

# THE VALIANTE FAMILY

Equipping and Training National Pastors in the Philippines



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November 24, 2026

Dear Supporters and Friends,

**GIVING THANKS.** As we approach Thanksgiving, we want to express our gratitude to each one who has supported our family and the ministry at Haven of Grace Seminary (Philippines) over the past year. We are grateful for the partnership in fulfilling this mission of equipping and training national pastors in the Philippines for gospel ministry.

**BUSY SEASON OF MINISTRY. 1 CORINTHIANS (PHILIPPINES).** Looking back over the past couple of months, this has been an especially busy season of ministry. In mid-November, I finished teaching a semester-long course on 1 Corinthians to our students in Hinoba-an. This is an important study for our pastors, and (as you can imagine) the material generated a lot of great questions on topics ranging from how to establish healthy forms of pastoral leadership, to handling matters of discipline within the church, to issues related to the gift of tongues. As we were covering 1 Corinthians 8-10, and Paul's prohibition against Christians sharing a meal at an idol's temple, one of our students raised a question I had not considered before. He asked, "How does Paul's command in 1 Corinthians 8-10 relate to festivals in the Philippines like the festival (held at end of September) venerating Michael the Archangel?" This question turned into a ten-minute discussion that (I believe) helped provide biblical instruction that will assist these men as they navigate these kinds of unique cultural issues.

**PASTORAL EPISTLES (INDIA/NEPAL).** From October 26-30 and then again from November 2-6 I had the opportunity for two hours each day to teach a portion of my course, Pastoral Epistles, (at the India/Nepal border) to a group of pastors who are part of Pacific Rim Missions International's training program. These particular men (who have very good English comprehension), receive the course instruction, and then they take the material and teach it (in their various dialects) to other pastors who are not as proficient in English. This has been a wonderful model to multiply the instruction among other area pastors and leaders.



**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**. One area of growth at Haven of Grace Seminary that I am especially excited about is the development of Filipino leaders. Our Assistant Director, Pastor Lowell, has been teaching courses over the past year+ and is doing a tremendous job. He just finished his semester-long course on Systematic Theology 1 with our students in Basay (see the picture to the right).



Currently, Pastor Lowell is only working "part-time" for us in his role as Assistant Director. Starting sometime in 2027, we would like to move him into a full-time position with the seminary. This will be an added expense of somewhere between $100-$150 per month. Though this is a comparatively small amount (considering what a full-time salary would be here in the States), this will have a huge impact on the work of the seminary. If God impresses this need on your heart, and you want to have a part in providing for some (or all) of this amount, please visit the PRMI giving site: https://giving.myamplify.io//app/giving/prmi
When you set up your recurring gift, make sure to click the drop-down arrow and select "Philippines Fund-Haven of Grace."

**BLOCK COURSES.** Haven of Grace Seminary is hosting block courses this month. A little over a week ago, Dr. Matt Walker taught a course on Ethics to our students in Bacolod. This week, Pastor Ben Gunderson is teaching a course on Expository Preaching (Colossians) to our students in La Carlota. We are grateful for these men and their investment in the lives of our students.





**FAMILY AND LOCAL CHURCH**. In family news, Kiersten purchased her first car. Lord willing, she will take her Behind-the-Wheel Driver's Test in the beginning of December. We are not sure who is happier about the new car… Kiersten or Emi (as you can see from the picture below). I also had the chance to help renovate the kitchen in one of the buildings at our home church—Lighthouse Baptist (Newark, DE).







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) 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 wisdom in expanding to a new teaching location in Inayawan.
- For the seminary's expanding financial needs to be met—especially to provide a full-time salary for our Assistant Director.
- For Lydia's seizures to be well-controlled.
- For preparations for the new course (Pastoral Theology 1) that I will be teaching in the spring semester.

## Praises To God:

- For a great fall semester.