

Year 2019



KBCF **SCROLL**

The Epistle of Kamuning Bible Christian Fellowship



FRUITFUL

Nourished to Flourish

JOHN 15:16

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you."

A letter from the Brions

Lulu and I are thankful for the opportunity given us to minister at KBCF for six months as pulpit pastor and coach. We praise the Lord for we have experienced His leadership and guidance from the first to the last day of our ministry engagements here.

Allow me to quote the very words from the letter of the Church Council addressed to the Missions Committee of San Diego Christian Fellowship to describe our ministry here which read...

“We at Kamuning Bible Christian Fellowship extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Missions Committee of San Diego Christian Fellowship for allowing Pastor Ephraim Brion to be our Interim Pulpit Pastor and mentor on Emotionally Healthy Spirituality and Leadership, among others, from May 14 to November 12 of this year. Pastor Ephraim, together with his wife Lulu, were used by the Lord to equip the church leaders under the basic premise that our “doing for God is sustained by our being with God.”

The Brions’ brief but exemplary engagement with KBCF is a concrete manifestation of God’s grace and mercy to us. With their loving guidance and mentorship, the church was enabled to do a SWOT analysis, restate its mission and vision statements, reorganize its Table of Organization, finalize the discipleship track of its members, and validate the SHAPE of its leaders. As a result, the leaders of the church are greatly encouraged to grow deeper in their relationship with God, continue seeking God’s will for KBCF in all humility, and move on towards the direction that God wants us to pursue at this critical time in our church’s history. We thank our Lord for you whom He used as the channel of this great blessing.”

Furthermore, let me borrow also the words of Elder Mon Dela Torre, current Church Council chairman, in his message to me through the CC Viber group: *“Thank You Pastor Ep for all your support, challenge, mentoring and leading by example. You have been used by God to open our eyes to clearly see our shortcomings, sharpen our ears to at-*



Ptr. Ephraim Brion, together with his wife Lulu, served in KBCF for six months. On loan from San Diego Christian Fellowship, Ptr. Ep committed to be the pulpit pastor, as well as mentor to the young pastors during this period.



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tentively listen to His voice and check our hearts if they are aligned to the Lord's will. 'It is not the doing but the being with God' advice that will always remind us of the Church Journey inspired by your service and commitment. May the Lord bless you a thousand-fold and continue to use your life for His glory. Your example will leave an indelible imprint in the life of all KBCFers."

What made our ministry engagement more edifying was the opportunity to introduce the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality discipleship study to more members and leaders of the church (in 2018 we had four months of EHS studies with the church's young adults followed by another 4 months with church leaders.) Lulu led the church staff in the 4-month EHS studies every Tuesday morning and followed it with another 2-month EH Church studies with a ladies cell group. We also led the Church Council members and other leaders in a 2-month Emotionally Healthy Leader study. It is gratifying that

the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality has been included in the KBCFers Spiritual Journey.

We praise the Lord for we have seen how the leaders and members are becoming to be "maturing, ministering, multiplying" disciples of Jesus Christ. Truly, FAST (*Faithful, Available, Submissive, Teachable*) leaders and members are great assets/blessings of KBCF. We are also confident that the re-stated Mission and Vision statements would continue to provide clear direction to the church.

**"TO GOD BE THE GLORY,
GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!"**

In Christ's Service,
Ep & Lulu Brion



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Dawn Watch and Wednesday Prayer Meetings

By Cesar Montano

The Need for Corporate Prayer Movement

The early church gave us the example of praying as a group of believers. *Acts 2: 42* They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, the breaking of bread and to prayer.

How Do We Raise Believers Who Will Pray?

Dixon E. Hoste, the second Gen. Director of the China Inland Mission after Hudson Taylor, wrote: "We should teach young believers how to pray & how to intercede, and we should work at developing this in them, In all else that we want to teach them, this can be overlooked, though it needs to have first place. But unless we ourselves are praying people, & truly alive to God in this holy warfare, we will never influence others to be. I am quite sure that the more we pray, the more we want to pray..."

How Do We Teach Others How to Pray and How Do We Develop a Lifestyle of Prayer Among Us?

Through the church's corporate prayer movements like the Dawn Watch and Wednesday prayer meetings, praying by groups during worship service, praying during meetings like cell group meetings, family devotions, we can put into practice the recommendation of Dixon Hoste: "We should teach young believers how to pray & how to intercede, and we should work at developing this in them, ..."

Those who regularly attend the Dawn Prayer or Wednesday prayer meetings call themselves wounded prayer warriors, because despite their personal burdens, they continue to wrestle in prayer for others.

