



AMBER YINGLING
GIVING HOPE TO THE HOPELESS
IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
April 2022

I AM HERE

I am here in the Philippines. I arrived on March 23rd with very minimum delays and frustrations. The only problem I had was I did not fill out the correct health pass to enter the Philippines, and it delayed me several minutes. However, the Lord directed me to a kind and helpful flight attendant. This is just one example of many that I could share of God’s provision and protection through my whole journey experience to the Philippines.

I am here in the Philippines learning. I have been in the Philippines for almost a month. April 23rd will mark exactly one full month since my arrival. I have been truly immersed into the culture and language. Since learning is my main goal right now, I ask the Lord every morning for wisdom, understanding, and discernment. My Heavenly Bible Baptist church family have gone out of their way to make me feel welcomed. They are so excited for me to learn. Though right now, I am not formally being taught; I am learning a lot by the grace of God.

Another part of my learning is observing different ministries in the church. I have been blessed to attend three of the children’s ministry outreaches in order see how things are done. While doing this, I am also getting culture and language experience. Little by little I am picking up words here and there. During the preaching of God’s Word and Bible studies, if I hear a word several times, I ask what the meaning is. I have memorized several everyday words to help me communicate. Especially words that have to do with eating, such as *busog* (full), *gutom* (hungry), and *masarap* (delicious). But the most important lesson thus far is to give myself grace through this process of learning and to take one day at a time.

I am here in the Philippines trying new things. God has really blessed me with friends who help me get out of my comfort zone and experience new things (mostly food). Since my arrival, I have tried several different foods. I have tried *bibingka* (rice cake baked over an open fire), one day old chicken (literally hatched and cooked), *esaw* (chicken intestine), *lomi* (noodles, various meats, an egg, and broth), and dried fish (head and all). I have tried so many other foods too, but these were the most interesting. Pictures are on the back of each of these foods.

I am here in the Philippines serving. I am thankful for the privilege to serve the Lord whenever and however He allows. The Lord has provided several opportunities for ministry already. My first Sunday I gave my testimony of God’s provision and how He helped me return to the Philippines. I also shared a little of what God has called me to do with the members of my Filipino church family. I was given the two different opportunities to bring a devotional to the ladies of the choir and then also during a prayer and fasting time for the ladies in my Sunday school group. I joined the church choir; it was required that all new choir members had to sing a special, so I did. Each of these opportunities were a blessing. Through these opportunities, God continues to stretch me and remove me from my comfort zone.

God says to me, “I AM HERE.” Every step of this amazing journey thus far, my Heavenly Father has been right here beside me. Homesickness and cultural discomfort came early for me, but by the grace and strength of God, I am overcoming each wave of it. Psalm 46:1 says, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” I have been able to witness this firsthand so many times already. From the basic everyday struggles to the direct and indirect attacks of Satan, my God has been right there with me in my time of trouble. In verse seven and eleven of Psalm 46, we read, “The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.” I am thankful my God is omnipresent and omnipotent. I am comforted daily knowing my Heavenly Father is always with me. In so many situations this past month, God has used someone or something to tell me, “I am here with you. Do not fear or worry.” One of the ways He showed me this was by giving favor in the eyes of the Philippine Government. I was granted a six month visa and was given help to extend it further.

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Thank you for your prayers and support!

“Looking for that blessed hope...” Titus 2:13

Fellowship Opportunities



Serving Opportunities



Opportunities to Try New Things

Esaw: the curly one



The Chick

Bibingka



Dried Fish

Lomi



God's Blessings



6 month visa approved!

My Teachers :)



My Filipino Family— The Ocampos

Prayer Request:

1. For continual adjustment to the culture, food, and weather here in the Philippines.
2. For daily wisdom, understanding, and discernment as I observe.
3. For God's hand of protection and comfort during Satan's attacks and homesickness.
4. That I will be able to get a longer 1-2 year visa before October.