

Dear Ann,

Here are the result of the price canvassing that was done recently.

1st pic price (yellow sch.chair) P 805 = \$17.88 each
2nd pic price -(yellow sch.chair) 805. same as 1st pic \$17.88 each

3rd pic price - (gray scholars chair) P 719 = \$15.97

4th pic price- (wood school.chair) P600 = \$13.33

5th pic table w/ 1 chair color (blu) price- P 489 = \$10.86 (a little bit taller than the red table w/2 chairs)

6th pic table with 2 chairs price (red) - P450 = \$10

7th pic yellow table -P 350 = \$7.77 this is taller than the red and blue table but without chair

8th pic mono block chair P 218=\$4.84

USA dollar rate is a \$1.00 dollar = P 45 pesos

We have not made any decision yet as to which one (tables and chairs) the church will buy. It will all depend on how much funds come in. Whatever comes then they could decide on it. We are teaching them also not to spend beyond what they have, as many churches nowadays are justifying or misusing the word "by faith that God will provide", only to end up in debt.

Hilltop Chapel, (KSB -Kapilya sa Burol in our language), which is the church we planted there since 2003 has 15 grassroot adult leaders now being trained on leadership. We call this 15 adults as committee leaders working as a team. My brother Jun (Eufracio, whom I sent a copy of this e-mail) is the interim director while Arnel and me are gone in Canada. Jun is in charge also of teaching finances e.g budgeting, management, stewardship. saving etc that can be applied for their personal life as well. With Jun is Pastor Roldan, pastoring the flock there. Like what I said one of the subjects or course that we are giving them is handling finances and funds management, stewardship on all the material blessings God is giving us. The result is okay. At times the church giving comes to \$200 a week, a good indication already being this church community has a low standard of living being farmers, tri-cycle drivers, vendors, fishermen, small livestock etc.

The teaching on this matter is a process (a very slow process) because of the following reasons: 1) they are still suffering from poverty 2)and most of them have very low educational attainment 3) community culture, 4) family background, 5) self centeredness 6) low moral 7) and in line with all of the above spiritually sick still due to many complicated issues of life that are not faced and dealt with yet and of course hidden sins. Teaching on this subject started since the church begun also in 2003 through our livelihood project program, educational program, counseling and of course at church. In their monthly meeting, Jun gives teachings on financial subjects and we also discussed how their businesses are doing, how we see God in their livelihood program - combine job and God altogether as they tend to separate God and work.

When I was there from Feb to May, Jun and I partnered together teaching Financial Biblical Studies every Saturday. Jun is still continuing it while I am gone.



In lieu, of this teaching, we, leaders at Esperanza Home Ministries Inc are now using and giving opportunities to these 15 church committee leaders to discuss, think and pray how their funds should be used wisely. They learn what is needful, important, urgent, non-important and non-urgent and un-necessary. We do this as or when God provides funds like yours. In the past, we, EHMI leaders used to talk and decide about it.

We have another friend who is going to give \$200 to us. Funds that we receive from USA are sent to CMML, CMML sends it to our account in Canada and we then transfer it to the EHMI bank account in peso, then to KSB church bank account in the Philippines. The church committee will write to you and will let you know how your funds were used including a receipt (even though you will not need that receipt from the Phil), but please bear with us because this is good for teaching purposes and accountability.

I am passing it on to them now the responsibility of buying the chairs and tables after they have talked about it and made a wise decision as a team. You know that at times leaders fail, (meaning they might argue, wanting to be in control decide for selfish reason then decides on something unwisely), but this is part of growing, God will always give us grace and another chance until we become broken and see His ways. Please pray for these leaders.

Next in line for training in leadership are our youth. We are using the John Maxwell materials as a start, so far so good for them.

I just thought of sharing this to you for you to know the dynamics of how this go on in our ministry partnership. Please pray for continuous wisdom and guidance as we teach and train them. Our vision on this is for their transformations as well besides being a loving community to proclaim God's kingdom everywhere. If you have any material on this regard, we will appreciate your help, or any suggestion will be received too, as we need counsel from others too. We are very open and eager to learn from our partners also because we know we cannot do it all by ourselves.

Thanks so much again for your partnership with us all these past many years. Please thank everyone for us. How I wish that Arnel and I can come and visit you before we go back for good to the Phil early next year, but because of the expenses, we don't know quite well yet. Anyways, everything will be upon God's direction.

God bless you all.

Sonia