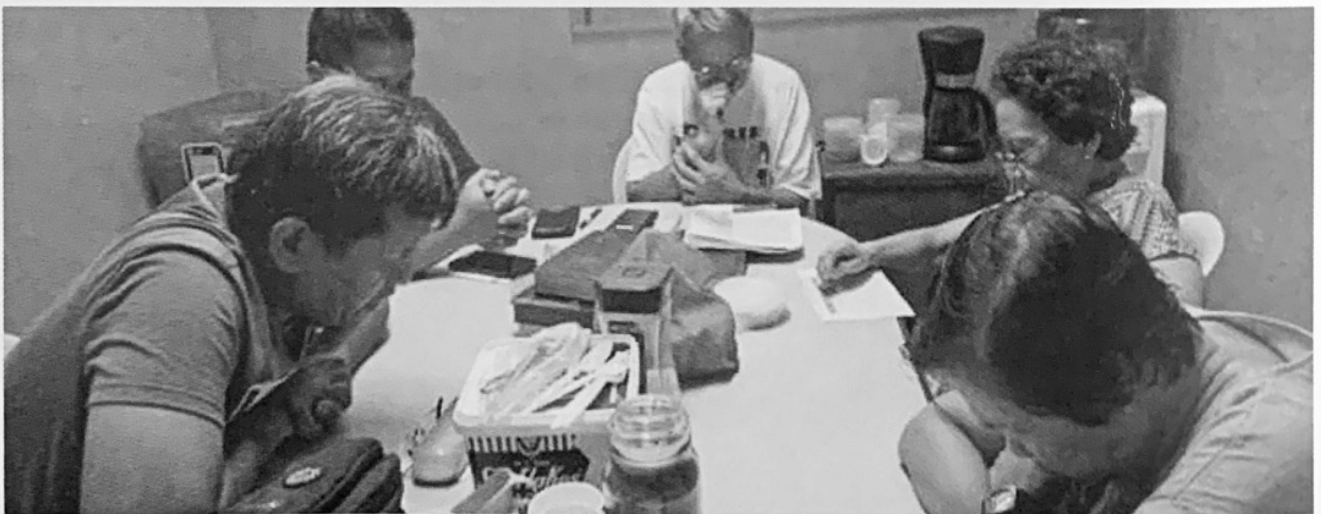
A Call to Expand the Corporate Prayer Activities in KBCF

The following are excerpts from the book *Prayer is Invading the Impossible* by Pastor Jack Hayford:

... Perhaps the high point of Jesus' teaching ministry came when His disciples asked Him, "Lord, teach us to pray." In response, Jesus taught them nothing of mysticism, nothing of religious pretense, nothing of meditation, nothing of bizarre physical contortions, nor anything of memorized incantations attended by clouds of incense. He did teach them something about a matter of violence. Prayer was a matter of assault, of binding, of warfare, of invasion. On earthside, He taught, things may appear impossible, yet, from the heavenside of things, there is a violence that can explode the impossible. But it needs troops for the invasion.

Each believer is a member of an occupational force which has one principal purpose: to enforce the victory of Calvary. It is in this context that prayer begins to take shape. It becomes more than a single-dimensional "asking." It becomes a multifaceted weapon through supplication, intercession, praise, thanksgiving, travail, petition, and worship. Each of these means of prayer is expedited by the understanding believer's employment of the many means to prayer, like agreeing, praying with understanding, singing, praying with the spirit, laying on of hands and bearing one another's burdens.

PLEASE JOIN ANY OF OUR PRAYER MOVEMENTS AND ACTIVATE FAMILY PRAYER TIMES.





Order Of Activities During Dawn Watch/Wednesday Prayer Meetings

A. Preparation

1. Start by worshiping God with songs of praise and worship, songs inviting His presence.
2. Next, worship God with spoken words of praise, for who He is, His creation, His word.
3. Worship God in complete silence, emptying the mind of any concern, directing the mind to focus on our personal love relationship w/ the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
4. Continue in silence asking the Holy Spirit to search our hearts, then confess our sins silently.
5. Next, silently read the assigned verses (from either the Gospels, Epistles, Psalms or Proverbs). Then each pick a verse of choice and take turns saying a personal prayer based on the verse picked.
6. Pause for a while to let the Holy Spirit impress upon our hearts matters that we need to pray for.

B. Prayer

1. Pray first for others: this is Intercession. Pray for the community, the Philippines; evangelism, missions—unreached people groups and persecuted believers worldwide, making key claims—for God to grant laborers, to open doors, to grant fruit and to provide resources. We pray for people groups, nations where the Gospel needs to be proclaimed and we pray for believers in countries where they suffer persecution because of their faith in Jesus Christ. We use information from Joshua Project, Open Doors, WEA and other sites.
2. Pray for personal concerns: this is Petition. Pray for the prayer requests written and submitted during each worship service. Pray for the requests sent to KBCF prayer hotline number.

C. Fellowship

1. Pray for the food that we will share.
2. Eat while taking turns expressing individual thanksgiving, then burdens. Share our thanksgiving prayer. Then pray for each other's burdens. Observe the rule that personal matters that one came to know through the written prayer requests, from the prayer hotline, and from what was said during the prayer meeting shall be dealt with strictest confidentiality—must not be discussed elsewhere.

D. Closing

1. Close with a final prayer to bless the rest of the day of each of the prayer warriors.

Little Sparks Ignite the Flame

By Karyl Loreto

KBCF Sunday School observed this year's Missions Month via a Missions Tour where the children had a taste of how things are in some countries where the Gospel has not been preached. The Missions Tour was done on the 27th of October, where the countries Egypt, Iraq, and Syria were featured.

Different rooms were fixed up according to the country represented so the children may appreciate and be more immersed in the culture. The children went on tour by visiting each room where their teachers get to explain each country's brief history, background and demographics, their current situation, and the things that need to be prayed for in these places. Before

the children left each room, the whole group prayed for the country and its people, that they may hear the Gospel and get to know God more.

At the end of the day, the children had fun in exploring new cultures and at the same time became aware of the current situations in some countries where few people know God. Furthermore, it was also a blessing that this activity had motivated some children to someday go to these countries and share the Word of God. As of now, we continue to pray for our brothers and sisters who are still unreached by the Gospel, that God may shine His light upon them.



Blessings Overflow for KOPF

By Sierry Tendero

KBCF Operation Paglingap Foundation (KOPF) was established in June, 26 years ago. Its vision is to establish spiritually strong and economically reliant Christians among the less privileged who are making a difference in their families and communities, by providing them spiritual, emotional, physical, social, educational and economic development programs and services, transforming them into effective agents of change.

The scholarship assistance for poor students is its banner program. We started with 12 elementary students. To date we have about 60 elementary, high school and college scholars from our ten daughter churches. We also expand to different programs as the need arises.

