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Sent: Tuesday, March 9, 2021 1:17 AM

To: John Keller <johnckellerjr@gmail.com>

Subject: Jon and Gina Report #31 from Cebu City, Philippines / March 2021

Howdy from the Philippines,

I hope this letter finds you well. On the 15th of March, we will have reached the 1 year mark for the beginning of quarantine lock-downs here in the Philippines. While our current situation isn't as bad as it was at the beginning of all of this, it's not back to normal. There are still restrictions in place that limit people within and outside of the city. Foreigners are still not allowed into the country at this time but from what we have heard that may change within the next few weeks. Kids under the age of 15 are still not allowed outside of the house except for emergencies and limited situations so our kids, who have been stuck in the house for the last year, have been getting really stir crazy. The government has finally gotten a hold of some vaccines for the COVID virus. However, due to the limited doses, they are only giving them to health workers for the time being. From what I've heard, it will not be available to the average person for a few months down the road.

The family is doing well despite the limitations we are under due to the quarantine. Throughout the year no one has shown any signs of the virus. The Lord has saw fit to bless us with good health throughout this situation which we are very thankful for.

Gina and the kids are doing great. It's been challenging for them with school being at home every day instead of going to school. Home school is not something that everyone can do but they have been troopers. I personally was home-schooled most of my life and I know it was difficult for my parents to manage and police the situation to make sure we did what we were supposed to do every day. On the one hand the kids struggle with getting their work done every day (because there are a lot of distractions at home that you wouldn't have at school). And on the other hand, our sanity is tested somewhat because our kids are at home instead of out of the house and at school. Also having to grade work and explain concepts to the kids that we haven't had to use in a LONG time is sometimes stressful. Part of me wishes I paid more attention in school because that would really help us out. I hate math..... :)



Anyway it's been a really enlightening experience as a whole because it makes me appreciate my parents more. Seeing what they went through for us when my sisters and I were kids has shown me that parents are just awesome people. The things they do for their kids in the background without their children realizing it. At the same time, not asking for any kind of acknowledgment or praise for their efforts in return is just amazing. The work is still going on even though there are restrictions. From the beginning of the quarantine, the Bible Study Center has been "closed" by the government. The reason for this is because they classified all Non-Profit organizations as "NON-Essential Businesses". This means that as long as the quarantine is in place, even if it's a very low level quarantine, our doors stay closed. Until this situation changes, the government will not allow us to have classes at our facility. However, to get around this problem, we have changed our way of doing things a little bit and now we have our classes online using a video conference calling program called Zoom. So far this has been a great success.



Gab, my brother-in-law and my wife, Gina were thankful that they were able to deliver the Christmas gifts for these kids on the mountain area of Cebu City, the weather was pretty bad at that time due to typhoon.

While it's not ideal that the BSC is closed, there is a bright side to it. About 6 months ago the road in front of our facility started showing signs of cracking and slowly started sinking. At first we didn't think much of it but over the months it seemed to get worse and worse. We started noticing cracks forming in the structure of our facility. About a month ago, the government office that is responsible for the roadways finally sent some people to investigate after several attempts by us to contact them to let them know about the issue. They believe that one of the underground culverts collapsed and the water going through it began to erode the ground around it slowly forming a mini sink-hole. The bigger it gets the more damage to the surrounding buildings. The cement above the hole is still intact however the bigger the hole gets the greater chance of it collapsing. There are plans in the works for the government to fix this so please keep their efforts in your prayers.



Just like every report that we write I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for everything you do for us and our team. The work we do here would not be possible without folks like you praying for us and supporting us in whatever way you can. Please keep our team and the different works we are all involved with in your prayers. We are praying for everyone's health and safety especially during this time. May the Lord continually bless you in everything you do!

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." - I John 5:3