



THE VALIANTE FAMILY

Equipping and Training National Pastors in the Philippines



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May 16, 2020

Dear Supporters and Friends,

ONE FULL YEAR IN THE PHILIPPINES. Today, May 16, 2020, marks one full year that our family has been in the Philippines. Although our plan was to be back in the United States from March until July, God obviously has different plans for us at this time. We are very thankful for the way in which God has provided for our needs, even in the middle of this lockdown / quarantine.

TRAVEL UPDATE: Over the past two months, we have purchased 5 separate tickets for our travel back to the United States. However, the Philippine government continues to extend community quarantines that restrict travel from our island up to Manila. So, our problem in leaving is not in getting an international flight. There are plenty of international flights operating from Manila to the US. Our problem has been in getting from our island (Negros) up to Manila (which is less than an hour flight away). Since the Philippines is a nation made up of over 7,000 islands, and the government has restricted all land, sea, and air travel into Manila (or Cebu for that matter), there is no way for us to travel there to then catch one of these international flights. So, due to the continued extensions of the domestic flight ban, we only have two options: 1. Wait until the domestic flight ban is lifted (which could potentially be a long way off). 2. Get on one of the "sweeper flights" now being organized by the US Embassy in coordination with Philippine Airlines. At this point, though they are relatively expensive, we are looking at the potential of catching one of these sweeper flights to take us to Manila. However, this has been difficult because the Embassy and Philippine Airlines frequently change flight dates, or cancel flights altogether if there is not enough interest. This makes it hard to buy an international flight far enough out in order to get a reasonable price.

MINISTRY UPDATE: As far as ministry goes, one of the blessings of remaining here in the Philippines during this COVID-19 crisis has been to have a part in supporting our immediate community (surrounding Haven of Grace), as well as to help many of our seminary student pastors. We have been able to provide humanitarian aid to hundreds of families close to our seminary as well as to dozens of churches through our partnership with Haven of Grace Seminary students. So, the bulk of the rest of this update will be pictures of our relief efforts. We pray for open doors for the Gospel through these outreaches. Thank you for your part in helping us minister in these trying times.





*If you have not already, please visit our website (valiantes.com) for regular updates. You can also subscribe to our website to receive updates directly to your email inbox. Also, if you would like to **support our family financially**, visit our website and click on the “Support” or “Donate” tab on the menu.*

- Rice Distribution to hundreds of families in our surrounding community as well as to dozens of churches through our partnership with Haven of Grace Seminary students who pastor these churches
- Health and safety for our family over the past few months