We have so many things to thank God for this year. The Lord sustained and raised people to give towards its different projects. Last July, The Giving Hands Foundation from Germany gave more than \$11,000.00 towards the scholarship assistance to 105 pre-school and elementary students at KBCF Kinder Care Christian School. About 75% of our 60 scholars have been adopted and supported by friends and partners. We have increased collection in our savings cooperative and sales in the cooperative store.

KOPF was recognized by the Certification Registration Organization as partner NGO of the Quezon City Local Government. Last December 6, KOPF was chosen as the representative to the Program Implementation Sub-Committee on Child Labor of the Quezon City Council for the Protection of Children (QCCP) headed by Honorable Mayor Ma. Josefina Belmonte. We also partner with the Department of Social Work and Development (DSWD). They sponsored 3 homeless individuals for cash for work through the Department of Labor and



Employment (DOLE). The Educational Assistance Program of Quezon City partners with us to allow some of our scholars to work during summer for extra income for their school fees. We are engaged in our community through our partnership with Barangay Sacred Heart headed by Kapitana Camille Malig. They provided us medical kit and medicines.

We have ongoing Bible Studies with the parents of Kinder Care students, children, and youth in the neighborhood on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Bible study with the Paglingap mothers on Saturdays is also being done. We continue the recycling of trash that generates income for our volunteers and funds for the KBCF building project.

Christmas celebration of the families of our scholars, staff, and volunteers became very enjoyable because we raised more than P150,000.00 from donations of friends, partners and KBCFers who allowed themselves to be channels of God's blessings. We prepared 80 Christmas baskets full of groceries for noche buena and other things they could use daily.

I am blessed to work with board members, headed by Chairman Ramon San Pascual, who are committed and passionate in serving the financially challenged members of our community.

The Psalmist asked, *"From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth."* Psalm 121:1-2. I give thanks to Him for He is good, His love endures forever." Psalm 118:1. Everything we enjoy now are gifts from the Lord -- God's provision for KOPF in unexpected ways. He showed us that He is faithful. *"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows."* James 1:17



Appreciating God's Workers

By Ruth Dave

It was a cloudy Saturday morning when KBCF volunteers came one after the other to attend the 2nd Workers' Appreciation Luncheon. Conceived by the late Ptr. Aris, this gathering aims to give a treat to volunteer workers as a "thank you" for their untiring service.

The program included a scrumptious lunch, a bunch of fun games, raffle prizes, special awards, plus an exhortation from Ptr. Renz, for the workers to continue on in their service. The ushers rendered a special dance number. Each worker also received a small token of appreciation



Special awards were given to the following:

Tess, Pater, and Rinoah Luna - 3G Award (3 generations of servants)

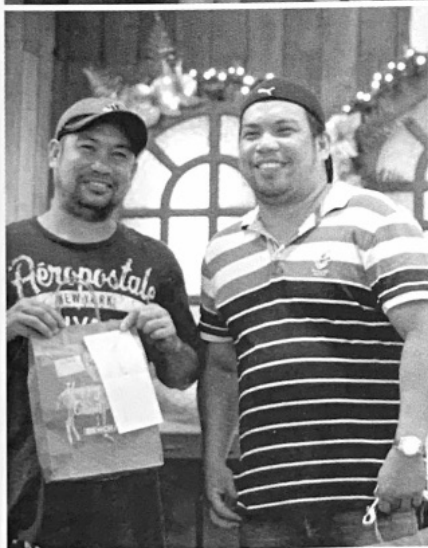
Cynthia Morato – Usher of the Year

Dandy and Ruben Jambongana - Kuyas of the Year

Orange and Yellow Salvador, Tala Pagdanganan, Ice Dela Torre, and Max Ricote were also given the Young Evangelists award. Their parents/grandparents received their awards for them.

The grand prize for the raffle, a fully automatic washing machine, was won by Tess Tagunicar, who said she has never won anything until then.

It was such a fun-filled day that everyone left feeling like a winner.



Facing Challenges Ahead

By Sierry Tendo

KBCF Kinder Care has been operating since 1990, serving our community by providing quality and affordable Christian pre-school education. It was given a full recognition by the Department of Education in 1993. In 2015, we expanded by offering Grade 1 due to the demands of some parents. Every year we added a grade level until Grade IV this year. Our application for the Elementary permit was denied due to technical problems regarding the occupancy permit of the building we are now using, which anyway will be demolished soon because of the KBCF four-storey building project.

The leadership of the church gave their permission for us to use a portion of the parsonage temporarily while the construction is going on, on condition that we can secure the occupancy permit for that. If the occupancy permit is not issued before the school year begins, we cannot use the parsonage. We need to find a place around the area to house the school, which is also a challenge.

Since our application for the permit for the elementary was denied, we cannot offer elementary classes next



school year. We can only operate as a pre-school. This will have serious implications on the financial stability of the school to sustain its operation and other expenses.

We wait on the Lord, for what HE is going to do. Though the situation seems to be impossible, we continue to trust God. We still believe in miracles to happen. I was reminded of Psalm 126:3: *“The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy.”* What a great verse to claim and take to heart as I remember what He has done in and through the school for almost three decades. The difficulties we are experiencing now cannot change the truth that come what may, our Lord has already shown us His unfathomable love, grace and mercy. We have experienced difficult circumstances in the past, we discovered God’s faithful-

ness. Keeping that in mind helps us greatly to face rough waters ahead of us. We may not know how God will help us through our circumstances, but His kindness in the past helps us to trust that HE will. I remember the line of one song, *“If you can’t trace HIS hand, trust HIS heart.”*

In the midst of these challenges we continued to do the different activities in the school like our community field trip, celebration of Nutrition Month, *Buwan ng Wika*, United Nations Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas program and many more. I thank God for the teachers, for the commitment and devotion they showed.

