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# THE VALIANTE FAMILY

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Equipping and Training National Pastors in the Philippines

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November 13, 2024

Dear Supporters and Friends,

**GRADUATION AND UPCOMING TRIP.** We are excited to announce the date of our first Haven of Grace Seminary graduation: **Saturday, May 10, 2025**. Our graduation candidates are presently working on courses and final assignments in preparation for this momentous occasion. I will be flying out for the graduation and am looking forward to celebrating with our students.

**SEIZURES AND SUPPORT.** Some may be aware that our middle daughter, Lydia (13), has been dealing with seizures throughout this year. She had her first seizure on January 27, a second one on June 17, and has had four more since then. The seizures all happen early in the morning, right after she wakes up. Back in July, after seeing a neurologist and undergoing testing (including an EEG), she was diagnosed with Juvenile Myoclonic Epilepsy. In fact, while she was having the EEG (a test that only ran about 30 minutes), technicians detected 4 “micro-seizures” during that short span. So, it seems she has been having dozens of unnoticed seizures every day. Of course, the main concern with the more intense seizures is that she loses consciousness. Thankfully, she has been in bed a couple of times when the seizure started. However, there have been four occasions where she has fallen—usually in the bathroom. The doctors are working on getting the right medication for Lydia to help keep her “seizure-free,” and they continue to make modifications after each event.

On October 28, I was up early teaching my class on Romans to our Haven of Grace Seminary students in Bacolod. Class starts at 4:40am. Around 7:30am, while I was still teaching, Sarah came down to let me know that Lydia was having another seizure in the bathroom, and that the door was locked. I let our students know that I needed a few minutes to check on Lydia. Once we were able to unlock the door and get to Lydia, she was coming out of the seizure (generally the seizures have lasted 1½ to 2 minutes). We brought her to our bed, and other than a bruise on her arm and being totally exhausted, she was fine. Thankfully, a couple of days prior we had bought a fall protection helmet (which Lydia has named Milton James Gray) that she was wearing when the seizure hit. This helped protect her from a head injury.



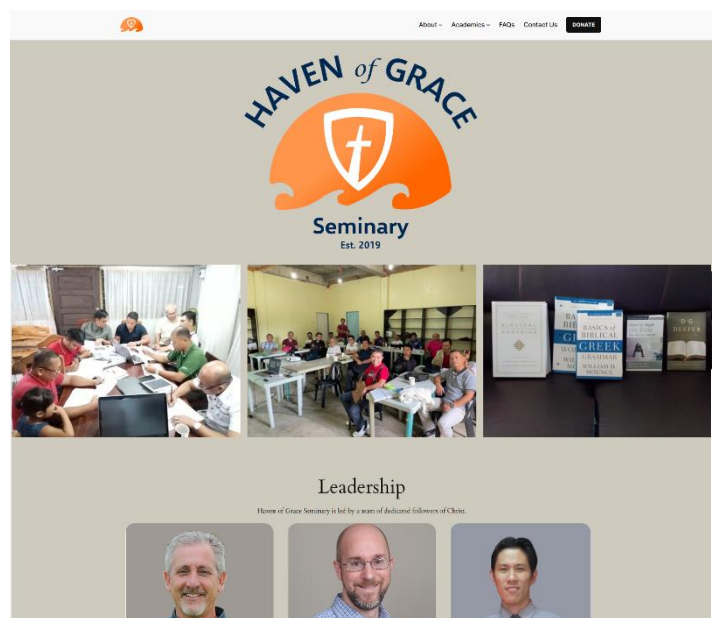
Lydia wearing “Milton James Gray” standing in front of our “Thankful Tree” at home.

What was encouraging was when I let the men know what was happening, they immediately began to pray for Lydia. Since I record my sessions (for any students who miss a particular class), I was able to go back and hear their prayers on our behalf. It was such a blessing to hear them calling out to God to help and protect Lydia. The love, concern, and support they extended through their prayers was very meaningful to me. After about five minutes (having gotten Lydia settled, and making sure Sarah was alright), I came back and finished the last 20 minutes of our lecture. We would appreciate your prayers on our behalf as we help Lydia navigate this trial. We trust in God's grace and goodness in Lydia's life.

**TYPHOON DAMAGE UPDATE:** A big thank you to all who have prayed for and donated toward the Typhoon Relief Fund. The cost of repairs was higher than originally expected, but by God's grace, and your faithful partnership, \$10,000 has been raised to make the repairs.



**UPDATED MINISTRY & SEMINARY WEBSITES.** As I mentioned in our previous letter, we have updated our ministry website: <https://valiantes.com/> and our seminary website: <https://havenofgraceseminary.com/>. Please feel free to check them out for more information about our family, and Haven of Grace Seminary.



Once more, thank you for your continued prayer and support.

Serving Christ,  
The Valiantes  
*2 Corinthians 5:14-15*

*If you have not already, please visit our website ([valiantes.com](https://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.*

### **Prayer Requests:**

- For Lydia to be "seizure-free" as the doctors tweak her medications
- For wisdom in purchasing tickets for our upcoming graduation (Spring 2025)
- To end out the fall semester strong and for students as they take final exams

### **Praises To God:**

- For funds donated to repair the Haven of Grace Seminary campus following destructive typhoons (Thank you to all who donated!)
- For God's protection over Lydia during these seizures
- For our 1<sup>st</sup> Graduation coming up this Spring 2025 (Lord willing)