

The Gormleys

Your Missionaries to the Philippines December 2019



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

It's the most wonderful time of the year. The weeks start just before Thanksgiving, flow through Christmas, and end with a big finish in the New Year, marking a time of introspection. As we express thankfulness for God's blessings, reflect on the trials and successes that shaped our lives, and envision what we hope to see for the next year, we strive for a proper balance of 'forgetting those things which are behind,' and 'Remember therefore from whence thou are fallen...', we look back to learn and gain wisdom while we forget what is done already in order to set these new goals.

2019 was simply a 'throw-back-decade' for the Gormleys. We moved our family out of a house we had worked and longed for, to then live in the guest quarters at the orphanage; quite similar to our many moves in the 1990's. We have embraced the life of parents of young children, again, with our now 11, 9, and 1 year old kids. We are back to juggling the needs of young children with a very busy ministry and work schedule. It is proving to be a bit more....exhausting, than we recall from our early 20's with young kids. Then, we made the final move to leave the church we pastored for 21 years to start a brand new church. As a result of all things being new and starting over, our budget was stretched to its limits and we are back to living on the tight, month to month budget we remember from our early years. We have a new home, new set of youngsters, new lifestyle and new ministries...and we are loving absolutely every minute of it! It has been fun and so surreal to see how differently we are doing things this time around. And yet, it all feels somehow familiar and somehow similar at the same time. We ask for your earnest and constant prayers for us as we continue along this exciting journey of life and ministry. Here are the highlights:

1. Hope Baptist Church: We were over joyed with 120 kids and 80 adults in our Christmas Celebration last week. We have a steady attendance of 20-30 adults and 50 children. January will bring the addition of Sunday School, more home Bible studies, regular offerings and a more formal worship service. Please pray for our girls and Bahay Sibol staff as they work together to organize the children's ministry. Pray as we begin earnest discipleship and training in January, looking to see those who have been saved (about 12 people so far this year) get baptized. Also, please pray for the needed finances to wrap up the finishing touches on the building as well as needed equipment. We need about \$10,000 to complete everything. We thank God for the sweet opportunity to pastor a new baby church.

2. Calvary Baptist Church, Apawan Village: We have been steadily working with this new church plant since April of 2018. We currently average 24 adults, have 8 candidates for baptism, and are looking to purchase property. Armand Alegada has been with us from the beginning, and will finish his last subject of Bible Institute this March. We look forward to installing him as pastor within the year. He, his wife, and daughter have been diligently working to see this work established and souls saved. Please pray for this new church and the many needs to be met.

3. The Gormley kids: Courtney and Kassie are graduating from college in May, Chloe from high school, and Kayla is steadily working on her degree while devoting much time to Bahay Sibol. Please pray as they earnestly seek to follow God's perfect will. Carlo, Luis and Joy are in need of much paperwork to accomplish their adoptions; some may need to be done Stateside. Pray for guidance, kindness of government offices, and finances needed. On a personal note, please pray that the director's residence of Bahay Sibol would be finished this year. We have a house that needs to be sold, and a bit of our savings(that was used for Bahay Sibol) to be replaced. Those two things will provide all of the finances needed for the house. Please pray that we can move our family into our own home soon.

4. Bahay Sibol: Our hearts are full and overflowing on a daily basis because of this ministry. Yes, the work is tremendous, and can be exhausting, emotionally and physically. Still, seeing the kids' lives change so drastically for the good is a source of daily revival in our hearts. There are no big plans for Bahay Sibol this year aside from strengthening what we now have and giving everything a firm foundation. Please pray for 2 major needs: 1. We want to see at least 10 adoptions processed next year and 2. We need to increase the monthly donations by at least \$3000 (We currently only have about \$1500 coming in). Our goal is to have a regular monthly income of \$4500. This is the amount needed to comfortably cover all living, administrative, educational, and medical needs of the children's home.

Thank you so much for your continuous, sacrificial love and support of our family and ministries. We could never repay or even begin to express how grateful we are to each and every one of you for your love and encouragement. May we all strive together with Him for great things in 2020!

Sincerely,

The Gormleys