



AMBER YINGLING
GIVING HOPE TO THE HOPELESS
IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
December 2023



Delight Thyself in the LORD

Psalm 37:4a, “Delight thyself also in the LORD...” What does it mean to delight thyself in the LORD? The Lord gave me the answer through a simple outline during my personal quiet time. First you must delight yourself in His Word by meditating on it, memorizing it, and mouthing it (or sharing it). Secondly, you must delight thyself to do His Will by understanding the opposition of your will, obeying Him, and knowing the objective of His Will—being conformed to the likeness of His Son, Jesus Christ.

In the last 21 months of being here in the Philippines the Lord has taught me so many things. He continues to show me who I am in the flesh and who He wants me to be in the likeness of His Son. When I arrived in the Philippines, I had a plan and expectation of what everything would be like. But as I continued to read and meditate on His Word and seek to do His will through the months, I found that my desires were changing to fit His will and calling for my life. The Lord answered my prayer for clear direction in what I believe the Lord is leading me to do. I was reading Psalm 40 and came to verse eight. It says, “I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.” This then lead me to look up the word *delight* and do a personal word study in which the Lord gave me the outline above. Many times, I am guilty of focusing only on the second half of Psalm 37:4. I have come to know that by delighting in the LORD through His Word and doing His will, my desires change to match His direction for my life. I believe my desire to give Hope to the Hopeless, especially the orphaned and abandoned children of the Philippines, is truly God’s perfect will for me. This desire continues to grow immensely with each child I see. My desire above all other desires is to love and care for these children that they may know the true love of the Savior. The only way to make this desire a reality is to start an orphanage.

Since my visit to a couple of orphanages this past June, I felt the Lord leading me to make a change for the last part of my first missionary term here in the Philippines. I have thought through every option to best start an orphanage, but I always came back to this thought: “I have no idea what I am doing.” After much prayer and wise counsel from several men and women of God, especially the Lord and my Pastor in the States, I have decided to follow the leading of the Lord that has been confirmed in my heart.

At the end of August, God made it clear to me that I needed to start researching and looking for an orphanage to do a one-year mentorship to get the necessary training to open an orphanage of my own. I reached out to a couple of ministries near to me here in Batangas, but I never received peace about any of them. God continued to remind me of the orphanages I had visited in June. This led me to take another trip to visit them again this past October.

When I returned from that trip, I knew God was leading me to move to the province of Pampanga, which is four hours north of Batangas. As I continued to pray about

SENDING CHURCH:

Faith Baptist Church
Pastor Mark Campbell
118 Colossians Court
Jefferson City, TN 37760
(865) 475-7608
faithbaptist.net

MISSION BOARD:



1136 Romans Road
Jefferson City, TN 37760
Phone: 865-262-0900
biomissions.org

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

328 Caroline Court
Talbott, TN 37877
(865) 803-8911
amber@hope4thehopeless.net

**Thank you for your
prayers and support!**



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which orphanage, God gave me confirmation that the Philippine Baptist Orphanage would be the best fit for my mentorship. The orphanage was started by Pastor Jeremy Ferguson and his wife, Kristine, in March of 2017. They have agreed to take on this role as my mentors. The orphanage currently houses over 115 children of all ages, with the youngest being four months old. Here, I will be able to get hands on experience with all the different facts of running an orphanage. I know that this time of training will be a great help when God allows me to open my own orphanage.

At the end of October as mentioned in my last prayer letter, I enrolled in an official local in-person Tagalog language school. I was accepted and began my studies in November. At the completion of my first ten sessions, I have an average grade of 90 percent in the class. I am thankful to see that my foundation of the Tagalog language is becoming more solid. Please pray that I will not just understand the Tagalog language on paper and through testing, but through application. I really need to have a good grasp on the language to be of any help to the orphanage and for my mentorship to be profitable. I know that I will continue to learn more through my time there as the children do not know much English. I will be forced to use what I know and continue learning.

The move to Pampanga will not be until May of 2024 due to my language course not ending until mid-April. The Lord has given me confirmation again and again through His provision. My landlord agreed to extend my current lease for the extra couple of months needed instead making me sign a whole new lease. As it gets closer to the time of my departure, I will begin to look for a small house or apartment for me to rent near to the orphanage. Please start praying now for God's direction and provision. I am praying for a fully furnished two-bedroom house or apartment that is in a safe environment. Please also pray that God will continue to confirm each step toward fulfilling this plan. After one year of this internship, I will be returning to the States for my first furlough. My furlough will help me prepare for the opening of an orphanage during my second missionary term here in the Philippines. The plan right now is to return for furlough in May 2025 and come back to the Philippines in March of 2026. I am praying about the location of the orphanage. Perhaps it will be in Batangas since there is no orphanage of like faith here.

Please pray for the remaining time I have here in Lipa City, Batangas. I pray that I will be a blessing and encouragement as they have been to me. I have informed Pastor Rusty and Mrs. Baby Lita Ocampo about my plans. Though they do not want me to leave, they understand. They have done everything possible to help me get to my goal of an orphanage. I will miss them and the Heavenly Bible Baptist Church members. They have become my family here and I have grown to love each of them. Without their encouragement, love, and support; I know that I would not have made it this far. I am praying that God will continue to bless and grow their ministry. I am thankful that I will be only four hours away so I can come visit occasionally as the Lord permits.

Please also pray for my Dad, John Yingling. He will be coming to visit me in January (10th– 29th). During his time here, we will be traveling to four different areas of the Philippines (Pampanga, Mindanao, Negros Oriental, and Batangas). Please pray for our safety, smooth traveling, and for God to make us a blessing to each person we meet along the way.

As I close this letter, I want to tell each of you how appreciative I am of your prayers for me, especially these last six months of decision making. Without your prayers, encouragement, love, and support I would not be as far along as I am now. Having a plan with my dream of having an orphanage in sight, I am overwhelmed with excitement and thankfulness to the Lord. Though I realize this move and mentorship will not be easy, I know that the Lord will be with me as He has been these past 21 months. I know He will give me the strength, wisdom, and understanding to learn what He has called me to do.

I pray, as this holiday season draws near, that we will not forget the reason for the season. I pray that we will focus on delighting ourselves in the Lord by delighting ourselves in His Word and by doing His will for our lives. **I pray you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May God bless you all!**

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