

THE GONZALES NEWS REPORT

August 2025



MISSIONARIES TO THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS



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Seek Ye the Kingdom

"... Seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." Luke 12:31-32

I am so thankful for the promise found in these verses. As Jonell and I have continued to seek the kingdom of God, we have witnessed this promise of God's provision firsthand. I am thankful for the confidence in my Lord and Savior who keeps His promises.

Answered Prayers: The Lord is so good and worthy of all praise. His promises hold true. As we have been seeking the kingdom these past two months serving the Lord, God has continued to answer prayers. In our last prayer letter, we mentioned a piece of property for our personal housing in Bantayan where our church is located. The Lord answered our prayers and provided the funds to purchase that property. We signed the papers on August 6th and are working on getting a survey done to complete the paperwork for the title of the land. Once we receive the title, we can get a building permit and start building the perimeter wall, dig a well, and get electricity. We thank the Lord that the donations for the property exceeded the amount needed for the land so we will be using the extra for the requirements needed to begin construction on our property. Please continue to pray for God's provision and guidance as we begin building our house so that we can be more effective in our ministries.

We also praise the Lord for receiving our official marriage certificate. We have begun gathering all the documents for me to apply for my permanent resident visa. We will meet with my visa lawyer on August 20th to discuss all the details and process. Another blessing, Jonell was granted his passport. God is preparing the way for us to return to the US for our furlough. We are looking forward to visiting our faithful supporters and family during this time. Please continue to pray for this process and God's perfect timing.

We are praising the Lord for an amazing start to our children's outreach and feeding program. For our first week, we had thirty-three children in attendance. We are so thankful for our volunteers who have helped us with activity time and the cooking. We have already noticed several children that always come hungry. We pray we can continue to help them through the feeding program. We are thankful for this ministry as it gives us insight into our future orphanage.

We are praising the Lord for his protection. The roads here in Negros are more rural (meaning a lot of potholes and dirt roads). The Lord provided the money needed to get all new tires and fix our tie rods. When we took the car to get these things done, the car mechanic did a full checkup on the car and discovered that the rear brakes were only working at 15%. We are so thankful the Lord protected us and provided the funds to fix this as traveling to our church is very hilly. The brakes are truly needed!

"Defend the poor and fatherless... rid them out of the hand of the wicked." Psalm 82:3-4

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Seek Ye the Kingdom cont.

Prayer Requests: As we thank the Lord for all the answered prayers, we continue to ask the Lord to use us to boldly share the Gospel in the Philippines. He has given me an opportunity to be the speaker at a ladies' fellowship in Pampanga (where I lived before). BIO missionaries Nap and Shirley Donado are hosting the fellowship. They also invited Jonell to give a devotion to the men's fellowship for the men who will be waiting for their wives. We are looking forward to traveling and serving the Lord together in Pampanga from August 21-26. During our time there we will be visiting the orphanage where I trained and visiting Cornerstone Deaf Academy where BIO missionary Carol Woodley serves. Please pray for our safety as we travel.

Please continue to pray for our visas. As mentioned above, we will be meeting with my visa lawyer to discuss the details and process. Please pray that God will guide us to the right officials and that in His perfect timing we will be granted our visas so we can return to the US for our furlough.

Please pray for the transactions for building our house. As I mentioned in our last prayer letter, we live one hour from our church. This makes it difficult for us to be effective in our ministries. Since Bantayan (where our church is) is rural and mountainous, there are no hotels for people to stay when visitors come. Having a house there in Bantayan will enable us to host visitors from the US and any other visiting pastors or missionary that comes to speak at our church. Please pray for God's continued provision and wisdom as we move forward with building our house in Bantayan. We do not have an estimated cost at this time, but if you would like to give toward this project you can send it to BIO marked, "Gonzales Housing Project."

We continue to look for property for the orphanage. We were told of three lots equaling 1,500 square meters (m²) next to the church that might be available for sale. But after more investigation, we were told they were only selling one of the lots (500 sq. meters) at this time. This property would be a great start for the orphanage—large enough to house ten to fifteen orphans—especially since it is connected to our church property. We are currently praying and seeking the Lord's will. We are praying that the owners will change their mind and make the whole 1,500 m² for sale. Please pray with us.

Please continue to pray for our ministries at our church. We continue to use the Gospel Kids' Outreach to train our young people. They are on rotation teaching the Bible lesson each week. We are praying that this outreach will continue to help us influence our community for Christ. Pray for our church (Bantayan First Baptist Church) as we prepare for our annual Thanksgiving service. We voted last week to install air conditioning in our church for this year's project. Our church has agreed to make pledges for this need. Please pray for God's provision and installment before October.

We are so thankful that God continues to answer our prayers for provision, spiritual growth, and protection as we seek Him and serve Him by giving Hope to the Hopeless in the Philippines. Thank you for your love and support and prayers for us. God hears your prayers and is answering them. God Bless!

thanks
for your
support

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