

Mission to the Philippines – 2025

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLdvSzG42sqfi_cDkTgkmtlPLXtyQnIA5Y&si=pxDJ9t_49BDOuBiv

This mission arose through the encouragement of Leighton Medley and his wife, Pana, both of whom have carried out Christian work in Pakistan. I had been in correspondence with Anil, a pastor of a Christian group in Rahim Yar Khan, Pakistan, and had assisted them in organising their fellowship, which they named **Christ Church Bierton Particular Baptists**. Their history and our arrangement can be viewed here:

<https://www.biertonparticularbaptists.co.uk/resources/Bierton%20Particular%20Baptists%20Our%20History%20and%20Work%20%20230821.pdf>

This present mission to the Philippines was a follow-up to my previous visit to Baguio City in 2020.

William Poloc was the first inmate released from New Bilibid Prison in August 2002, after serving 14 years for homicide. His conversion from crime to Christ is told in his book *Called From Darkness Into His Marvellous Light*.

<https://www.biertonparticularbaptists.co.uk/resources/From%20Darkness%20Into%20His%20Marvelliou%20New%201.pdf>

Since his release, his gospel work has grown remarkably, resulting in the formation of **twelve churches** in the northern Philippines up to this year, 2025.

For background on our earlier work, you may watch *Trojan Horse Mission to the Philippines – Part 1* on YouTube.

https://youtu.be/oUisgZv-48g?si=vXG_Xn3brYqwSmT2

Our aim this time was to accompany William and several fellow pastors to minister in various jails and encourage them in their ongoing labour.

My own objective was to testify to the goodness and grace of God, reminding inmates in the different jails that many former prisoners had

been converted to Christ while inside and had continued in the faith thereafter.

New Bilibid Prison is of particular significance to me, as it was where my brother became a Christian through the ministry of inmate-pastors, including William Poloc and Lucas Dangatan. It was my desire to encourage them further in their work and to introduce Leighton and Pana to the ongoing ministry in the prisons of the Philippines.

Saturday, 1st November – Travel to the Philippines

I flew from London Heathrow to Doha, then joined Leighton and Pana on their connecting flight to Manila. William and his son met us on arrival and drove us to Baguio, reaching the city around midnight. We spent ₱2,900 on fuel.

Accommodation had been arranged in a clean three-storey house where each of us had our own room.

Monday, 2nd November

We met with the church, where Leighton gave three talks on the Christian family—addressing the duties of husbands, wives, and children.

Several questions followed, including what Scripture means by “*the woman shall be saved in childbearing*.” Leighton connected it with Genesis 3:15, referring to the promised seed of the woman, which led to a lively discussion.

Doctrinal points were raised by William and his men, including:

1 The salvation of infants dying in childbirth

2 Predestination, and the question of Supralapsarian or Infralapsarian election. After which I prepared an article on the whole subject not only in English but also in Tagalog. [Article on Suprelapsarian and Sublapsarian](#)

3 When asked for my view, I maintained that God is not the author of sin, and that elect infants are saved by virtue of their election in Christ. Yet the matter itself must be left in the hands of God, who always does right. I also recalled I had dealt with this issue in my book, [*Let Christian Men Be men*](#). See the chapter: Joining the Bierton Church

4 The subject of who the sons of God were in Genesis 6 was left for further discussion but I stated I understood it to referred to those persons born in the line of Seth, the defendants of Able the first man to be killed by his brother Cain.

We spent ₱4,000 on refreshments for the church and returned to our lodgings around 7pm. In the evening we shared chicken and rice and reviewed our mission schedule.

It was agreed that Leighton would preach on Sunday, and that we would request Lucas to arrange entry for all three of us into both sides of New Bilibid Prison—three hours in each compound. I also enquired about visiting **Robert Lizardo**, and arrangements were made.

Tuesday, 4th November

Leighton and Pana attended the church sessions while William took me to Globe to purchase a local SIM card.

