



August, 2017

Dear Friend,

Every morning at 5 a.m., Gina woke up to “Lift up the trumpet and loud let it ring!” It was a song being played on the radio in her home. Gina had been raised an Adventist, but had left the church 13 years before, and it annoyed her when her father tuned in to listen to Adventist World Radio. But one morning, something changed. When she heard the song, instead of feeling annoyance, she felt conviction in her heart, and she knew it was time to return to the church of her childhood.

In a small village, high in the mountains of Mindoro, Philippines, is an Adventist family who listens to Adventist World Radio and shares it with their neighbors—by playing it loudly on a PA system! A family of six is now planning to be baptized because they, too, heard the song “Lift Up the Trumpet and Loud Let It Ring!” Like Gina, they were backslidden Adventists who had been feeling the need to return to God. When they heard that song, they knew it must be an Adventist program, so they listened. The station was advertising evangelistic meetings taking place in the area, and they attended. As a result all six were baptized at the close of the series.



These are just two of the hundreds of stories pouring in of changed lives through the programs of Adventist World Radio in Mindoro, in the Philippines. I shared with you last month the plan carried out this past June when we took 50 pastors from Japan to Mindoro to conduct evangelistic meetings. This was in preparation for doing the same in Japan in 2018. Adventist World Radio paved the way—not only announcing the meetings, but presenting truth-filled messages.

I also shared with you the breaking news from two villages high in the mountains whose chiefs requested that AWR send someone to baptize their people. They had learned the Adventist message just by listening to AWR!

**But now, let me tell you “the rest of the story.”**

Not often in life have I found an experience where everything just seems to click, but this is what happened in Mindoro. The name means “gold mine” in the local dialect, and this could not be more appropriate. There used to be gold mines on the island that were abandoned years ago. But the real treasure we discovered were souls eager to learn about Jesus and salvation.

As part of our new initiative to go from “Broadcast to Baptism,” AWR360° teamed up with TMI for this reaping series in Mindoro. We had not just one radio station, but nine (yes, nine stations!) virtually covering the whole island and the neighboring islands as well. AWR broadcasted the good news three hours a day every day.

We were amazed when the chiefs of these two villages contacted us with their request “Please send us a teacher as we have been listening to the AWR broadcasts and want to become Adventists.” We received this astonishing message just four days before the evangelistic meetings were set to begin all across the island. Needless to say, we sent two of our Japanese pastors to preach in these villages. The chiefs then said, “We will give you land if you help us build a church!” Can you imagine that? We weren’t pushing them toward a decision—the Holy Spirit was doing that—and they were pushing us!

But it keeps getting better and better! Our AWR team strategized how we could reach another mountain village for baptisms because of the rough terrain. Motorcycles! On June 23, we drove three hours, then hopped onto motorbikes to reach where 4-wheel drive vehicles can’t maneuver. After 30 minutes of biking lush, steep hillsides, and crossing 17 streams, we arrived in the quaint village of Balugo. Dozens of happy children greeted us with smiles. Some of the villagers proudly showed us their radios as they tuned in to their AWR station. We met with the baptismal candidates and made our way down to a small river, where 18 precious souls were baptized! God’s Spirit was felt in a powerful way!

**That Sabbath, June 24, our Japanese conference presidents and union leadership were excited beyond belief as they witnessed and participated in the baptism of 1,200 souls in the China Sea, which brought the total baptisms to 1,400.** With tears in their eyes they confessed that it was a life-changing experience.

We were speechless and thrilled with amazement at what God was doing. It seemed things could not get better than this. But I was wrong! And here is the most incredible part of all. A fourth village came forward. They, too, decided they wanted to be baptized, all as a result of our AWR broadcast!

We were especially amazed by this fourth village, because it was in a very remote area where the radio signal couldn’t possibly penetrate the mountainous terrain. We asked them, “Do you have radio reception in your village?” And they said, “No, but we walk for about an hour out of the mountains and then take a Jeepney to a store in the town of Calapan where they have the radio playing AWR programs and we listen to the messages there.”

I thought these things only happened in old mission storybooks from long ago when our work was just beginning. But this is happening now, and I believe it’s because we are reaching the final chapters of earth’s history and God’s Spirit is being poured out around the world!





Hundreds of precious people—yes, more precious than gold—made decisions for Jesus at the close of this amazing event in Mindoro, and continue to respond to the truth-filled messages of Adventist World Radio.

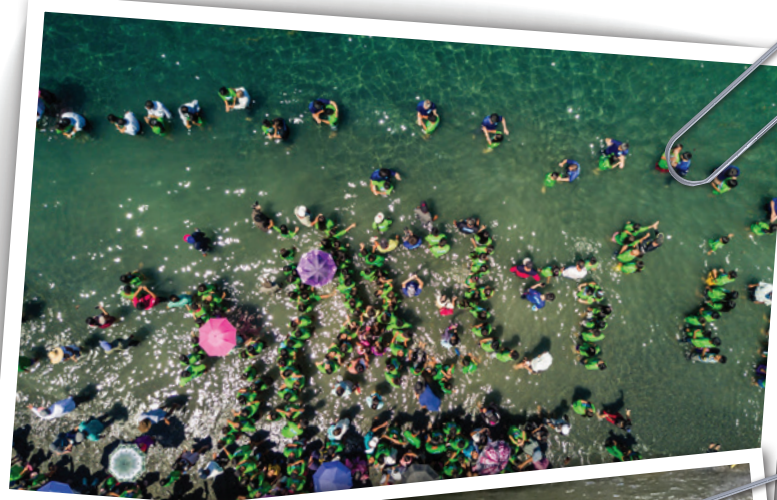
**Thank you for your faithful support that makes it possible for Adventist World Radio to reach the world for Jesus.**

It's an exciting time to be about our Father's business, because God takes our feeble efforts, and like the loaves and fishes, turns them into something amazing for His glory. All He asks is that we move forward faithfully proclaiming the message that Jesus is coming soon, letting it ring loudly around the world!

Yours in the blessed hope,



Duane McKey  
President



P.S. I have shared in this letter the incredible and miraculous way in which God opened wide the doors and hearts of whole villages on the island of Mindoro, in the Philippines. And I am convinced this is just the beginning of amazing things we will see as we near the time of the end. Thank you for your support that allows the truth-filled messages of AWR to reach the world for Jesus!

To learn more about the series in Mindoro and the work of AWR, please visit our facebook page at Adventist World Radio.