



# THE HURST FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO THE

# Philippines

## 2023 Update Letter: August-October

### Dear Pastors & Praying Friends,

As this year quickly passes by we want to thank you for your partnership and upholding us in prayer.

**School Time ...** MetroView Baptist Academy began the new school year on August 7, 2023, after a short summer break. Praise the Lord for the 65 students He provided. It has been exciting to see God bless and grow this ministry.

We are thankful for the many opportunities to share the Gospel throughout the school year with students and parents. At our parent/student orientation, Chris shared the Gospel, sowing the seed for each family to hear. Since then, we have seen students receive Christ as Savior as the Gospel is shared during Bible lessons. We have also seen some parents saved through home visits or the Gospel being shared as they wait for their children. Now they meet for Bible study. Pray that God will continue to add families to the church.



**Teachers ...** Maintaining teachers has definitely been a challenge, but we have seen God work in and through that process. Back in April we hired two teachers, but both have since left. One, just did not work out, and the other did not inform us about her obligation to the government, because of a scholarship. As we were approaching the end of the first quarter she was contacted and told to report in the public school. God has graciously provided a replacement. Please pray for faithful teachers.



**Transformed Students ...** We praise the Lord for every soul saved, but there are certain students that stand out. Glendale (left) received Christ and has been busy passing out tracts and even joining soul-winning. He has been a great witness to his family. His family periodically comes to church and his mother has been attending the Bible study shown in the picture above.



Nathaniel is another 4th grade student, a devout Catholic, who was saved. He passes out tracts, sharing his faith with family, friends and neighbors. He was a very introverted young man but God is giving him boldness.

**Intern ...** Cierra is from Colorado and was here in 2020. When the pandemic hit she had to abruptly leave before the lockdown. She contacted us earlier this year and wanted to return. She is with us for three months and has been a great help in many areas, especially in our school.

**Muit Family ...** Upon our arrival in the Philippines Marjorie and Mary Joy (left) were our first fruit that remained. Their two sisters (right) soon followed. Prior to their salvation the girls were all very involved in the Catholic church. We praise the Lord for their growth over the years and their many ministries in the church and school. Mary Joy was our first to go off to Bible college and has been teaching in our school since 2018. Marjorie has been teaching in the school since 2020. Both are active soul-winners and also very involved in the music ministry. Melissa also taught in the school for one year. Their father, Alejandro, gave testimony of being saved many years ago, but was far from the Lord. He received assurance of his salvation and has been faithfully attending Sunday morning services for the past two years. In September he followed the Lord in believers baptism. Please pray for their mom, who has yet to receive Christ.



**Short Furlough ...** We are currently in the US for a three month furlough visiting churches primarily in the West. We will spend Christmas with our children and Chris's parents, and will depart to the Philippines on December 31, 2023. It has been five years since we have been with family for the holidays. We look forward to a little rest and time with family, but also are excited to return to the field.

Tom and Jen Behman have been a great help in the ministry, as part of our team in Antipolo since September 2022. Next year they will depart to Mindoro to begin a new church plant. They were excited to gain some experience, so we decided that it would be a good time to take the opportunity and return to the US for a short visit.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support as well as the emails and cards that we receive. Your correspondence is always a great encouragement. We appreciate each of you!

### HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Christopher and Ivy Hurst

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### Praises

We praise the Lord for allowing us to serve Him in the Philippines. It truly is a privilege to be used of the Lord in His work.

We praise the Lord for all that He is accomplishing in the church, school and Bible Institute. We have seen many souls saved, new students added to the school and BI.

We praise the Lord for our amazing staff and teachers that make up the Metro View team. We appreciate each of them and their commitment to the Lord's work.

### Prayer Requests

- More souls to be saved, baptized and discipled
- 3 Teachers and an Administrator for our Academy
- More Bible Institute students
- Spiritual growth and ministry involvement of our people
- Public school ministry/ Teacher's Bible study
- Faith Promise Missions Commitment

