Greetings from the Philippines! August-September

By the grace of God, August and early September have been busy and full of ministry opportunities. I am so thankful for the Lord's goodness and for the many ways He has allowed me to serve here.

Feeding Ministry



On August the 1st, we were able to host the feeding ministry once again. I was especially blessed to see that 30 of the 60 children who were fed that day attended church on the following Sunday, August 2nd.

The heavy rains here in Central Luzon have made it difficult to host the feeding ministry every week as we had originally planned. However, I am encouraged to see that the number of children attending church continues to increase. On August 22nd a record number of 80 children from the feeding ministry attended the church. We were able to feed some 55 children on Saturday, September 5th. Praise the Lord! Please continue to pray that God will use this ministry not only to meet physical needs, but also to open doors for the Gospel and spiritual growth, as well as bring these children and their families to Christ.

Gospel Tracts and Evangelism

In early August, I received another 1,000 Gospel tracts from Chick Publications in the US, which was a great blessing because I was beginning to run low on the tracts I had previously received. Lord willing, I will also be receiving another 10,000 Chick tracts in December. The church here has also been using the tracts as part of the effort to start a church in the neighboring city of Dinalupihan. I am thankful that these Gospel tracts can continue to be used to reach people in various communities.

Youth Ministry



On August 7th, I was also able to host the greater part of the youth group in my home. Praise the Lord! I am looking forward to having them over again each month, and they are already looking forward to trying Mexican food! Please pray that God will use these times to build relationships and give me opportunities to have a godly influence in the lives of these young people.



Gospel Cartoon

By the grace of God, I was able to find all the voice actors needed for the Gospel cartoon in Tagalog. They are currently reviewing the script; we had our first practice session on September 14th. We hope to record the voices in our province's capital sometime in October. Please pray that everything will come together smoothly and that God will use this project to clearly communicate the Gospel to the Tagalog-speaking people, especially the kids.

Aeta Bible Translation

One of the greatest blessings of this past month has been beginning our first formal translation training with Pastor Allen! To me, it is the fulfillment of a dream that has been in my heart for six years.



Pastor Allen and his family came to Orion, staying from September 7–9th. I greatly admire his dedication and tenacity. They arrived much later in the day than originally scheduled, largely because they had to travel through flooded areas. I am very grateful to the Lord for protecting them and allowing them to arrive safely.



During those three days, we were able to work together on rough drafts of nine Romans Road verses, as well as compile a list of difficult words for future reference. These nine verses will be incredibly useful because they are all Gospel verses. Praise the Lord! Pastor Allen will now be able to share the Gospel from beginning to end in Aeta Sambal, his mother tongue. We were also able to create a meeting and training schedule all the way through December. Our next translation module and work session is scheduled for October 5th.

I am immensely thankful for the young people of Open Door Baptist Church, Orion, who have helped make this work possible. I am especially grateful to Bro. Christopher for serving as an interpreter whenever we encountered difficult concepts; to Sis. Christina and Jane for preparing meals so that we could focus on the work without worrying about food; to Bro. Jason and AJ for providing transportation; and to Pastor Ronnie for allowing us to use the church facilities.

I am also very grateful to Global Bible Translators for helping me purchase the software needed for the translation project. By our October module, I hope to train Pastor Allen, his wife, and Sis. Crizelle in how to use the software so that they can make full use of the laptops that were given to me by the Lamb Fellowship in California in July.

I have also recently become aware of several Aeta believers who may be qualified to join the project as editors. Please pray that the Lord will give me wisdom as I meet with, interview, and pray over each potential editor.

Looking Ahead

In October, we will begin working on 1 John. Please pray that God will give me wisdom as I prepare both the native translators and the materials needed for this next stage of translation. Please also pray for God's guidance as I have been presented with the opportunity to purchase a vehicle, which would make travel much easier. Please also pray for Pastor Allen, Sis. Crizelle, that God will give them wisdom, patience, and accuracy, as they learn and begin this work. Most of all, pray that the Lord will use this translation project to give the Aeta people access to a trustworthy and accurate translation of His Word in their own language, and that through His Word, many will come to know Christ. Thank you so much for your prayers, encouragement, and support.

Working for His Word,

Faith Duke