As we are reminded in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, we *“Give thanks in all circumstances for this is God’s will for you (us) in Christ Jesus.”*



GRADUATES



SETH CLYDE BALLESER
Elementary
Marist School Marikina



MISHAEL F. NACU
Elementary
The Learning Tree



JULIENNE RAE BUAN
Junior High School
St. Joseph's College



YESHUA CUARESMA
Junior High School
Quezon City Science High School



ALYSSA VANGUARDIA
Junior High School
St. Joseph's College



ALEXANDRA ALMOETE
Senior High School
Mapua



PAOLO CARDANO
Senior High School
St. Paul University



HANNAH GRACE GONZALES
Senior High School
University of Santo Tomas



NAOMI BEATRIZ MANSIT
Senior High School - with Honors
Nazareth School of NU



MOSES ELIJAH SAN PASCUAL
Senior High School - with Honors
FEU Diliman



JOHN EMMANUEL VALENCIA
Senior High School
Quezon City High School



RALPH GABRIEL BORDEOS
BS Information Technology
STI College Cubao



ALYANNA CRISTOBAL
BS Tourism and Hotel Management
FEU Manila



TIMOTHY JOSHUA REYES
BS Psychology
FEU Manila



NEIL ELIJAH SANDICO
BS Architecture
University of Santo Tomas



FRANCIS SALVADOR
Juris Doctor
Philippine Law School



MINDA VALENCIA
Doctorate in Social Science Education
Indonesia University of Education



KBCF T

By Did

Glory to God for the 44th anniversary of Kamuning Bible Christian Fellowship!

It was celebrated last December 8. The joint 9 am worship service was well-attended. Many of those present had to stand the whole time, as seats were all taken. Praise and worship singing was led by Elder Third Fermin, together with the worship team. Elder Mon Dela Torre shared some highlights of 2019. He also gave updates on our search for a head pastor and on our building project.

From being Rooted (theme for 2018), then Growing Deep (2019), to being Fruitful for 2020, Bishop EfTendero reminisced how KBCF started and how many of its members have grown deep (*nagkaugat na*). He expounded on John 15:1-16 - how God nourishes His children: by cleansing, which is a continuing process; by pruning, which is different



urns 44

Salem

from discipline; and by abiding, in His Word, in prayer life, in deep love for Jesus, in obedience to God's commands, and in fruit-bearing. Our level of fruitfulness depends on our relationship with Jesus Christ.

After the exhorting message, there was the traditional everybody's birthday giving, which was designated for the building fund. Then, before the benediction, the KBCF Excellence in Praise choir rendered a fitting song declaring how great God is. Fellowship over shared abundant lunch followed.

In the late afternoon, Christmas on the Road or KBCF-style caroling was held in the community. Aside from gift-giving (in contrast to the common caroling where carolers ask for "aginaldo/pamasko"), sharing of the Word of God topped the activity after bringing good tidings through Christmas carols. *(See related story)*



Christmas on the Road 2019

By Anne Patricia Cardenio

Late afternoon of KBCF's 44th anniversary celebration, eager KBCF carolers gathered at the worship hall to join Christmas on the Road. Now on its third year, KBCFers went house to house to bless the community by singing Christmas songs, giving gifts,

sharing the Good News, and praying for the chosen households.

It was a huge success, thanks to all of our committed volunteers! God is faithful as the number of those who participated increased. This is a sign that more of our church members are getting involved in our activities. Participants included Sunday School kids, youth, young adults, and elders. Moreover, this also means we were able to bless more families compared to last year. We covered Sacred Heart, Kamias, Kamuning, Obrero, Cubao, UP Sikatuna Bliss, and Laging Handa. Some drove to reach the identified families, others walked. Though there were a few challenges -- dimly lit streets, contacts that cannot be reached, language barriers, etc. -- God still guided everyone through to relay the Good News

and have seeds of the Gospel planted in the families to start their journey of knowing and accepting Christ as their personal Lord and Savior.

A little feast welcomed the groups as they got back one after the other from their designated locations. Fellowship followed after tummies were filled. Each group shared their experiences and takeaways. It was indeed a fruitful night! With this, let us all continue praying that we can help these people we visited into further experiencing God's love by reaching out and welcoming them to KBCF.

With excited hearts, we look forward to how the Lord's Spirit will work through KBCF in reaching more souls and blessing even more communities next year. To God be the glory!



Kagandahan Ng Nakaraan

By Veronica Romero

O kay gandang gunitain ang bawat segundo, minuto, at oras na lumipas nang hindi natin namamalayan. Mga hindi inaasahang pangyayari na nagbigay kulay at liwanag sa buhay ng isang taong nangangarap.

Nangangarap na makapagbigay inspirasyon – na maging isang magandang modelo para sa karamihan.

Ang panibagong yugto sa aking buhay ay sadyang hindi inaasahan. Nang aking balik-tanawin ang dalawang taong nakaraan, aking naalala ang taong naging daan na naniwala at nagtiwala sa aking kakayahan. Siya'y isang Pastor na kung iyong titingnan ay isang kaibigan at kung iyong kikilalanin, siya'y mapagkakatiwalaan. Malaki ang naging parte nya sa buhay ng mga taong katulad ko na nangangarap at nagsusumikap – siya ang naging daan para tahakin ko ang bagong yugto ng aking buhay hanggang sa kasalukuyan.

Hindi ko inaasahan na isa ako sa mga napili na maging parte ng Youth Ministry. Aaminin ko na nung panahon na ako'y kanyang kinausap, tanging iling ang aking naging tugon sa kadahilanang ako'y hindi pa handa na gampanan ang isang malaking responsibilidad.

