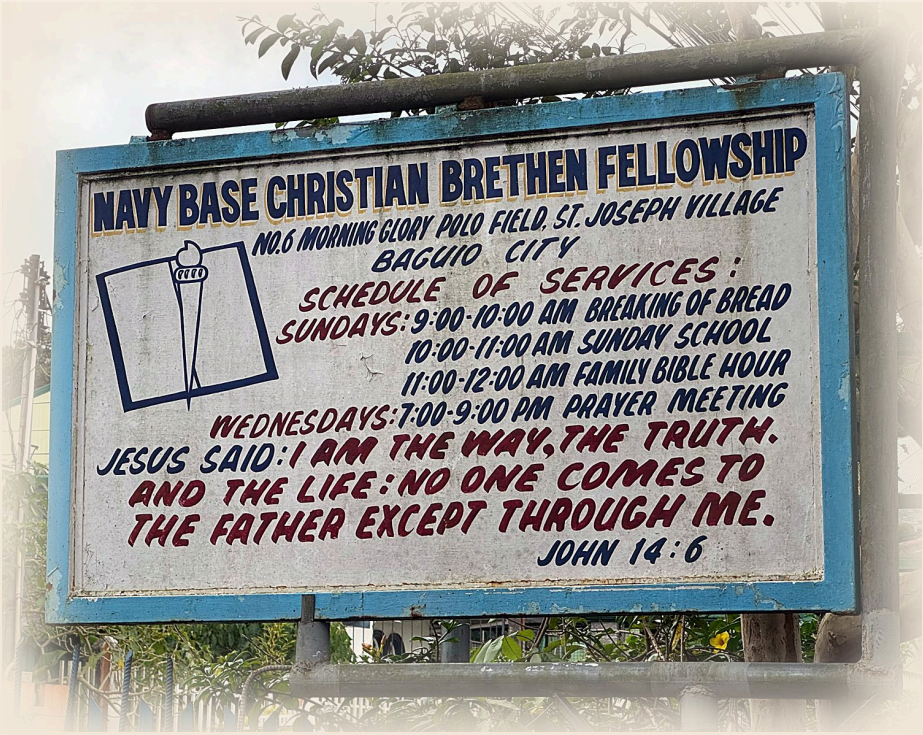
LORD, GIVE US THIS MOUNTAIN

Faithful Men

How the gospel was passed on in Baguio City, and how we can pass it on



Kevin Engle
A message given at the Christian Brethren Assembly
Navy Base, Baguio City, Philippines · November 1, 2026

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> *And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*
>
> **2 TIMOTHY 2:2**

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Scripture quotations are from the King James Version (public domain).

An audio recording of this message will be available on the Lord, Give Us This Mountain website.

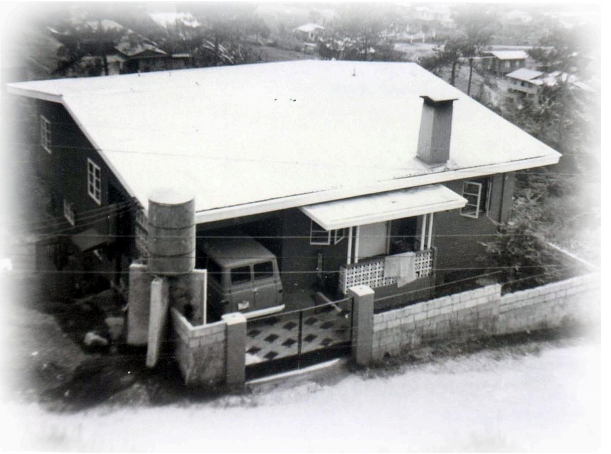
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1 · Coming Home to Navy Base

On Sunday morning, November 1, 2026, I stood up to speak at the Christian Brethren Assembly at Navy Base in Baguio City. It was my first time back with this church since 1993.

This church is family to me. It began in 1968 in our own home at 55 Malvar Street on Aurora Hill, where my father and mother, Kenneth Ercil Engle and Mary Lou Engle, opened their living room to anyone who wanted to study the Bible. Fred Balanag chaired the work in those early years. When the living room got too small, the believers rented the old guardhouse at Navy Base and renamed it the "Godhouse." The building at St. Joseph Village was started in 1975.



The Engle home at 55 Malvar, Aurora Hill, Baguio City, where the church began in 1968



The church today at No. 6 Morning Glory, Polo Field, St. Joseph Village, Baguio City

Pastor Bong and Pastor Winnie invited me to share. I came by myself, a few days before my sister Karen joins me in Manila. Only about two weeks earlier, on October 20, the Lord had taken Fred Balanag home. I had hoped to be in Baguio for his memorial but couldn't get up the mountain in time. So this Sunday meant a great deal to me.

