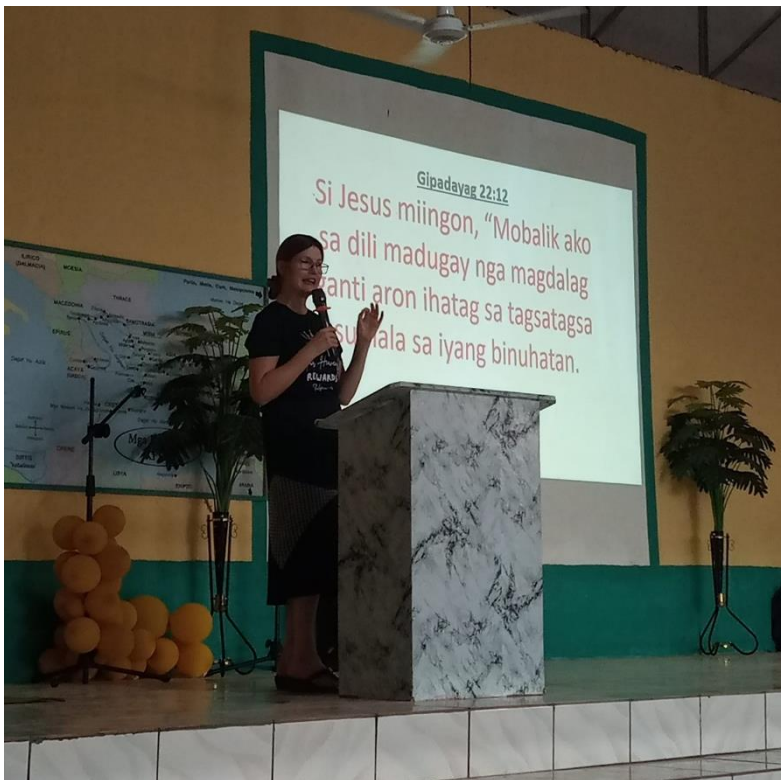




Thank you so much for praying for the two Women's Conferences – one in Tumpagon (above) July 25-27, and one in Lapoc (below) July 29-31. It was an amazing time and we praise God for the strength He gave to all who were teaching, sharing and leading. Nanah and I, as the speakers, attended both conferences, and there was just one day in-between to give us a chance to take a breath and to travel the 140 or so kilometers from one venue to the other. My heart is so, so full right now and even though I've been home for three days, I've only just finished recounting to Paul all the things I heard and saw and experienced during my six days away.





The theme was “Run For Heavenly Rewards” and for me and for many of my sisters who were at the conferences, these studies were life changing. Together we focused on Jesus’ exhortation to store up treasures in heaven, not here on earth. We studied the scriptures about the great rewards He has promised for those who serve Him faithfully in this world, who endure persecution for His

sake, who give even a glass of cold water to the least of His disciples, who long for His return....and we learnt that His rewards will be abundantly gracious, so amazing that our earthly minds cannot comprehend them, so worth running for! The alternative is to live for what we can get here on earth, which will soon disappear and leave us with nothing.

Many things stand out in my mind as I look back over the time at the conferences this past week. One was a sister Lorna, whose two adult sons were killed at the same time in a motorcycle accident last March. She came forward during the prayer night asking for prayer as she feels like she is going out of her mind with sorrow, like she is losing her faith. She was weeping as I prayed for her and tears were pouring down my own face. I can hardly comprehend her suffering and my heart aches. She asked if I could please write down some scriptures for her, so she could read them and maybe find comfort. By the end of the conference, it seemed like she was finding some consolation and some measure of peace.

Another thing that stands out was the testimony of Evelyn, who could hardly speak she was crying so hard. She has been praying for 5 years for her unsaved parents and brothers and sisters who live in a very remote village where there used to be an outreach some years ago, but it had to be abandoned because of warring and killings. Four months ago, God answered her prayers through a dear couple from the Tinaytayan church who heeded His call and started up the

outreach again to this very remote village. Evelyn's parents and family are now believers in Jesus! She shared that we should always pray and not give up.

Nanah, one of my beautiful sisters and a fellow-servant of Jesus, offered to teach a session at each conference which I accepted with joy. She taught two sessions and I taught the other ten. It was such a joy to see her teaching the Word well, clearly, and without fear (hard to do amongst your peers). God has done great things in her life! Many other sisters from the Lapoc and Tumpagon churches, served tirelessly and in many other capacities.



For a few days, we just drank in the fellowship, the peacefulness, the joy of studying the words of Jesus – hundreds of women together – opening our hearts to one another in our break-out groups, crying, laughing, praising, enjoying meals and coffees together... Many went home to stressful lives with unbelieving husbands, persecutions, physical needs, griefs and burdens, but they are going home more equipped, refreshed spiritually, and knowing that Jesus' love and power will get them through.