Lumipas ang isang taon nang ipakita ng Panginoon ang isa sa mga plano Niya para sa akin. At doon nagsimula ang aking paglalakbay bilang isang tapat na tagasunod Niya. Maraming nangyayari sa bawat pag-ikot ng oras,



pangyayaring nagbibigay kalakasan at mga pangyayaring nagbibigay kahi-naan. May mga problemang aakalalang walang solusyon ngunit tanging pagtutulungan ang daan sa kasagutan. Hindi madaling tahakin ang landas na ito. Ngunit pinakita Niya sa akin ang kagandahan ng nakaraan sa bawat pagsubok na dumadaan. Hindi Niya ako, at kami, hinayaan na panghinaan ng loob, bagkus gumamit Siya ng mga taong nagbibigay kasiguraduhan sa bawat plano na aming ginawa at gagawin pa lamang.

Alam ko na marami pang taon ang muling lilipas, pero nakakasiguro ako na ang plano Niya ay mas higit pa sa plano ng karamihan. Ang plano

Niya ang tutulong at manghihikayat sa mga susunod na katulad ko na Kanyang tinawag.

Ngayon gusto kong pasalamatang ang aming Pastor na ginamit ng Panginoon, para magbigay inspirasyon sa lahat ng nangangarap. Hindi man na namin siya kasama ngayon, pero gusto kong ipahatid sa kanya: “Salamat at ikaw ang naging daan para harapin ko ang panibagong yugto na ito. Yugto na aking haharapin na may galak sa aking puso. At ikaw ay makakaasa na ang iyong ginawa sa akin ay akin ding gagawin sa iba. Hanggang sa muli nating pagkikita – baon ang kagandahan ng nakaraan.”

I am Not a 'Millennial'

Where I stand in the workplace

by Nethaneel Joy G. Pabia

The millennials. A large part of the workforce today is coming from this generation as the baby boomers find their way to retirement. Indisputably, there are discernible differences between the two generations to the point that it has become a label loaded with behaviors and characteristics generally accepted by society. Nevertheless, must we, believers and disciples of the Lord, succumb to the ideologies of the present society which generally believes that success and satisfaction in the workplace are measured by productivity, recognition, professional growth and the like?

The workplace is an environment full of variables that we cannot foresee. For instance, your colleagues are not as friendly and cooperative as you may have assumed. Your boss does not know anything about command responsibility, and worse does not even commend your good deeds. The pay is not enough – you always think it is not enough. And you are not getting anywhere near that promotion. So, what now? You ask yourself:

Is this the right work for me?

Why did God place me here?

Should I stay in this company or should I look for greener pastures?

So you tell yourself that you are not satisfied with your work anymore – that there is no joy in whatever you do. And then you get burned-out. Even the work we think we are good at tires us physically, mentally, and emotionally. Not having the right and biblically rooted perception about work will eventually lead us to burn-out.

Here are some points to ponder so we can evaluate ourselves in our respective workplaces and re-align ourselves to the way God wants us to see work:

Everyone should work if they are able to. (2 Thessalonians 3:10)

Work for God's glory and not for personal glorification. (1 Corinthians 10:31)

Work with all your heart. (Colossians 3:23)

Pray for wisdom and God's guidance when it comes to making decisions at work. (Proverbs 1:7)

Think of your work as an expression of love for God and people. (Matthew 25: 14-30)



Pray for God's favor and blessing on your work.

Set aside a rest day/sabbath.

Truth is, re-aligning our points-of-view about work and how God originally designed work does not exempt us from the troubles we encounter at work. For whenever we fight for our faith, there will always be opposition. You feel rejected by the people around you.

But *knowing who we are changes how we live.*

Yes, it is all about where our identity is rooted. Knowing who we are in the eyes of our Lord Jesus Christ changes our perception of anything and everything in this world. When you know your identity in Christ (*Ephesians 1:3-14*) and discover that insurmountable love – a love that is beyond our comprehension – why must we anchor our security to achievements and titles? Or from the acceptance and recognition of people other than God alone? So, we dare to be different. Different from the measures of success that the world dictates. Different from the labels that our generation, educational background, curriculum vitae and whatnot state about us. Why? Because! We are

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God is Faithful

By Hosea Gabriel D. Ocampo

This is a story of God's faithfulness.

Even before I was born, God has done great things for me.

He saved my life many times, since the first time when He saved me from the high-risk delivery and the dangers of being delivered prematurely. God has protected me from the beginning. He protected my mom so that I will be protected, too. And until now, He is here.

Last week of May or first week of June, 2005 was the expected date of my birth, as a normal, full-term baby. But things get out of hand sometimes. My mom gave birth on March 30, 2005, two months earlier than expected. Born a frail and weak baby, there was a 50/50 chance to live or die. Yet, God allowed me to survive, and live to share this story to others. He gave my life a purpose. A purpose that He mandated.

Through my ups and downs in life, He has always been there. He is there in my achievements, and He is there in the midst of my problems.

He gives me wisdom. He guides me on my academics and school, giving me my achievements. I owe them all to Him. Through his loving guidance, I have become a constant achiever in school. He always gives me wisdom



and strength to excel in school. By his grace, I graduated as class valedictorian in elementary. I'm currently in 9th grade, and continue to be a consistent honor student.

He also guides me in solving my problems. He always reminds me of His promises, and that gives me

comfort. I know that He loves me and will continue to do so even if I feel no one else does. Even if I sin, He is there, with open arms and ready to forgive me, no matter how many times I turn my back on Him. He is always there.

Truly, He is a great and loving God.

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disciples of the Lord. We are called to be salt and light (*Matthew 5: 13-16*) in our respective workplaces. And this commandment is for all disciples regardless of rank and position. Think of it this way – church pastors cannot go to every single workplace of members to minister and share the good news. That is why we are there. Thus, this is our everyday challenge in the workplace, as professionals and as Christians. This is the label that they should see. This is where we shall stand firm wherever and for whatever God calls us to do. [For] *in Him we were also*

chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of Him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory (Eph. 1: 11-12).