What follows is the message I gave that morning, tidied up so it reads well. At the end I've added the closing verses I ran out of time to share.

— Kevin Engle

2 · The Message: Faithful Men

Good morning! My name is Kevin Engle, and I'm Filipino. I was born in San Juan, Rizal. I know Tagalog. I can understand more than I can speak, but I can sing the national anthem in Tagalog with no American accent!

I'm just happy to be here with you today. I'll share a few things with you, and then we'll thank the Lord for all He has done for us.

Our verse this morning is 2 Timothy chapter 2, verse 2:

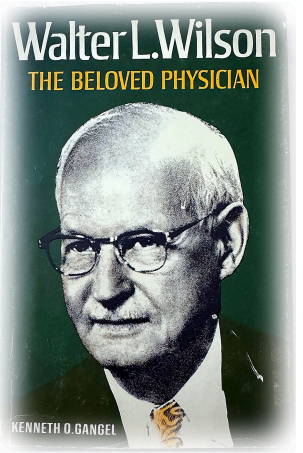
> *And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*
> 2 TIMOTHY 2:2

Paul passed the truth on to Timothy. Timothy passed it on to faithful men. Those faithful men taught others also. That is how the gospel came to Baguio City, and that is how it will reach the next generation.

3 · A Boy, a Radio and a Car Battery

I grew up in a home that revered the Word of God. My parents cared deeply about proclaiming the gospel.

It started with my father when he was just a boy, back in Abilene, Kansas. The family had a radio hooked up to the battery of the car. Over that radio my father heard the gospel, preached by Dr. Walter L. Wilson from Kansas City. When he was nine years old, he accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior.



Dad's copy of Walter L. Wilson: The Beloved Physician. Dr. Wilson was the radio preacher Dad heard as a boy.

4 · From Moody to Corregidor

Some of you here knew my father and remember him. In time he went to Moody Bible Institute in Chicago. At first he didn't plan to come to the Philippines at all. He wanted to be a missionary to China. At Moody, a Chinese brother, Harry Liu, helped him develop a real burden for China.

Then came World War II. My father was a tail gunner on a B-24 bomber, and in 1944 he came to the Philippines. As he flew over Corregidor, he prayed that one day the Lord would let him plant a church in the Philippines.



Dad as a sergeant in the Army Air Forces, World War II

When he got off the airplane, someone took one look at him (my father was a little shorter than me) and said, "You're Filipino size!" He fell in love with the country. He fell in love with the people. He went back to the United States, finished Bible college, and came back to the Philippines as a missionary in 1951.



Dad on the Manila pier in 1951, twenty-six years old, minutes after arriving as a missionary

5 · From Death into Life

My father had one great desire: to see people pass from death into life. None of us knows how long we have.

He worked in San Juan, Rizal, and in Binangonan. I was just there a few days ago, and there's a healthy, growing church there.

We don't want to see anyone go into eternity without Christ. When I think about what happens the moment after you die, it sends chills up and down my spine. The Scriptures are very, very clear about what happens to those who don't know the Lord. That was my father's whole objective. He worked with different local churches, sharing the gospel, and over many years the Lord brought him up the mountain to Baguio City.



Ken and Mary Lou Engle

6 · Evelyn's Perfect Score

In Baguio my parents met a Pakistani lady named Evelyn Balanag. Evelyn used to walk past our house on Malvar Street, on Aurora Hill, on her way to the market. (I was at our old street just yesterday, and I couldn't even find the house anymore. There are so many houses now!)

One day my mother asked her, "Would you like to take a Bible study course?" It was a correspondence course called *What the Bible Teaches*. Evelyn said yes.



Evelyn Balanag

She took the first course, then the second, the third and the fourth. She took all the courses, and she got a perfect score, one hundred percent, on every one.

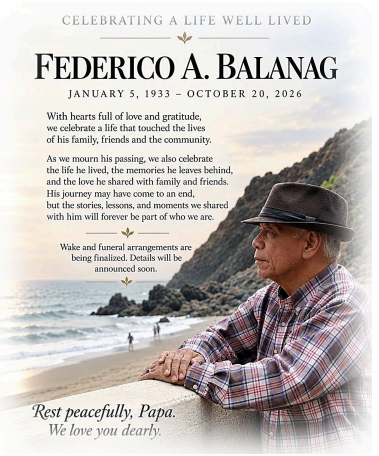
But she still wasn't saved. She understood the gospel in her head, but she had never received Jesus Christ as her Savior.

Then Evelyn became very sick, and she almost died. Her husband stood at the foot of her hospital bed, crying, because he thought he was going to lose her. That was Fred

Balanag. Many of you knew him. He went to be with the Lord just about two weeks ago.

