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Thank you for your prayers and support!

AMBER YINGLING

GIVING HOPE TO THE HOPELESS IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

February 2024

Blessings and Provisions

The Lord continues to bless and provide for me as I continue to choose to be obedient to His leading. The first blessing was having my dad, John Yingling, here with me for nineteen days last month. I had not physically seen or hugged my dad for almost two years. That first embrace was extremely special, and though the last embrace was bitter-sweet, we both cried tears of joy as we focused on the greatness of God and how He chose to use us while together. Even though it was a short time, the Lord truly blessed us. Our schedule was so full that after each destination, we said it felt like it was several weeks ago. I cannot explain it. Though it was only two and a half weeks, it felt like he was here for several months in a good way. Through all our time traveling and talking, I was greatly encouraged.

One thing the Lord showed me through my dad's preaching was how important my calling is. As a missionary, at times I tend to compare my calling to others. Without a doubt, I believe God has called me to give Hope to the hopeless in the Philippines. But there are times that I ask, "Why the Philippines, Lord, they have the Gospel already and are mostly receptive to hearing it?" I have often struggled with why the Philippines and not some other unreached nation or people group. God finally answered this long-time question. As my dad was preaching a message on missions and the unreached people groups around the world. I heard God's still small voice whisper to me, "Amber, the orphaned, the abused, and the abandoned children are your unreached people group." The Lord showed me that while some are called to an unreached nation or people groups; some are called to an unreached person—a child, who feels forgotten and alone.

It is very true that orphaned and abandoned children are an unreached people group not just in the Philippines but all around the world. According to UNICEF, there are approximately 153 million orphans worldwide. With an estimate of 5,700 children being orphaned every day. Seventy-one million of those orphans are in Asia. The Philippines has over two million of these. My desire to reach them for Christ grows each day. Please pray for more awareness of this great need around the world. It truly is a blessing to possess the conviction that these orphans are my people group and that God has called me to give Hope to the hopeless.

In my last prayer letter, I mentioned God's leading to finish my first missionary term in Pampanga at an orphanage to get hands on training. The Lord continues to confirm this decision by providing and answering prayers. I asked you to pray for my housing in Pampanga—specifically a fully furnished two-bedroom house or apartment in a safe environment. I asked a fellow BIO missionary that lives in the area to help me inquire. After one week she contacted me and told me she had found one. It is almost exactly like the house I live in now! The owner is a Christian and works overseas. When the owner heard that I was a missionary they offered it to me for half the going



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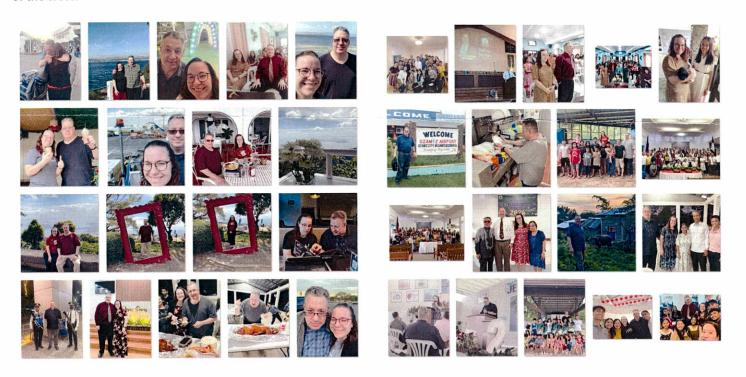
Blessing and Provisions, continued



rent price for the area, which was under my budgeted amount. Though it is only partially furnished, with the extra savings each month I will be able to purchase the needed appliances in no time. The extra bonus is that even with traffic it is only 20 minutes away from the orphanage. It is also in a very safe subdivision. I have submitted all the documents needed and am waiting for the final confirmation. Please pray that the rental contract will be approved.

My first focus for 2024 was hosting my dad during his time in the Philippines. Since his departure, my focus has shifted back to my routine and to finishing my time in Batangas well. Due to a recent sickness set back and the unavailability of my Tagalog teacher, my date for finishing my Tagalog language course has been pushed to the first week of May. Though I do not have a set date yet for my actual move, I cannot miss any more class days so that I can finish in a timely manner. My goal is to move to Pampanga by the middle of May at the latest. Please pray for me to stay healthy and that nothing else will get in the way of my classes. My language study continues to go well, and I am learning more and more. Thank you for your continued prayers.

As I close this letter, I want to share a verse I have been meditating on. Ephesians 3:19, "And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God." As I pondered on this verse, the Lord gave me peace. Despite all the unknowns in my life right now, if I continue to focus on Christ's love for me, it exceeds the need to know. The more I know Christ's love, the more I want to know about Him. The more I know Him, the more I know my flesh. The more I know my flesh, the more I know I need Him. The more I know Christ's love, the more I want to serve Him with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength. I want to know Christ's love so that I might be filled with all the fulness of God. Though I will never fully understand the mystery of Christ's love for me, I am thankful that He loved me so much that He chose to be obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.



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