

## PHILIPPINES

Dear Prayer Partners,

God's grace is always sufficient! By the grace of God, the pioneering work here in Calbayog Samar continues despite the ups and downs in the ministry. These past months, we have encountered a lot of problems—some personal, but most church-related. However, we saw the hands of God moving in our midst. It is indeed an opportunity for us to entrust all our cares to Him.

We thank the Lord for the development of this small fellowship. Right now we have around 16 families—about 30-40 in attendance every Sunday. I praise the Lord for an assistant pastor sent by the denomination to help with this work. With our combined efforts, we are able to focus more on follow-up visits. We are also set to open another Bible study in a neighboring barrio. Please pray for the Lord's protection and that He will usher more souls to His kingdom through our work in this new area.

Many residents of barangay Tambo are willing to attend Bible study. There are 20-25 people at every meeting. One challenge we face is that the military is investigating various residences that have gatherings. The farmers can only attend at a certain time in the evening, and they are the ones we are trying to reach with the gospel. Please pray that we can arrange a time when all the farmers can come, yet not put them or the ministry team in jeopardy because of the insurgency problem. Pray that the Lord will protect us. We want to continue this study because the people certainly long for the Word. They have also realized that amidst the chaos all around them, God is in control and it is He who can intervene on behalf of His people.

God recently gave us an open door to evangelize a large group of people. A man, Mr. Bolongoy, died unexpectedly one day after we had admonished him for calling in the quack doctor (tambalan) to heal him. Mr. Bolongoy had been active in Bible studies and in other church activities, yet he sought healing from someone other than Jesus Christ. When we heard of his passing, we (church leaders, another pastor and I) went to Mr. Bolongoy's home where many people had assembled, including spiritists and priests. There we preached the gospel of Jesus Christ. Many people professed belief in Christ, so we distributed 200 New Testament Bibles and ministered to them using God's word until morning. Praise the Lord that those who received Jesus that night are now attending cell group meetings. Help us pray that the Lord of the harvest will send more workers in the fields. Thank you for your partnership.

With gratitude,

Pastor Elizer Alinio



**ELIZER ALINIO**  
serving in **CALBAYOG, SAMAR**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- *Pray for peace in the area and protection for the saints*
- *Pray that the congregation will continue to grow in the Lord*
- *Pray for the follow-up work with the new believers; pray for mature, committed Christians to serve*
- *Pray for Mr. Bolongoy's family, that the church would be able to minister to them during this time*
- *Pray for godly wisdom, protection and encouragement for Pastor Alinio*

'Let them give glory to the Lord—  
declare His praise in the islands.'

