Thy mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds. Ps 36:5

Dear Pastors & Praying Friends,

The Pandemic continues, but praise the Lord for working in hearts and lives throughout this time. As Ivy and I go walking each morning, it is an encouragement to see two of our members sitting on their porch reading God's Word and praying. This has become a daily habit for them, morning and evening, that did not exist before the pandemic. Like so many, they were 'too busy' to give such time to the Lord, but now are so thankful for how the Lord is working in them. Many others have shared testimonies of God working in their lives because of the lockdown and challenges during these times. Praise the Lord for His mercy and faithfulness upon His children.

Lockdown Eased but Cases Rising... After two and a half months of lockdown, restrictions began to be eased in June, allowing adults to go out and for some to return to work. Transportation continues to be a challenge for those who do not own a car. Seniors and those under the age of twenty-one remain under quarantine. The number of cases continue to rise but the President does not intend to shut down the nation again. Local governments have curfews in place and are locking down certain businesses and residential areas based on positive cases. During the day streets are full of vehicles and people, with little regard for social distancing regulations.

Ministry Continues ... A few who live near the church came even during the lockdown, but most obviously could not. What a blessing to resume open services and to see church members returning. Many families continue to watch via live-stream since children are not to go out. Praise the Lord for technology. We are thankful that we have been able to conduct services and many additional activities through Live-Stream and Zoom. Praise the Lord for opportunities to share through social media over the past five months, but what a blessing to have in person visitors.

Praise the Lord for several recent visitors receiving Christ as Saviour and one following the Lord in baptism. This month we went back to face to face fellowships for our men, ladies and couples with social distancing. We continue reaching out to our young people through online resources. Please pray for wisdom with our children's ministries.

School Resumes in August ... President Duterte has declared "no vaccine, no face to face learning." That has left us and every other school seeking the best and most practical method for teaching through distance learning. Some small private schools have chosen to close and that idea was mentioned, but we prayed and continued forward. It looked as though our enrollment would be cut in half but God in His faithfulness has provided twenty one enrolled students. That is the same as last year and we are grateful as other ministries experience a significant drop. .

Prayer Requests ... Please Pray for wisdom as we continue working to reach others with the Gospel, and ministering to our members, since many residential areas are still locked down to non-residents. Pray for more enrollees for our academy and the challenges of this school year. Pray for us to somehow reach the public school children we have ministered to for the past four years. Pray for our Children's Church, Bible clubs and youth Basketball groups to be able to meet, and for us to gather the 'bus' children and young people.

We want to say thank you, most importantly for your prayers, as we also pray for you. We appreciate each of you! HURSTFAM4FILIPINOS@GMAIL.COM Thank you for your continued partnership, financially, prayerfully and for those who send cards.

Christopher & Ivy Hurst

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