As Evelyn lay there, slipping toward unconsciousness, she realized that if she died that day, she was not going to heaven. All those lessons had done their work. She knew from the Bible that she would be separated from God forever. And there, on what she thought was her deathbed, she accepted Christ into her heart.

Everyone had been praying for her to understand. God answered. Later her husband, Fred, understood the gospel too and received Christ.



Fred Balanag, 1933–2026: "Absent from the body, present with the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:8)

7 · The Living Room on Malvar Street

Fred and Evelyn had a lot of friends: at PMA, at Baguio Tech where Fred was a professor, and even in the political world. They began inviting them to our house to study the Bible and hear the gospel. Before we knew it, the whole living room was full of people.

I was telling Sandra Jaleco this morning that I can still hear their voices as they shared the gospel, studied the Bible and came to understand the Scriptures. More people got saved, and that was the beginning of the church that has become this fellowship here today.



A singspiration at 55 Malvar. Evelyn is in the center.



One of the earliest Bible studies, 55 Malvar, 1968. Mary Lou is standing. Evelyn, in the checkered sweater, sits with Mrs. Jaleco, and Mrs. Badilla is on her other side.

Think about the chain. A man on the radio led a nine-year-old boy in Kansas to see he needed to be saved. That boy grew up and brought others to Christ. Those people brought others to Christ, step after step, generation after generation. And even to this day, more people will come to Christ as a direct result of what those faithful men and women did. That's 2 Timothy 2:2 in real life.

8 · "I Have My God"

On the airplane coming over, I sat next to a lady, and I was telling her a little about my wife. My wife, Cheryl, went to heaven in January. I know where she is. I know she knew the Lord. Brother Robert Badilla, back there, lost his wife around the same time.

The lady beside me was coming to the Philippines to bury her father. He had passed away in the United States, and they had shipped him home. And she said to me, "I have my God, and you have your God."

That was the end of the conversation. I didn't push it any further. But one of those gods is God with a capital G, and the other is a god with a small g.

The Scriptures are very clear about the difference between the one true God and the many gods. The one true God is the Creator of the universe, the One who sent His Son to die on the cross for us. He will not share His glory with any rival. Read through the Scriptures, read through history, and you'll find all kinds of gods. Even here in Benguet, the Cordillera and Mountain Province, people

once worshipped little carved wooden figures. But those gods cannot save you. Only the God of the universe sent His Son to die on the cross for us.

It was very sad to hear her say that. I pray that one day she will realize she can be with the Creator of the universe forever, with the Savior of her soul. And if she does, it will be because faithful men and women passed the gospel on to others.

9 · Now It's Your Turn

Many of you here are very young. You're the ones who will carry the gospel to your generation and to the next, because we won't be here forever. I've got my cane! We have only a limited time on earth. But God has given us the gift of the gospel, and we can be faithful with it.

I consider it an honor to have been part of that family, and to have seen what God did here. I think of the next generation, too. I think of Robert Badilla and the other Badillas. I think of all the Jalecos. I think of Boy Jaleco, who went to heaven many years ago.



The three elders, 1974: Jaleco, Balanag and Badilla

Most of the men in that first group are in heaven now. What a wonderful thing to know exactly where they are! They stood up on the Lord's Day and shared and worshipped. They shared Christ with the people in their workplaces. And they will be with the Lord forever. What a wonderful thing that is!



Kevin with the believers at Navy Base, November 1, 2026

10 · A New Way to Pass It On

I'm hoping to do some of the same things my dad did, just in a little different way. Each of you should have received a little card today from Brother Bong. I brought a big stack, so if you didn't get one, raise your hand, or come see me afterward.

For many years I've been building a website and developing ministry on it. When you visit it, you'll find it in Tagalog and Ilocano, with Cebuano coming. Just in the last few weeks I learned something. I put something on the site in Tagalog, and someone told me, "That's deep Tagalog!" I didn't know there was more than one kind of Tagalog. I was born near Manila, and I lived most of my early life in the Philippines! Then I found out there's Bulacan Tagalog, there's Taglish, and I don't know how many others. I'm not fluent, so I use a little AI to help with the translating, and I told it: we want warm, conversational, everyday Tagalog.

The website now holds a great deal of material. On the day I spoke, it had:

- 718 books
- 347 authors
- 49 topics
- 8,581 chapters
- 103,798 printed pages
- 30.3 million words
- 134,579 Bible verses linked
- 722 PDFs to share, email or print

I retired in August, right after my 69th birthday. I thought about working a little longer, but I decided to retire. For however long God gives me, my retirement will be spent sharing the Word of God on the web and in people's hands. The technology available now is amazing.

