Dear Supporters and Friends,

“THIS IS ON A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT LEVEL!” When I ask our students about their studies at Haven of Grace Seminary this has been the most frequent comment I hear. Whether it is in the field of Biblical Theology (finding the overarching theme of the Bible), or Expository Preaching, or Apologetics, the instruction they are receiving is truly on a whole new level. Just last night, as I was teaching on how to interpret the poetic portions of Scripture (in our class on Hermeneutics), one student said, “We have never learned this before. We never really even thought about it!” That is why we are here. We are so grateful to be able to offer a top-notch, seminary-level education to these men. And for those who have supported us, thank you for partnering with us to bring this work to life.

This month has been one of settling into a routine, and feeling more at home. There are so many adjustments in moving to a new country, but we thank the Lord for His grace helping us over the many bumps along the way. We are especially grateful for those who have prayed for our family during this transition. Looking back over the past four months, I can see how much we needed God’s encouragement, comfort, support, guidance, blessing, and grace!

In addition to my teaching responsibilities, this has also been a month of continued ministry opportunities. At the end of August, I was able to speak at the 3rd Church Anniversary Service for one of our student’s churches. This was such a wonderful time with a dedicated servant of the Lord, Pastor Roberto, who planted a church right in the middle of a sprawling sugar cane plantation! Calvary Baptist Church is a truly amazing work ministering to the workers and their families.
This past month also saw our third and final block course for this first semester. We were so grateful to welcome Mark Kittrell, president of Haven of Grace, to come and teach Creation to Consummation (Biblical Theology) to the students. They loved it! In fact, they even asked if they could come early one day just to get some extra time of instruction in. It was also a joy for our family to have Brother Mark with us for two weeks! He is a blessing to our family!

One point of praise to God from the past week was the news that our 9g Missionary Visa has been approved! I had been praying that the Visa would be approved before having to renew our Temporary Visitor’s Visa again, and we made it just under the wire! Thanks to God! Although the process took longer and incurred more expenses than we originally thought, we are grateful to be finished. Now (at least for the next 10 years) we will simply need to renew our application yearly.

It is hard to believe that we are already almost through our first semester. By the time I write our next update mid-to late-October, the semester will have concluded. Our second semester starts at the beginning of December. You can begin praying for our second semester, and any additional students who may register. Already, we have had the opportunity to minister to close to 20 students! We are truly grateful for the opportunity to serve in this way.

We are grateful for your continued support for our family. Please continue to keep our family in prayer.

Serving Christ,
The Valientes
2 Corinthians 5:14-15

If you have not already, please visit our website (valientes.com) for regular updates. You can also subscribe to our website to receive updates directly to your email inbox. Also, if you would like to support our family financially, visit our website and click on the “Support” or “Donate” tab on the menu.

Prayer Requests:
- For God to provide the unexpected, additional costs of our 9g Missionary Visa
- For continued grace to our family during this time of transition as we settle in to Haven of Grace
- For health for our family (There is a Dengue Fever Outbreak in the Philippines and our area has been hit especially hard. Please pray for friends who have been affected).

Praises To God:
- For the speedy approval of our 9g Missionary Visa
- For ministry opportunities we have had in local churches
- For our family feeling more settled in the Philippines
- For students who are engaged and excited to learn at Haven of Grace Seminary