(This article is written as a reflection from the conducted Young Adults (YA) Retreat on the 24th to 26th of August 2019 at Camp Resort, Bulacan. This said camp was the first joint YA retreat with fellow young professionals from Kingstown Christian Church and Christ's People Christian Church where Pastor Leonardo Alfonso Jr. and his wife Ms. Lou-Ann Young Alfonso talked about the camp's theme of "My Identity in my Workplace.")

Ramblings of a Broken Heart

By Erna Faye Llorente

The following speech was delivered by Erna Pinzon-Llorente to the School community where they have served since July 2013.

The last time I stood here, I told you of a love story. One that reflected God's pursuing love. Today, I tell you of another love story, of this extravagant love birthed out of a very, very hard and trying time. For those of you who are new, you probably have heard- I lost a husband, my daughters lost a father and a friend. My husband Benjie had hemorrhagic brain aneurysm – that is the medical term. But I am not here to talk about what happened six months ago. I am here to talk about what came about after that.

I am seeing grief's many faces. It comes in the form of fear: Am I capable of being a single parent? Will I be good enough? Can I make sound decisions for my daughters... for myself?

Grief makes you feel weak: strength feels like a concept; a broken heart doesn't feel strong.

Grief is painful: take your first heart-break and multiply that a hundred lifetimes over.

Grief knocks you out and leaves you helpless and alone.

Grief is loneliness. Grief is sadness.

Grief brings waves of emotions twisting your heart and squeezing your chest.

Grief brings you to your knees until nothing is left except to look up and ask for His strength to become yours.

There is a song that I love which talks about how we are an altar of broken stones, but God delights in our of-



fering. In my case, my offering was the entirety of my grief. Even in my brokenness, I had to tell the enemy, "You can't have this. You can't have my heart. Because He is good, you can't touch what counts here -- my faith. You can't have that."

To trust that even though I may not understand that there's suffering

and there's brokenness, there must be some worth and value in it that God himself is willing to experience it with me. He will not abandon me in it. Psalm 56:8 says, He catches every tear and bottles it. God's heart is breaking too.

Continued on page 20



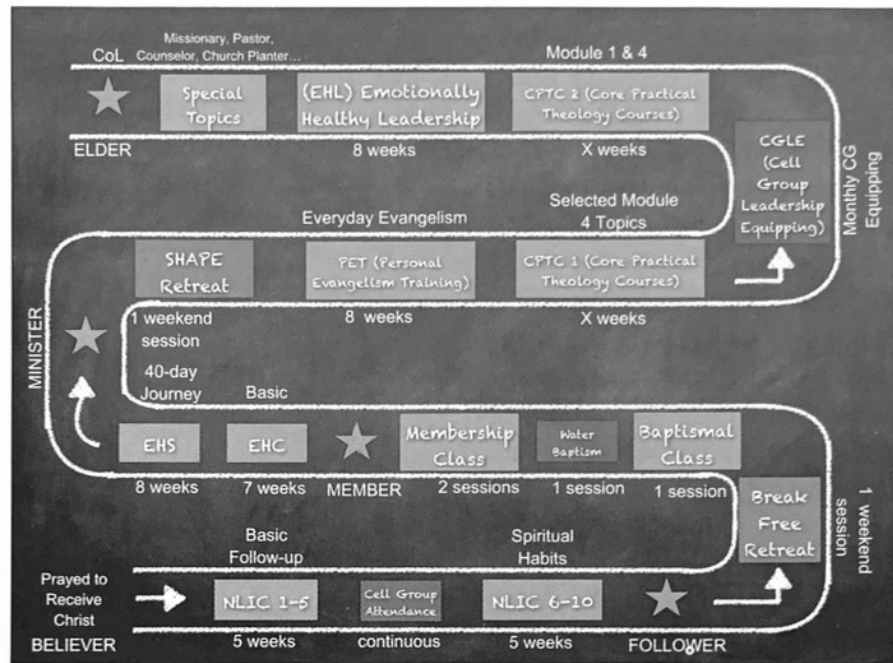
KBCF Spiritual Journey Track

From Seeker to Elder

The Church leadership has approved the Spiritual Journey track which is recommended for each KBCFer to undergo.

The Journey begins with the believer undergoing a one-on-one discipleship using the New Life in Christ series. This will be followed by baptism, membership class, plus a series of lessons for one's spiritual growth and maturity. In between will be retreats.

This Spiritual Journey is a result of many years of work and prayer by the Cell and Discipleship Committee. Pray that KBCFers will embrace this track as we all move forward together.



Ministry Opportunities

Ushering

Welcome people as they come in with your warm smile, and usher them to available seats.



Scroll

If you can write, edit, or do layout design, then your gift will come in handy.

Prayer Warriors

Be part of the Prayer Ministry and intercede for the members, the leaders, the church, the nation, and the world.

Sunday School

If you have the heart for children, and are gifted with patience and lots of warm hugs, then this is a ministry where you can flourish,

Campus

Availability during school hours is what it takes to be in this ministry, plus a desire to reach young people.



Choir

More than just the ability to sing, discipline and a teachable spirit is what is required.

Missions

A deep desire to reach the unreached is what this ministry is all about.

Worship Team

If you are gifted with a voice that can lead the congregation to worship, or you are able to play any musical instrument, audition for a possible inclusion to any of the worship teams.



...and many more!

Ramblings...

Continued from page 18

Brokenness. Winter. What happens after winter season's death? The abundance of life in spring. What happened when Jesus broke bread? Abundance in the feeding of the 5,000. When my heart broke, I saw nothing but an abundance of God's glory manifested everywhere I looked: through my family, my church, and my friends from all across the world.

