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Murrell Missionary Report #45 from Cebu City, Philippines / December 2025

1 message

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Howdy from the Philippines,

As the year comes to a close, we wanted to take some time to thank you and share an update on how things have been going here. We are deeply grateful for your prayers and support, and we count it a privilege to serve here alongside you.

First, a quick family update. Gina and I, along with the kids—Sean, Jasmin, and Liam—are all doing well. The kids are enjoying a short break from school for the holidays, and the Bible Study Center is also closed for two weeks as we take time to rest and do some cleaning and maintenance. This year has had its share of challenges, but we are thankful for God's continued protection and provision. Seeing how the church has come together throughout the year has been a great encouragement to our whole family.

Bible Study Center (BSC) Update

The last couple of months have been especially busy. I've been teaching classes nearly every day, some held at the Bible Study Center and others online with students from different parts of the Philippines. Most of the students are adults, with a few teens mixed in, and it has been encouraging to see consistent interest and growth.

One of the biggest joys this year has been watching several students who are on the verge of becoming Christians. A few are now attending church with us regularly, and we continue to walk alongside them, answering questions and studying Scripture together. While this year also brought disruptions due to calamities, power outages, and water shortages, the Lord has allowed the work to continue even in the midst of uncertainty.



Mountain Ministry

Gina and the crew have continued faithfully with the mountain classes, traveling three times a week. There are three regular classes: one for the children, one for the youth group, serving kids from about 5 to 16 years old and another class is for the parents of the kids. The travel is often tiring, but the joy of working with the children and youth makes it worthwhile.



One special highlight this year was the year-end Christmas party we held for the mountain community. Around 100 children came to enjoy games, food, and fellowship. It was a wonderful time of laughter and joy, and a reminder of how meaningful simple acts of love can be.



A Year of Unexpected Challenges

This year also included several unexpected events—earthquakes and multiple typhoons—that affected many parts of the country. While these disasters brought hardship, they also revealed the strength of the church. Brethren worked together to help one another, share resources, and care for those in need. It has been humbling to witness the unity and compassion shown during these times.

Looking Ahead

As we look toward the coming year, our desire is to continue the ministries God has entrusted to us while seeking ways to reach more people. We are especially looking toward expanding the number of students we serve and placing greater emphasis on training church members to grow in their faith and ability to serve others. We're hopeful and excited, trusting the Lord to guide each step forward.

Transportation Need

One practical need we are currently praying about is transportation. At the moment, we have a sedan, which has served us well, but it has become increasingly difficult to use for both family and ministry. With the kids getting bigger and the growing needs of transporting people and supplies—especially for trips to the mountain areas—a sedan is simply too small. We hope to trade it in for a larger vehicle that will allow us to safely carry people, relief goods, and ministry materials more efficiently. If you would like to pray with us about this or feel led to help in some way, we would be very grateful.

Thank you again for standing with us through prayer and support. Please continue to pray for wisdom, strength, and open hearts here. If you'd like to know more or pray more specifically, feel free to reach out.

We wish you all a prosperous and blessed NEW YEAR!



In Him,
Jon, Gina, Sean, Jasmin, and Liam Murrell

"For this is the love for God, that we might keep his commands, and his commands are not difficult." - 1 John 5:3