Leighton delivered three sessions on Spiritual Warfare. William and I arrived as he was closing the final session. We connected my laptop to the Smart TV and showed Part 1 of the *Mission to the Philippines* Keynote presentation.

Later, William took us to a food mall to buy supplies.

Wednesday, 5th November

Leighton delivered a seminar on *The Suffering Servant*. I forgot my wallet today.

Thursday, 6th November – BJMP La Trinidad

We arrived at the District Jail after purchasing six live chickens—sold by weight—for the inmates. We were told the inmates would kill and cook them while we were there, a thought I did not relish.

We took photos and short video clips inside. During our speaking slot, Leighton preached on *The Prodigal Son*.

Back at the church that afternoon, I spent time with Oscar, one of William's teachers, discussing our respective histories and ministries.

We later went to SM Mall for ice cream. William attempted to take me to the bank, but I could not recall my PIN number, so I transferred £400 to William via MoneyGram using the church Wi-Fi. We also purchased pens and notebooks for the inmates at BJMP Buguias and BJMP Bontoc.

Friday, 7th November – BJMP Buguias

We left at 5am and travelled five hours to Buguias with Bro. Eddy and several church members. We bought nine live chickens en route.

We first visited the Chief Civil Engineer, a relative of William, who warmly hosted us with snacks and coffee.

On arrival at the jail, we learned the wardens had visited the previous day, but the officers agreed to accommodate us.

Around fifty inmates were present—women and men, all wearing the standard yellow shirts and brown trousers. They sang two spiritual songs as a group before William introduced us.

I introduced myself, explained why we were there, and summarised how I came to know William. Leighton again preached on *The Prodigal Son*, and Pana was invited to share her testimony.

We distributed notebooks and pens to student-inmates and Bibles to the institution.

Afterward we travelled to visit **Robert Lizardo**, renewing our

acquaintance. He shared his number (0979 864 119) so that I could obtain his Messenger address via his daughter. We took him out for a meal and prayed with him.

The Story of Robert Lizardo

<https://youtu.be/SR6nqI2AIdI?si=l3DFYy3XHIIv8j6C>

We returned early, as we were due to leave at 5am for BJMP Bontoc.

Saturday, 8th November – BJMP Bontoc

Early in the morning I wrote diary notes and realised the need for a **Register of BCCC Associates**, a record of workers connected with Baguio Christ-Centred Church—many of whom were former inmates. My idea was to collect:

short biographies, testimonies of conversion, ministry experience, contact details, and photographs. These would form a *Field Manual* for Gospel work in prisons and beyond.

We soon left for Bontoc, arriving before 7am when nothing was open for food. With the help of Eddy and the brethren, we carried the goods inside.

I gave the history and purpose of our visit, followed by Leighton speaking from Acts 4. Afterwards we refuelled for ₱2,003, returned to Baguio, and ordered Jollibee (₱900).

Sunday, 9th November

We attended BCCC. Leighton finished his exposition of Isaiah 53. Later we had lunch with Eddy and Maralin and recorded video interviews with Jun, Eddy, Pana, and Maralin. I attempted to phone Robert Lizardo, but the connection repeatedly failed.

Monday, 10th November

Heavy rains from the approaching typhoon kept us indoors. I had the idea of recording a formal interview with William, covering:

his own conversion and early ministry, the beginnings of the work in Baguio, the growth of the churches, the doctrines of grace (monergism vs synergism), and this November's mission schedule.

Tuesday, 11th November

Still raining, so we went to SM Mall to buy Anna a dress and have coffee. William then drove us to the church, but the Wi-Fi was down due to the storm. I recorded a short video, *Mission to the Philippines 2025*.

Mission To The Philippines

<https://youtu.be/pHVuNJkveLc>

Later we returned to the mall for a SIM card for Anna. We also collected Brother Eddy's testimony, after which he invited us for a meal.