So now, I find myself in the middle of this long transition. Wanting to move forward but not quite there yet. Transitions can be exciting and difficult.

My Transition

One of the fears I found rising in my heart was that my life will not be as full as I had when Benjie was with me. I had this image in my head of what a full life looked like. Sadness and hard days will always be there, but God continues to invite me to come and see the fullness of life in Christ Jesus.

My fear is that God won't use my life as much as how he used Benjie and me as husband and wife. Two things have always stood out when it comes to my relationship with God. How much I trust God and how my heart finds pleasure in meeting God through worship. I have been wrestling with God with these thoughts: "Did I pass the test?" "Are you happy now?" "Did I trust you enough?" But just a few days back, I found myself surrendering saying, "Okay, God. My heart's done shouting. I'm ready for whatever reason you had to make me go through all these. You may now start working in my heart. You may use me now."

Transitions In The Bible

I read up on a couple of transitions in the Bible, and here's what I found.

Moses' story. He was 120 years old when he was asked to move to a place he did not know. But the story is more than just about Moses and his leadership. In God's sovereign bigger picture -- the story was also about Joshua. Rearing Joshua, training him to be the leader God needed him to be. God knew Joshua's timetable and of the precise time when the baton of leadership was to be passed on and God brought him to readiness.

It wasn't all about Moses.

Elijah was a super prophet at a certain point of his life. He also transitioned to being a fugitive, on the run, hiding from a wicked and angry queen. He went from being prophet of Kings to a hunted man. But it was during this time that God was preparing Elisha to continue the work. It wasn't what Elijah could do. The bigger picture included Elisha's story. God has been thinking about Elisha and the skills and experiences he would need for the next season. And so, I come to this realization that transition is not all about me. It is not what I can do. Just as it was not what Moses, Elijah, or Benjie could do. It is never about what we can do nor is it about what we have done.

It is all about God and what He is doing, and our role in His bigger picture.

I believe God is graciously fulfilling His purposes in our lives. Let me be honest: it sucks to lose Benjie. It was painful....still is. But God wants to manifest His glory through His community. The same God who said, "I have already brought glory to My name, and I will do so again" (John 12:28).

God has a bigger and grander plan than what we can foresee or calculate. The beautiful tapestry that we are seeing is just a part of a gallery of tapestries.

Here's where our transition becomes God-magnifying: we have become agents of God's extravagant love towards each other as a community, and hopefully, this extravagant love extends beyond the high-rise walls of this building.

As we continue to extend grace and love towards each other, I echo what Dr. Sinclair Ferguson said, "The church is God's gold. I want to purify my church in order that the church may be strengthened. That they may be refined. He causes the church to shine for Jesus."

A few weeks ago I had a conversation with a colleague who wanted to touch base with me but didn't know how. She didn't want to upset me out of love, and I'm sure some of you feel the same way. But here is where I stand. Let's talk about it. Ask me questions. We may share a few tears, okay, let's be honest, a LOT of tears. BUT, I'll also tell you of how good God is, how His love is powerful. How my heart continues to heal and how my heart has been strengthened because of you showing Jesus' love. I'll tell you of how my girls are doing well because of the little things you do for them.

It has never been easy, but I am grateful that we pray to the one, true God who loves, sees, hears, refines, restores, purifies, answers, redeems, protects, and heals those who cry out to Him.

Thank you for being a huge part of EZA's lives. We cannot thank you enough how much of a blessing you all are to us.

We feel it and we know it in our hearts. I pray that you also know that you are a blessing to me, my daughters, my family.

(Reference: From One Widow to Another by Miriam Neff)

1974 - 1980

- First formal service of Kamuning Bible Christian Fellowship (KBCF) was held on the 2nd Sunday of December in 1975
- First baptism ceremony of 10 believers was held in 1976.
- KBCF, established a church in Makati, now Christ to the World Christian Church.
- Pastor Johnny Pabia became the 1st Filipino pastor in 1978 with Pastor Ef Tendero as the youth pastor.
- The land, where KBCF building is now standing, was bought.
- Birth of Catablan Bible Fellowship in Pangasinan now known as Pangasinan Evangelical Mission.
- Construction of the KBCF church building along 11th Jamboree St. started in 1980.
- The first wedding was held in the unfinished building, that of Pastor Ef and Sierry Soriano.
- A team of Sunday missionaries planted a church in Tatalon.

1981 - 1990

- Pastors Johnny & Ef attended the EE Leadership Clinic in Kowloon, Hongkong which certified them to host and become EE Clinic Teachers.
- Pastor Johnny led a team of Sunday Missionaries to Kamias, QC and established Kamias Bible Christian Community in 1983, now known as Philippine Bible Christian Community.
- The 1st EE Leadership Clinic in the Philippines was conducted in February, 1982.
- Galas Ministry was established. In 1994 it merged with the Lord of Abounding Grace Ministries (Sampaloc).
- Mangahan Bible Christian Fellowship, later renamed United in Christ Christian Fellowship, and now Christ our Life Bible Christian Fellowship in Pasig was established.
- KBCF built its own baptismal pool in 1988.
- Vesper service was launched in 1989 to accommodate the increasing attendance.

1991 - 2000

- KBCF Kinder Care Pre-School was founded by Sierry Tendero in 1990; DECS recognized it in Aug. 1993.
- Dawn Prayer Gathering from Mondays to Saturdays started.

- Vista Verde Christian Fellowship in Cainta, later called Visions of Victory Christian Fellowship, and now known as Community that Cares Christian Fellowship was established in 1992. Wednesday Prayer Meeting became Midweek Prayer Service.
- The four-storey parsonage and church office was finished.
- KBCF Operation Paglingap Foundation (KOPF) was established.
- Kingstown Christian Church was born in 1997.
- Youth Power House Teen & Student Center was established.
- The bi-monthly Youth Vesper Service commenced in 1998.
- The Operation Paglingap Multi-Purpose Cooperative was inaugurated.

