn. When she told me that her mother had also followed the training while tending a paper and plastic trash shop and that her pastor, with Bible school training, wants to attend her Bible study because she learned so much, I was sure I wanted to learn more about this program.

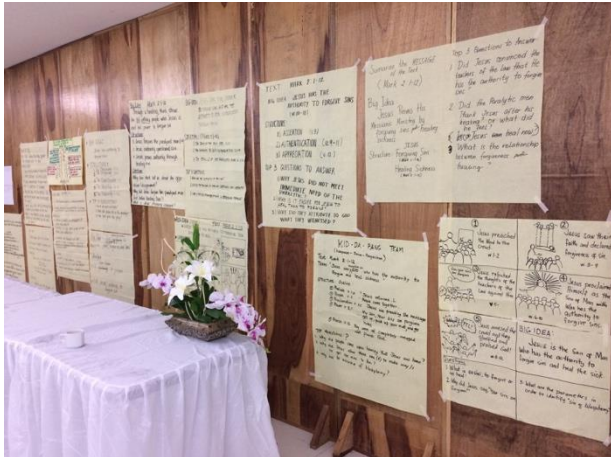
If possible, Langham does not work with just 1 group or denomination in a country because they want to multiply, and that is difficult if only 1 group is involved. Fortunately over the years I have built up a considerable network in the Philippines. Eventually we came together with IVCF (student work), OMF, ABCCOP, Foursquare, Faith Evangelical, Juan Project, Bukang Liwayway (work in slums), ATS (Bible school) and a number of interested people outside of these networks.



In the first meeting, all groups had separate stories about why they needed this training. All groups already had training for their leaders and pastors, but everyone felt that the sermon preparation training, needed more attention and had to be brought to a higher level. The time was right.

First training week

Last January we had the first week of training, with around 10 participants from each group/denomination. It was hard work for a week, but also building relationships between the different denominations.



Group in Samar and Leyte, meeting at the ocean.

2. Small trainings

Because few people were invited per denomination, the material was passed on to people from the same group in many places.



Hard work in small groups.



Training in the Slums of Manila

3. Special Samar and Leyte training.

In November we hope to repeat the training in Samar and Leyte. These islands are especially known for very small churches with pastors without training. Want to give extra attention to them.

After the training

1. preaching clubs

The work was not done after the first week. Everyone was encouraged to start a preaching club. A place where people prepare the sermon together or give feedback on the sermon when it is finished. They have all learned the criteria and steps.



4. Translation material

We are currently busy translating the training material in Filipino (Tagalog) and Waray (the language in Leyte and Samar). We hope to finish that in the coming months.

5. Planning for the second training week.

In January 2020, we hope to keep the second training focused on the Old Testament. This takes place in the north of the country. We are already busy coordinating and arranging all the details.

Feedback from participants

"Ma'am, I have tried to pass on to the preachers in my church what I have learned. We are learning a lot but still struggling to find the "big idea ". Thank you very much for inviting us even when we are from a small, poor church. Thank you also for treating us as you treat the "big boys."

Rev. Ricky M.

I will be sixty this year and have served God in preaching for most of my adult life, including Biblical preaching, and even completed a master's degree in pastoral theology. However, this training refreshed me so much and I now have a renewed energy to share the true Word of God.

Rev. Rene F.

One of my new experiences here: sermon clubs. We will work together in this group to observe our Bible passages: who, what, when, where, huh, repeat words and links, and ask clear questions about the text. We then state the big idea and outline our structure. We want to understand what the author intended to share with their original audience and then how we can use it today. We will then preach the message (sermon) with criticism to each other to learn more.



"Langham Preaching" educates people worldwide to preach the Bible correctly and culturally effective. I have been voted as a group coordinator, so I will help us to continue.
Gary M.

Agenda:

- Aug. 12 Meeting about placing short-term missionaries at ABCCOP
- Aug. 13 Board of Directors meeting in "Shepherds home of Servant leadership". And a theological meeting in the morning.
- Aug 19-20 Language and culture training for new missionaries.
- Aug. 21 With Melanie and Bukang Liwayway talking about her ministry with them.
- 27-29 Aug. OMF quarterly meetings.



- September- -Translation retreat for Filipino-
translation of Langham material.
-Visiting the work in Samar.
- Oct. 7-11 Forum in Cyprus in relation to
Langham. Including a holiday in
advance the first week of October.

Blessings!

Iljo

COLOPHON

The GZB and the OMF work together to make the mission work of Iljo de Keijzer possible.

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