As we could not reach Lucas, we decided to travel to Manila and stay overnight. The journey took over twelve hours. After two hours descending from Baguio, the temperature noticeably changed from cold to hot.

We stayed at the Walnut Hotel, room 216, for ₱750 each (I received an OAP discount). I turned off the air-con during the night as it became too cold.

Wednesday, 12th November – New Bilibid Prison

Security was tighter than in previous years, including sniffer dogs for drug checks. Two of our helpers were denied entry for lack of proper ID.

We ministered in both compounds of the prison, with both Lucas and William present. Leighton and I each addressed the inmates.

Afterwards we went to a mall in Muntinlupa where I had my hair and beard trimmed for ₱600.

In the evening we checked Lucas's accommodation in Soriano Compound, also home to Neola and Robert Lizardo. I met Robert's daughter Marcias there and obtained her Facebook details.

Leighton and Pana preferred a hotel, but one was too far and another too expensive. William located a suitable place at ₱750 per room (128 cor. Summitville, National Road, Putatan, Muntinlupa City). We were to be ready by **5am** for the Medium Security Compound.

Thursday, 13th November – Medium Security Compound

We arrived at 5.30am. William had car trouble due to a water leak, but he returned with Pastor Dante and we entered the prison.

A special programme on *Moral and Spiritual Values* was being held. William introduced us; I spoke first, followed by Leighton. One inmate told me he had read *Trojan Warriors*.

Return to Baguio

We left around noon and reached Baguio about 7pm, stopping for a meal at the Steak House. The cold weather meant I slept fully dressed.

Friday, 14th November

No network signal in the morning. William sent me ₱100 load but still no internet, so we waited for Pana to help later.

Sunday, 16th November

We attended church. I gave a short word of encouragement relating to their supply and support.

We later had lunch at Eddy and Maralin's Bakarte restaurant.

Because of the ongoing car trouble, we booked coach tickets to Clark International Airport, departing Friday at 7.30am. We planned to take a taxi from our lodging to the station.

Monday, 15th November

Eddy and Marilyn invited us to visit a tourist site during the day before our final speaking engagement at PMA in the afternoon.

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I completed Assignment 1 for William—concerning whether there was any separation between Father and Son at the death of Christ (I affirm *no*).

We visited the Dragon's Den and an Igorot village with Eddy and Jun. Later we ate at an Indian restaurant for Pana's sake.

I completed Assignment 2: Whether angels were created in the image of

God. Assignment 3 remained—to explain the “sons of God” in Genesis 6. My view is: the godly line of Seth, not fallen angels (who cannot mate with women).

Wednesday, 17th November

We visited the tourist site “Princess of Wales,” then lunched at William’s son’s home. In the evening, we all had a full body massage—my first—at the parlour run by William’s daughter-in-law.

Thursday, 18th November – Philippine Military Academy

We travelled with William, Eric, Jun, Eddy, Maralyn, Pastor ____ and his son to the PMA, where we addressed inmates transferred from New Bilibid Medium Compound.

Leighton spoke on “*And such were some of you*”. I encouraged the believers to seek the truth for themselves, for some may become gospel teachers in due time.

Friday, 19th November

Heard from Ely that she had booked my flight from Doha to Dubai for Friday. I was a little anxious about making the connection.

We visited the hot springs with the church brethren. Oscar spoke on election, and we discussed predestination, the love of God, and the meaning of “world.”

William’s daughter-in-law reminded me that we had met previously. Later I joined in with some karaoke and sang a song.

Saturday, 20th November

In the evening, William, Rodel, Leighton and I went to a restaurant for food and a beer. We discussed several theological matters, including election, predestination, and reprobation.

Friday, 21st November – Departure

Up at 6am, bags packed. William and Rodel took us to Genesis Bus Station.

We boarded an excellent air-conditioned coach—one of the best I have travelled on—with drinks, bread, and blankets provided.

Arrived at Clark International and we located our flight travelling to Doha where we split and I went my way to Dubai and Leighton and Pana to Manchester

