God's word for every people

AETA SAMBAL PROJECT

FAITH DUKE

Dear Praying Friends, **April/May 2026**

Trips to the Villages

Since my last letter, the Lord has allowed my team and I to take three trips to the province of Tarlac, where the majority of the Aeta people live – one trip to the village of Alunan within Mount Pinatubo, in March and two additional trips to several surrounding villages in April and May. The Lord has been so good to us throughout these visits.



During our first trip on March 23rd, my team and I were able to hold a meeting in the village of Alunan. Most of the village came out to speak with us, and we were able to begin building relationships with them. Surprisingly, God has guided me to a young lady that I met in 2024 in the city of Bamban, Sister Crizelle, she happened to be in the village of Alunan that day. She currently works as a village teacher for the children in Alunan. With God, nothing is coincidence. In fact, while I was doing deputation in the U.S., I was asking the Lord whether Crizelle would be a good member for the bible translation team. I unexpectedly met her again in her village. Praise the Lord for His guidance!

During our second trip on April 13th, I met with an elderly Aeta couple, Tatay Nardo and his wife Purita. With their help I was able to collect several recordings and phrases that will be beneficial to the translation work. They also shared old stories and folk beliefs with me that highlighted just how great the need for the Scripture is. This second trip was more definitive in the direction of the work.

During our third trip on May 11th, I resumed linguistic research and continued actively seeking individuals who may serve as translators. After much prayer and preparation, I was also able to complete an intake form with Pastor Allen and formally ask him to join the translation project as a native translator. Praise the Lord, he is excited to collaborate! I also asked Sister Crizelle to prayerfully consider joining this project. Each person that I am considering must have a strong Christian testimony, and an aptitude with the Aeta-Sambal language. It is also preferable that they know how to read and write. Please pray that the Lord will guide me in assembling the right team for this work.

Currently, the team traveling with me to the mountains consists of five people: myself; Brother Christopher, whom I am actively training to work as an interpreter; Sister Christina, who lives with me; and two American missionaries, Pastor Andrew Loveless and his wife Sister Esther Loveless. I thank the Lord for each person He has brought alongside this ministry.

Another exciting milestone this month was the completion of the rough draft for our very first translated verse. I asked Pastor Allen what verse his people needed and he requested 2 Tim. 2:15. Just creating the rough draft

involved parsing the verse, completing an exegesis, defining terms, and internalizing it, before proceeding to active translation. Praise the Lord for this major step forward! This is of course only our rough draft, so it may need further editing, but even coming this far has been entirely by the grace of God.

Gospel Video

I also praise the Lord for the progress we are making on the gospel video project in Tagalog. Three young people helped revise the script, and we now have two of the six voice actors needed for the recording.

Additionally, I was able to locate a recording studio. The studio owners say that all the necessary materials can likely be recorded within a two-hour session for approximately $50. I am thankful for how the Lord continues to provide for the practical needs of this project.

Soulwinning

The Lord also gave me the opportunity to counsel a pregnant teenager over the course of three weeks. On May 9th, she sweetly accepted Christ as her Savior. Praise the Lord for His saving power and for the privilege of sharing the gospel with her.

VBS



Recently, one of the mission churches here hosted a VBS, By God's grace, I was able to support the feeding ministry. Your faithful support has allowed me to feed a total of 170 children in the past 2 months through the good news clubs and the VBS here! Most importantly, they got to hear a clear presentation of the gospel. Praise the Lord!

Thank you all for your continued prayers and support. Your faithfulness makes it possible for me to continue serving here in the Philippines.

Working for His Word,

Faith Duke