2001 - 2010

- MILK (Ministry Institute of Leadership at KBCF) was initiated; KBCF Youth A.L.I.V.E. (Adore, Lead, Instruct, Value and Experience) was likewise launched.
- KBCF Sanctuary became fully air-conditioned in 2002.
- KBCF choir's CD was launched.
- KBCF hosted the first Encounter God Retreat in 2008.
- KBCF Commonwealth was inaugurated.
- Seven days Prayer and Fasting commenced first week of January, 2009.
- The proposed building project was approved by the Core of Leaders.
- KBCF Malolos' first Worship Service kicked off. The Crew Zone Student Ministry was launched in partnership with Community That Cares Christian Fellowship in Cainta. Sunday School Outreach at UP Bliss was established.

2011 - 2017

- The Senior Citizens Ministry was established, as did the Campus Ministry at Manuel Roxas High School
- KBCF Marilao held its 1st Worship Service.
- Gideon 300, a fund-raising drive for the proposed building began.

2018

March saw the hiring of Ivan Mahaguay as Secretary/IT. The Journey to the Cross

(Prayer Walk) was also done on the same month.

April 15 was the commencement of the Family Symposium. Emotionally Healthy Spirituality and Emotionally Healthy Church facilitated by Pastor Ep & Lulu Brion began in April of this year.

June 9 Dr. Andrew Liuson personally facilitated the Gift of God Training at KBCF.

October, Pastor Renz Punio was hired as consolidation coordinator. Campus ministry in Quezon City High School commenced.

November. It was a sad time for the whole Church as Pastor Aris was taken home by our Lord on Nov. 14. In response to the heartbreak the members were going through, Growing through Grief Together was conducted on December 5.

December, the first Workers' Appreciation Luncheon was held.

2019

Ministry in Mustard Seed System Corporation commenced, led by Elder Mark Uy. The Preaching Clinic led by Pulpit Committee was offered to members who have the heart to preach, from **February 28 - May 09.**

Renz Punio was officially hired as Associate Pastor in April. The Youth Missions Camp finally pushed through on **May 20-22.**

A Counseling Workshop facilitated by Elder Sito & Beth Silva was held on **July 6 and 13**; The Ground Breaking was done on **July 28**, immediately followed by the acquisition of our long-awaited building construction permit. KBCF also took part in the Jesus Global Youth Day from **August 8-10.**

Ptr. Ephraim Brion served as Pulpit Minister and equipper, from May to November. During this time, the Church leadership were able to go through the S.W.O.T Analysis and SHAPE Retreat. Church Leaders also underwent the Emotionally Healthy Leadership. The Mission/Vision were also revisited and restated.

The church turned 44 in **December.**

CELEBRATE!

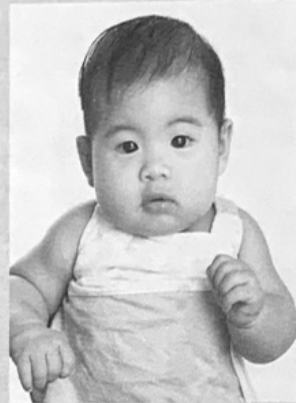
Baby Congratulations



Congratulations to Pastor Eli and Ruth Rodriguez for their first bundle of joy, Elisha Christine Rodriguez born on April 16



Congratulations to Ace and Khazel Gerilla, on the birth of their first baby, Qira Gwyneth Gerilla on July 25



Congratulations to Mark and Wana Manlapaz, blessed with a baby girl, Olivia Manlapaz, on May 12



Congratulations to Paolo and Diday Ong who were blessed with a baby boy, Nathan Victor Ong, last October 9

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

To the family of Portia Gonzales who went home to the Lord on January 18

To Odie and Arlene Luna, whose son, James Daryll Espinosa-Luna, passed away on March 15

To Mon and Jocy Dela Torre, whose mother, Marcela passed away on February 17

To Larry Dave, whose sister, Laylane, passed away on April 23

To Pastor Kim Sison, whose father, Dominador, passed away on May 2

To Erna Llorente, whose husband, Benjie, went home to be with the Lord on April 11

To Remy Gordovez, whose father, Epifanio went home to the Lord on April 15

To Fadullon family, whose father, Engr. Sam went home to the Lord on April 19

To Nancy Bautista, whose father, Ernesto Bautista, passed away on April 1

To Rene Salem, whose brother, Roberto passed away on May 2

To Bautista family, whose mother, Belen, went home to the Lord on July 4

To Lea Katigbak, whose father, Johnny, went home to the Lord on August 10

To Che Gonzales, whose father, Rodolfo, passed away on November 20

To Faith Leonen, whose mother, Anacorita Constantino passed away on November 25

Best Wishes



Congratulations to JD Belandres and Xy-Rae Bandola who exchanged vows on May 29



Best wishes to Paul Cardano & Milet Lacorte who got married on July 3



Congratulations to Ash Vanguardia and Diane Orellosa who exchanged marriage vows on July 28



Congratulations to Renfred Silva and Jacque Cayari who tied the knot on November 30

Congratulations



Congratulations to Johanna Lise C. Silva, M.D., for passing the Written Diplomate Exams for Pediatrics

MISSION

We exist to glorify God by bringing people to Jesus Christ and membership in His family, developing them towards Christ-like maturity, and equipping them for their ministry in the church and life mission and the world.

VISION

A church after God's own heart that multiplies disciple-makers, leaders, and congregations.

Feedback? Suggestion? Prayer Request?



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Didi Salem - Sierry Tendero**

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