



## Pastor's Perspective — The "Alternative Lifestyle" of David Wise

By Dr. Ron D. Lindholm, Senior Pastor

In the recently concluded Winter Olympics, David Wise won the gold medal for the United States in the first ever half-pipe skiing contest in Olympic history. But in the days since, he's been making headlines for a different reason—what NBC reporter Skyler Wilder termed his "alternative lifestyle" (<http://www.nbcolympics.com/wdtn/news/david-wises-alternative-lifestyle-leads-olympic-gold>)

When I first heard that ascription, I thought: "Here we go again." But after I read Wilder's article and did some digging, I had a different take on things.

In the same way, let your light shine before men...  
Matthew 5:16

At the age of 23, David has a wife, is monogamous, has a 2-year-old daughter, is openly Christian, attends church regularly and one day wants to be a pastor—and in the world of freestyle skiing that pretty much makes him a freak. In that world, they want their stars to conform to a pattern that dovetails with that culture. They want loud. They want crazy. They want people

who are sold out to the late-night party scene. In short, they want pretty much everything that Wise isn't, but because he's so good at what he does and so credible in the difference he presents, they can't ignore him—and David knows that. Indeed, he freely admits to being counterculture. Yet it's not his desire in being that way to draw attention to himself, but rather to direct attention to the One who has made him different; namely, the Lord Jesus Christ.

I have been refreshed in learning about David's "alternative lifestyle."

I have also been reminded that in that lifestyle David is being for Christ

in his world, what each of us have been called to be for Him in ours, which is salt and light (difference-makers) through whom the gospel is seen and heard and savingly known.

My prayer is that our lives would be so lived before a watching world.

## A Different Perspective on Our Ministry to the Philippines

Pastor and Neita Lindholm had the opportunity to minister last month at the Word of Life Bible Institute and the Mountain View Christian Bible Church, in the Philippines. While it was Pastor's sixth time to go since 2009, it was Neita's first, encouraged to do so with a love offering from the church. As in the past, Pastor taught classes at the institute and spent time counseling the students in both informal and formal settings. He is repeatedly asked to preach at Mountain View, which he also did, but this time his wife accompanied him and sang at the services. Pastor's next trip is scheduled for the 2015/16 academic year.

Facets editors thought it would be interesting to get Neita's perspective on the ministry. Thank you, Neita, for your input—even amid the physical adjustments of jet lag.

*Have you ever been to the Philippines before?*

No, this was my first time and I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of Ron's teaching ministry. Thank you for making it possible for me to go!

*Have you gone on a ministry trip like this before?*

Similar mission trips include Germany, Brazil, Alaska and one last year to an unnamed site in Southeast Asia.

*What ministry did you do together?*

In preparation before the trip we updated Ron's notes for copying and binding and I also helped in copying collateral reading materials; while there, I helped with collecting student assignment data for grading

purposes and placing that information in the students' mailboxes; when Ron spoke in Sunday services or chapel, I shared in song; and on Valentine's Day evening, we were asked to speak at the "Hearts Day" celebration giving our testimony of how God brought us together as a couple and then how He leads us together in ministry.

*What did you do alone?*

I was asked to share with the female students on a couple of evenings for devotions; during the day, I helped organize Sunday School materials which involved making packets for some community churches nearby and other places like Tacloban (recently devastated area hit by storm surge from Typhoon Yolanda); and upon request, counseled a few of the female students.

*What was your impression of Word of Life?*

I was impressed with several things: the family-like atmosphere; genuine care and concern for each other was seen throughout the two weeks as we watched students actively praying for one another; the attitude while there was one of praising the Lord whether in class, work time, free time, PE, studying or in singing. It was amazing—it was with all their heart. In talking with several of the staff, I was impressed with how they came to Christ through the summer camps at Word of Life as young people and now, some just in their early 20's, are serving/training to be leaders at Word of Life sharing Christ with the next generation.

*What did you expect and what surprises did you have?*

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**Expectations:** To have a great time meeting and interacting with staff and students that Ron has grown to love and appreciate; to see the beautiful and well-maintained grounds seen in pictures from Ron's previous trips; and to see lots of ants, butikis & geckos, chickens and roosters and carabaos (and I did). I also expected



to see snakes and scorpions (but did not, thankfully).

**Surprises:** The curiosity of students and the number of questions asked; the rigorous schedule that is there—daily beginning at 5:00 AM and ending at 10:00 PM with lights out. This includes timed schedules for all students: class time, meals (20 minutes), kitchen duty and daily chores for 1 hour, ministry planning time, reflection/quiet time after breakfast (alone

time); nightly devotions; chapel each evening, study time and free time. After observing this for the two weeks, it's evident the students have a very disciplined lifestyle.

*Do you have specific memories that are especially wonderful?*

It was all memorable—being able to see first-

hand what Ron has been doing these past few years in his teaching time was exciting. Also memorable were some of the sights seen — various towns and the marketplace; riding bikes around one of the seven lakes in San Pablo; spending time with and getting to know Rachel Fogle (missionary); walking across a railroad track bridge that was about 200 feet over a gorge (Yikes! Just a little scary! I made it—been there and done that!)

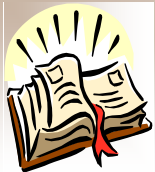
## Calendar



Mar. 5	Fellowship Dinner (6:30 PM)
Mar. 7-8	Fellowship in Homes
Mar. 11	Nursing Home Ministry (2:00 PM)
Mar. 14	Women's Bowling Outing (5:30 PM)
Mar. 15-20	International Student Ministry
Mar 21	Youth Skating and Laser Tag
Mar. 23	Love Offering for Paul & Geri Briggs
Apr. 2	Fellowship Dinner (6:30 PM)

*What would you like the church to be praying for in regards to Word of Life or the students you met there?*

For the many changes occurring within the staff—several are going on furlough soon and others are moving to a new location of ministry; upcoming summer camps—staff as they share Christ with campers and then as they follow up with those who have accepted Christ as Savior; several students requested prayer for their future as to what the Lord has in store for them—where they should go next... university or continue to the second year in the ministerial studies program. Many of the students come from unsaved families and their parents are not necessarily supportive of them being at Word of Life and not out earning an income to support the family—an expectation that many Filipino families have for their young adult children.



**2014 Bible Memory Project**  
**March Verse**


Not to us, O LORD, not to us but to Your name be the glory, because of Your love and faithfulness. ~ Psalm 115:1

*Do you want to go again?*

I would cherish going again with Ron.

## Money Matters

February Giving Per Week (General Fund)	\$4,598
Weekly Need	\$5,131
Year-to-Date General Fund Giving	\$34,661
Year-to-Date General Fund Need	\$41,048



*Salt and Light Christian Fellowship*

We will be receiving a special love offering for Paul and Geri Briggs on Sunday, March 23, for the purpose of helping this missionary family with the shortfall in their monthly support. Please pray the Lord will enable us to cover this shortfall for several months.

## Fellowship Baptist Church

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