Medical missionaries help people to know that God loves them. When people know that, they will listen to the truth about Jesus.

My work is especially interesting because of who I am. I am a Latina working as a missionary in the Philippines. The Philippines is in Southeast Asia but is different from the other countries here.

In the far past, the country of Spain had a lot of influence on the Philippines. Because of that, the country is a mix of Asian and Spanish ways of doing things. This makes it very
interesting for me - a missionary from Venezuela. As with any foreigner moving to a different culture, I have had a lot to learn. But because I am Latina, I already know some of the Filipino ways of doing things. Even what their cities look like are easier for me to get used to. They are a lot like what I knew back home in Venezuela.

One of the main things I do as a missionary is to help sick or injured people. I am a Physician’s Assistant, a PA. I can treat people much like a doctor does even when there is no doctor around, like here in the Philippines. My specialty is Internal Medicine. That means that I would usually treat adults.

Here on the mission field I work more like a Family Medicine person. I treat all ages. Our clinic sees from the youngest newborn to the oldest grandmother.

We missionaries always think of ways that our clinic can help to start churches. Church planting is our number one goal. In our church building we keep a small room to use for a clinic each week.

People from the community come for any kind of medical need. We pray with every single patient.

Most important, though, is a ministry team of Filipinos. They live in the same community and are workers for the church. This
Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Apostles

Mark 6:7-13  NIV

7 Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits.

8 These were his instructions: “Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra tunic.

9 Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town.  11 And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave as a testimony against them.”

12 They went out and preached that people should repent.  13 They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

No food, no money, no extra clothes -- how could the disciples go out like that? God had people in the villages help them.

Jesus told us to go and share about Him. You might think you can’t because you are not adult yet.

But there are people all around us who need Jesus. Jesus already gave us what we need—the truth about Him. Jesus will help us share that Good News with others. Are you brave enough? Let’s go!

Father, we know that many people need to hear the Good News. Jesus told us to go and make disciples for him. Help us to be willing to go. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Please pray for us. We want to help with both the physical and spiritual needs of the people God brings to us here in the Philippines.

Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits.

The team prays for the patients, gets to know them, and invites them to the local church.

The clinic has been a helpful connection for this team. It opens ways to teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to their neighbors.

“As a Latina, my tan skin and dark hair and eyes are blessings that are helpful to me here. Filipinos don’t instantly see me as a foreigner so they are not shy with me. Of course, once I speak the language they can tell that I’m a foreigner.

“However, many times conversations start because Filipinos are both surprised and delighted by how I look. Very often they ask, ‘Wow, you’re not Filipina? You look Filipina!’

“Right away that makes them glad to have a talk.”

By Melissa Nuñez

Miss Melissa has a Venezuelan background. She speaks both Spanish and English and is studying Tagalog, the main language spoken by Filipinos.
One day Jesus gave his disciples a special job. He told them to go two-by-two “through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.”

(Luke 9:6)

- Each person was to have a team-mate.
- Jesus said to tell about the Gospel to the people they met, and
- They should help people get well.

They were medical missionaries.

Bible writers Matthew, Mark, and Luke all talk about when Jesus sent his 12 disciples out on this short mission trip.

On page 4 is a picture that one person drew about it. How would you draw it? Use a pencil, a pen, or crayons to draw how you imagine the story.