October 21, 2019

Dear Supporters and Friends,

THE FIRST SEMESTER IS IN THE BOOKS! It is hard to believe that we have finished our inaugural semester here at Haven of Grace Seminary. We count it a great privilege to have a part in equipping and training 19 men over these 16 weeks. Many of these men took full loads over the course of a semester in which we offered Hermeneutics (in two separate locations), Greek Grammar 1, Apologetics, Expository Preaching, and Creation to Consummation (Biblical Theology). We are thankful to Dr. Yoh Shirato, Dr. Dean Taylor, and Professor Mark Kittrell for coming in to teach our three block courses.

One of the greatest encouragements from the semester has been to hear the response of the students. They have raved about the instruction, and as I listen to some of them preach from time to time, I can tell they are applying the principles they are learning in class. There is no greater joy for a teacher than to see his instruction making a real-time impact in his student’s life and ministry.

This past month I also had additional opportunities to share the ministry of Haven of Grace with prospective students. I was invited to attend a Pastor’s Fellowship, and was grateful to talk with pastors about the courses offered at Haven of Grace. Some are making plans to attend this upcoming semester.
Although we are technically now on “break,” the next month and a half will be very busy. I am presently working on my course notes for Systematic Theology 1. This will take up the majority of my free time over the next six weeks. In addition to this, I have been invited to speak at a number of upcoming events. This Wednesday, I will have the opportunity to preach to about 50 parents connected with a church preschool. Most of these parents do not know the Lord, so it will be a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel. This coming Sunday, we are looking forward to being at San Juan Fellowship Baptist Church. Then, at the end of November, I will be one of the conference speakers at Maranatha Baptist Church’s Missions Conference.

Once more, I want to thank those who have been praying for our transition. We are getting more and more accustomed to living here in the Philippines. Just today, as I was in the middle of writing this update, I ran out to do a few errands. I had to swing by the Vulcanizing Shop (i.e. tire shop) to get a flat tire repaired. Then I stopped by the Bago City Market for some fresh produce. This is an open-air market that is so common across Southeast Asia. Stopping by 3 market stalls I was able to get potatoes, carrots, garlic, cabbage, eggs, apples, bananas, as well as some delicious fresh baked rolls for lunch. When I got home, I noticed I was able to get all of those errands done in about an hour. We are starting to get the hang of things here. Additionally, our children are also slowly adjusting. We certainly appreciate your prayers on our behalf, especially for those on behalf of our sweet children.

It is hard to believe, but I am starting the process of looking for plane tickets for our annual trip back to the States at the end of March. Just as a note: we will be in the US from late March 2020 until the very beginning of July 2020 after which we will return to the Philippines for the 2020-2021 academic year. We will be in the Northeast part of the country for those 3 months. If a supporting church or any new potential supporting churches in that region would like us to visit please contact me via email (tim.valiante@gmail.com). Although April is pretty well filled, we have dates available in May and June.

We are grateful for your continued support for our family.

Serving Christ,
The Valiantes

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

If you have not already, please visit our website (valiantes.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 speaking engagements over the next month+
- 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
- For a great start to our 2nd Semester at the beginning of December

Praises To God:
- For a great 1st Semester
- For our family feeling more settled in the Philippines