That's how I came across this little device, the Messenger. It was developed by In Touch Ministries in Atlanta, Georgia, in the United States. My goal is to get a million of them out across the Philippines, and I need all of you to help me. We'll start by getting ten out, then a hundred, then a thousand. I already have people in the lowlands who have told me they'll help.



The Messenger audio Bible

Here's what it does:

- The entire Bible in audio, in both English and Tagalog. You can switch back and forth while you listen. (It's helping me brush up on my Tagalog!)
- 60 gospel messages by Pastor Charles Stanley of In Touch Ministries.
- A built-in light, for when there's a brownout.
- A solar charger, so you can charge it in the sun, or from a computer.
- An AM radio, so people can stay informed during a typhoon or a political crisis, completely independent of electricity.

I've been here only a couple of weeks this trip, and I'm not aware of anyone distributing these in the Philippines yet. I've been trying to find out. They're already going out in India.

I want to give them away at no charge, with gifts from people in the United States who want to see this done. But I'm not just going to hand them out. If we did, they'd end up in a drawer and never be used. To receive one, a person either memorizes sixty Bible verses, or takes the same correspondence course Evelyn Balanag took. Either way, they're putting the Word of God into their mind and into their heart. Then we give them a Messenger.

Each one costs thirty-nine U.S. dollars to produce, so we'll need donations to cover them. While the gospel came down to us through faithful men, God has also given us methods today that are very effective, and I believe this will be very, very effective in the Philippines.

If you visit the website on the card Brother Bong gave you, keepm.org, you'll find all the information about this program and what we're doing. Most of all, I'd appreciate your prayers, that we can distribute many of these all over the Philippines. I'm looking forward to coming back in January. We're going to get a lot of these out. We're still figuring things out, but I very much appreciate your prayers.

11 · Exceeding Abundantly

I ran out of time that morning before I could share the verse I wanted to close with, so let me give it to you here.

> *Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*
>
> EPHESIANS 3:20–21

Think about that young tail gunner looking down at Corregidor in 1944, praying that God would let him plant a church in the Philippines. He asked for one church. He couldn't have imagined Evelyn's perfect score, or the morning she met the Lord in that hospital bed. He couldn't have imagined a living room on Malvar Street so full there was nowhere left to sit, or a guardhouse turned into a Godhouse. And he couldn't have imagined that fifty-eight years later his son would stand in that same church, before the children and grandchildren of those first believers.

That's what "exceeding abundantly" means. God did far more than my father asked or thought. Notice where Paul says that glory goes: "in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages." Every generation that stands up on the Lord's Day and passes the truth on brings God glory.



The opening of the church building at St. Joseph Village, Baguio City

And God isn't finished.

> *Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.*
>
> **PHILIPPIANS 1:6**

Paul wrote that to a church he loved, a church that began when a few people believed. God began a good work in a living room on Malvar Street in 1968, and He will finish it. If you belong to Christ, He began a good work in you, too, and He will perform it, right up to the day of Jesus Christ. Our part isn't to finish the work. Our part is to be faithful.

So here is my encouragement to you. Take what you have heard, and commit it to faithful men and women who will be able to teach others also. Open your Bible every day. Learn the verses. Tell your classmates, your coworkers

and your neighbors. Pray for the Messenger program, and help us put the Word of God into hands and hearts all over these islands.

The faithful men and women who started this church are with the Lord now. The chain has come down to you. Don't let it stop with you. God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, and He who began a good work in you will finish it.

Thank you for your time and your attention. It's an honor to be here.

12 · Closing Prayer

Our Father, we thank You for the opportunity to know You, and to share the gospel You have given us, using methods that were never available before. Thank You for letting us see people come from darkness into light. We don't want to see anyone go into a lost eternity, not even one.

We pray that this Messenger program will go forward, and that many, many thousands of these will be distributed. Strengthen the churches, and let the gospel be proclaimed.

Bless the Christian Brethren Assembly here. Help them to be a witness in their schools, in their workplaces and everywhere in Baguio City, in Benguet and in all the Mountain Province, so that people will hear the gospel, receive You into their hearts and pass from death into life. We will give You all the thanks and all the glory. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.



The Christian Brethren Assembly at Navy Base, Baguio City, right after the message on November 1, 2026

About This Message

Kevin Engle was born in San Juan, Rizal, the son of missionaries Kenneth Ercil and Mary Lou Engle. He grew up in the Philippines, spent many years in Bible teaching and ministry, and now gives his time to missions, research and writing through KEE Philippine Missions.

This message is part of *Lord, Give Us This Mountain*, the story of how the gospel came to the mountains of the Philippines through Ken and Mary Lou Engle and the faithful men and women who followed. Read the whole story, hear the audio of this message, and learn about the Messenger program at:

lordgiveusthismountain.netlify.app

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