



AMBER YINGLING
 GIVING HOPE TO THE HOPELESS
 IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
 February 2023



Praises, Prayers, and Plans

When I first arrived in the Philippines a little over ten months ago, I read *Victorious Christian Living* by Alan Redpath. I recently was going through my first journal I filled since my arrival. I came across a quote from this book that I rewrote in my own words as a prayer to the Lord. "God give me a heart that bleeds for the hopeless, eyes that are wide open to see as You see, a mind that is clear to interpret Your purpose, a will to be obedient to Your leading, and a determination that is utterly unflinching as I set out to do the tasks You would have me to do." As I continued to reflect and read through the journal, He showed me how far He has brought me in the past ten months. All I can say is, "HOW GREAT IS MY GOD!"

Praises: On January 23rd (my ten-month anniversary of my arrival to the Philippines), I made my way to Manila for the last time for a while to receive my visa stamped passport and one last visit to immigration to pay the annual fee for my Alien Immigrant Card. As God always does, He provided good company and an experienced driver for a safe and profitable trip. I need to correct information given in my last few letters. I had misunderstood about the visa being three years. The missionary visa is actually a single year but can be renewed without exiting the country for up to five years. As I sat at immigration waiting, I noticed their white board for permanent visa; so, I asked what the requirements were for that one. It requires more documents and many other things, but it would be the best for the future when God allows me to have a full-time ministry such as an orphanage that shows my presence is helping the Philippines. I am praising the Lord that He continues to make a way for me here in the Philippines and for the information that could help me in the future.

Prayers: As always, I covet and appreciated your prayers. To know people are lifting me up to the Lord daily gives me the encouragement and strength to continue. Once again, I would like to ask you to pray for my studies in the Tagalog language, I am seeing some progress, but of course it is never as fast as I would like. But my teacher continues to encourage me that slow and steady is much better than fast, because I will be able to retain more and understand better in the long run. My vocabulary is expanding. I have been trying my best to use what I know as much as possible. My recall time is still slow, but this will also get better with practice.

Please pray for a couple of opportunities that the Lord opened for me. From February 9th through the 13th, I will be traveling north about three to four hours to the province of Pampanga. This is my first time to drive this far of a distance in the Philippines; I would appreciate your prayers. I will be going to visit and observe veteran missionaries Nap and Shirley Donado. They are a Filipino couple that are also with BIO. I have not seen their ministries since my visit to the Philippines in 2017. I will be giving my testimony in their church and visiting several of their ministries. I will also have the privilege to visit a deaf ministry that was started by Chris and Carol Woodley. God received Chris into His presence shortly after my arrival to the Philippines. I am looking forward to seeing the fruits of his labor. I have the privilege to be accompanied on this trip with a young lady who recently quit her job and became a full-time church worker with a desire to go to the mission field as the Lord allows. Please pray for Ana as God directs her life.

Another opportunity the Lord has given me is to give my testimony and a short challenge at a Ladies Conference on February 16-17. Please be in prayer for this conference. Pray that many ladies will come from the churches who will be participating. Pray for the main speakers to be filled with the Holy Spirit as they teach us about a "Closer Walk with Thee." I am looking forward to these opportunities.

Please also pray as I seek the Lord's will for phase two of my first term here. Continue reading on the back page.

"Looking for that blessed hope..." Titus 2:13

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**Thank you for your
 prayers and support!**



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Praises, Prayers, and Plans Cont.

Plans: As my year mark of being here in the Philippines is fast approaching, I have been seeking and asking the Lord for wisdom regarding what my next steps should be. As I mentioned earlier, my language studies continue.

At the end of this month I will step down as the Sunday School supervisor at Heavenly Bible Baptist Church. I appreciate the mentoring that I have received. I have learned much ministering in this culture in this capacity. Now it's time to go and visit other ministries and churches as the Lord leads me. I have met many pastors and their wives through the prayer and fasting ministry that Pastor Rusty Ocampo has started in our province. I will be able to observe many different children's ministries. As I continue my language classes with my current teacher, I will get more exposure to ministry in the Philippines while using the language and experiencing more of the culture in different areas.

The Lord used me even with my elementary language level these past months. First, I was able to comfort two families in the church that had loved ones pass away. Because of my loss, I understood their grief. I understood their pain because almost ten years ago my mom passed away. The conversation was mostly in Tagalog, and the Lord opened my understanding to what they were saying. I knew enough Tagalog, and they knew enough English so that we were able to understand each other. This showed me that when God wants to use you nothing will stand in the way.

Another way the Lord used me was on a Sunday afternoon. I started helping on Sunday afternoons at Graceland with the children (Graceland is what Heavenly Bible Baptist Church calls their new property). I assist by picking up the kids and the visitors in a couple different areas using the vehicle that God blessed me with. One particular afternoon the children's leader had to do a couple of other duties and could not be with the kids for the first part of the service. She left me and my elementary Tagalog with 32 Tagalog speaking kids that had little to no understanding of English. As I walked toward the kids, I prayed: "Lord, I cannot do this, but You can through me." For thirty minutes I entertained them by singing songs, praising the Lord, and playing games. They even taught me a song I knew but in Tagalog! The Lord is so good to give the strength to do what we think is impossible. All things are possible through Him.

Finally God showed He could use me in my own subdivision. I was out jogging, and I passed a group of kids. After a couple laps, they started asking me my name and other questions. So, I decided to just stop and talk with them. I asked them their names and other questions like their favorite hobbies and school subjects. At every lap after that they would call out my name and cheer me on. Now every time they are outside while I am jogging they always talk to me. I am praying that God will use this to open a door for a kids outreach in my own neighborhood. There are SO MANY kids here!!

As I close this letter I, once again, ask you to please pray for me. Pray that the Lord will continue to teach me to be more like Him, to trust and obey His leading, and to not be afraid to do the impossible for Him. Through Him all things are possible. Pray for me in this second year. Pray for wisdom and understanding in language and culture. Pray for more opportunities to learn, observe, and be used of God. Pray that I will never be afraid to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit to speak to someone despite my lack in the language. Pray that I will be able to make more friends in my own subdivision and build these relationships.

Thank so much for your love, support, and prayers.



A Philippine Sunset



A Comparison Picture



A Children's Outreach

"Looking for that blessed hope..." Titus 2:13