



# Holding This End

Daryl Martin, Director

## Their Victory is our Victory

Recently we were in the Philippines to serve with, and care for, those we support in the region. We spent time with each of the four families supported by The Second Tunic. We come home filled, even though we went to give. We give our second tunic, but the greater gift is the one we get as we see God at work as the result of those we support. What an opportunity we have to be partners in the work the Lord is doing in and through these wonderful people. It is an incredible privilege to see the communities and meet the people who are part of their lives and ministry and to be able to tell them of the people here who are supporting them and praying for them. Jan Tampac said it well when he said, "Our victory is your victory." 🍷



### Our Vision:

The Second Tunic desires to be a bridge,  
allowing those with plenty to share with those who have need;  
A link, allowing those who have skills and abilities to use them for the good of others;  
A shoelace, interconnecting those who send to those who are sent.

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# The Second Tunic

\_\_\_\_\_ sending \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ serving \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ sharing \_\_\_\_\_

*The man with two tunics should share with him who has none. Luke 3:11*

November 2008

## In a Child's Eyes

### Encountering the Compassion Heart of God

by Jennel Eberly

It's funny the way God works sometimes. We expect him to act in mighty ways, to speak in a voice of thunder. Like Elijah, we expect to find him in the whirlwind or the earthquake. Instead, he whispers. He speaks to our hearts in the most unexpected ways and places. He whispered to my heart in a children's home on the other side of the world. In the midst of extreme poverty, God spoke to me.

We arrived at the Mother Theresa home for sick and malnourished children, located in Davao City, Philippines. The first thing I noticed was all the little faces pressed against the window, anxiously waiting and calling for us to come in. What a deep longing for love and affection these children must have! As I entered the building and was flocked by children, I was drawn to the nursery. My heart broke for those who had just as deep a need for love and yet were unable to ask because they were too young or too weak to get up from their cribs. I made a conscious effort to give each child a bit of undivided attention and love – but there was one pair of sad brown eyes that drew me. This little girl, probably around two years old, lay on her stomach with her legs pulled under, and her head tilted to the side as she watched me. I tried to hold her, but she clung to the sheet covering her thin mattress and cried. I let her lie still and rubbed her back for several minutes – torn between a desire to comfort her and yet wondering if I was only making it worse. When I moved on and spent time with each of the other 15 or so babies in the nursery, I could see her brown eyes watching me the whole time. *continued on page 2*



The team that served in the Philippines in front of the Mother Theresa home for the sick and malnourished children.

**Child's Eyes continued** Finally, I came back and stretched out my arms, offering to pick her up again. This time she tentatively reached up to be held. I nearly cried. I held her close, rocking her gently, not caring that in the heat her sweaty little body made me even warmer. I only desired to give her the gift of love and affection in the short time I had.

As I held her – and each of the other children – I could feel God moving in my heart. I realized that as much love and compassion as I felt for these little children who have no control over their circumstances, God loves and cares for them even more. As helpless and inadequate as I felt, God is not. He is all powerful, all knowing, all seeing, all loving. I wept as he showed me a glimpse of His heart for His children. I continue to search to know how best to obey Jesus' command to "feed my sheep" but this I know – I will never be the same after encountering the compassion heart of God in the large brown eyes of a Filipino child. 🍷



*Jennel was part of a team from The Second Tunic that served in Davao City, Philippines in October 2008. The above photo is of Jennel holding a baby who was displaced by a fire that destroyed over 200 houses in one of the poorest sections of Agdao. Cameras were not allowed in the Mother Theresa Home for Sick and Malnourished Children.*

## Christmas Blessings An Opportunity to Share

We would like to invite you to give a special Christmas gift to those whom we support. Our number has grown to 31 people supported. Over the last years your response has been very positive, and it has been a blessing. Your gift marked "Christmas Blessing" will be divided and given to each of those we support as an extra gift at the Christmas season. If you have a particular person you want your blessing to go to, then please note that as well. Thank you for blessing those who serve this Christmas!. 🍷



## Released!

### Finding Freedom in Prison

by Daryl Martin

The overhead path had barbed wire along it. We walked along the balcony and across a bridge to the large upper room which was used as a sanctuary. The sound of praises was already in our ears. As we entered we could feel the welcome of the people and the presence of the Spirit. Even though we came from far away we felt so at home and comfortable among these prisoners who have found freedom in Christ. Our arms had a "visitor" stamp on them but in our hearts was stamped "family". We thank God for allowing us to worship with part of His family who is behind bars in the Davao City Jail, Davao City, Philippines.



Our Team outside the Davao City Jail

It was truly a privilege to share in their Saturday service. To sing and testify of the goodness of God. To hear them thanking God for allowing them to be in prison because that is where they found true freedom. True freedom does not have to do with where we are or our outward circumstances but is a freedom of the heart. The person whom Christ sets free is free indeed. Mary shared a devotional of how much greater the power of love is than the power of hate. While she did not speak in a loud voice as is common in the area, they said afterwards that in her quietness she shouted.

We were serving with Andy Ibasco who is involved in the prison ministry of Davao City Jail. Andy also came to know Christ in prison as a young man, so he is able to relate to the guys in a deeper way because of this common experience. It was a blessing to be able to labor together in his area of ministry. It helps us better understand the needs, the joys, and the sorrows. It was also good to meet the leaders of the church who, while still in prison, find great joy and freedom in showing others the way to Christ. 🍷

*Andy and Ruth Ibasco and their two sons, Alex and Nathaniel, serve in Davao City, Philippines. They are supported by The Second Tunic. Andy is involved in the prison ministry of Davao City Jail and also helps in other ministries working with youth and young adults. He is also taking some Bible classes in the evening. Ruth is at home caring for their two children.*

