



THE VALIANTE FAMILY

Equipping and Training National Pastors in the Philippines



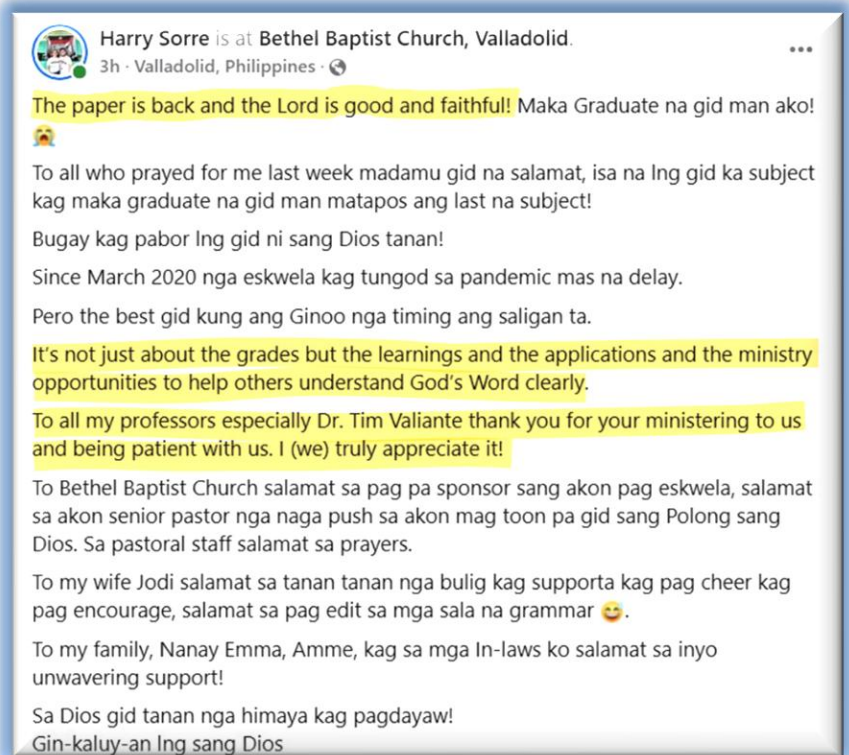
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March 14, 2025

Dear Supporters and Friends,

SPRING SEMESTER IN FULL SWING AND GRADUATION AROUND THE CORNER! It is hard to believe how fast our first-ever Haven of Grace Seminary graduation is approaching (Saturday, May 10, 2025). At this point, we are more than halfway through our Spring Semester. Courses on Romans and Psalms are presently being offered and our students are loving the in-depth study of these books. As I have been teaching Romans, there have been a lot of really deep questions coming from our students as they wrestle with issues such as: the righteousness of God (and in particular how Paul uses that phrase in Romans); the gospel and God's promises to Israel; the New Perspective on Paul (which I don't believe any of our students had ever heard of); Universalism; Justification by faith and Justification by works; and many more! There is nothing better than digging into God's Word.

As you can imagine, with commencement just around the corner, our graduation candidates are getting excited (as evidenced by the Facebook post to the right). Although part of the message is written in Hiligaynon, you can see the highlighted sections in which Pastor Harry Sorre expresses gratitude for God's faithfulness throughout his studies, and the impact these courses have had upon his life and ministry.



For the upcoming graduation, in addition to the expected costs of diplomas, caps and gowns, etc., we have a number of special things we are planning: 1. We are producing a Promotional Video for the seminary which will be released at graduation. 2. We will be hosting a special meal following the graduation for our students and their families. 3. We would like to provide some ministry resources (i.e. books) to our graduating students. If any would like to donate toward these projects, please visit the Pacific Rim Missions International giving page at: <https://app.easytithes.com/app/giving/prmi>. You can then click on the drop-down menu to select: Philippines Fund-Haven of Grace.

As I mentioned in our last update, my 10-year old son, Jonas, and I will be making the trip out to the Philippines for the graduation. We would appreciate your prayers for us on this long journey. Below you can see a snapshot of just what it will take for us to get to Haven of Grace.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania ✈️ Portland, Oregon 🚗 Eugene, Oregon 🚗 Grass Valley, California 🚗
San Francisco, California ✈️ Taipei, Taiwan ✈️ Cebu, Philippines ✈️ Bacolod, Philippines 🚗 HAVEN OF GRACE!



VISIT FROM THE OGUILLAS. One of the highlights this winter was a visit from Pastor Jun Oguilla and his wife, Ma'am Juvy. Pastor Jun serves as a board member of Haven of Grace, as well as the pastor of Maranatha Baptist Church (Bacolod, Philippines). He has been a close friend of ours since 2017. While here in the States, Pastor Jun preached at our home church (Lighthouse Baptist Church – Newark, DE), and in 2 other churches. He also visited the ARCH National Pastors' Fellowship in Florida, and got to see snow for the first time! Pastor Jun remarked that every cell in his body was happily frozen!

OPEN DOORS IN BANGLADESH? This semester I have been teaching a small group of students in the country of Bangladesh. Pacific Rim Missions International is prayerfully considering starting a seminary in this Muslim-dominated country of over 170 million people. Christians make up less than ½ of 1%. That is a staggering number. That means there is only 1 Christian for every 300 Bengalis. One of our students, who is also working on a nursing degree at a secular college, shared that he is the only Christian in his entire school. He was thankful for a number of opportunities to share the Scriptures in some of his classes. Please pray for wisdom as we consider God's leading in this endeavor.



AN 18 YEAR OLD IN THE HOUSE! It is hard to believe, but our oldest child, Micah, turned 18 on February 15. We are proud of him and his desire to serve the Lord. He will be graduating this spring for the Cecil County School of Technology in IT Networking and has also accepted a position as a Counselor at the Wilds of New England this summer.

SPECIAL GRADUATION PRAYER REQUESTS:

1. That the graduation will be a special time rehearsing God's faithfulness and goodness to our students at Haven of Grace Seminary.
2. That leading up to the graduation the candidates will be able to finish outstanding assignments to earn their degrees.
3. That this will be a great trip for Jonas (10 years old) and me, including:
 - a. Good health before, during and after the trip.
 - b. Smooth travel.
 - c. An lasting positive impact on Jonas' life.

Thank you for your continued prayer and support.

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

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