

# You Don't Have To Tithe

I KNOW the title of my Talk is controversial.

But it's not just the title—this entire message is controversial.

I pray that it will shake you to your core.

Welcome to the last Talk of our series, *MORE THAN ENOUGH*.

Our one big message for today is connected

to our series title: *Pray for more than enough*. In today's talk, I'll read the Bible verse where we got the phrase, *more than enough*. You'll be surprised where we got it from and what it actually means.

When people hear the word *tithe*, people have all sorts of reactions.

Some are positive. After all, we've used the word *tithing* at The Feast ever since we started in 1980. And true enough, we've heard many inspiring stories from Feasters who share how tithing opened up the floodgates of abundance for them.

Some Feasters tell me that tithing was one of the habits that changed their lives. They say tithing brought them closer to God because it taught them to trust Him more.

Some comments, however, are negative. They complain, "Shouldn't God's Word be free? Why does The Feast keep asking for money?"

Trust me, there are many more problems with tithing.

Be enlightened at The Feast today.

May your dreams come true,

Bo Samely

WELCOME to the Last Talk of our FEAST SERIES MORE THAN ENOUGH

**Bo Sanchez** 



# Fishing and Tithing

SAN PABLO CITY is just 39.2 kilometers from Laguna de Bay, the largest lake in the Philippines providing fishermen with milkfish, carp, tilapia.

Here, Bro. Edward Gacusana and his team of hardworking ministry servants are fishing for men.

"Despite the challenges, we've kept loving and discipling people for Jesus,"

That's the mission of Feast San Pablo, Bro. Edward points out.

Feast San Pablo joins *The FEAST FAMILY* celebration of Jubilee Year 2025.

Happening only every 25 years, the Jubilee Year is a time of grace and forgiveness in our Catholic Church. *The FEAST FAMILY* celebrates Jubilee Year 2025 with Special Features on our FEASTS, starting January 2025.

Established in 2019, Feast San Pablo is only five years old, struggling through birth pain challenges.

One is attendance which was difficult to grow because

it was barely a year old at the onslaught of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID). Limited participants meant limited tithes needed to finance its operations.

By God's mercy, and hard work of its servant leaders, Feast San Pablo continues to live! More on *The FEAST FAMILY* Jubilee Year 2025 Special on Feast San Pablo starting on *page 3*.

Speaking of tithes, Bro. Bo Sanchez tells us *You Don't Have To Tithe!* He explains why in today's enlightening Feast Talk which he introduces on *page 1*.

Yes, let's fish so we can tithe.



San Pablo City Heritage Zone





All for God's Glory

Randy Borromeo Media Ministry Executive Director









# Loving and discipling people for Jesus

**VENUE: The Coco Palace Hotel, San Pablo City** 

SCHEDULE: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. NUMBER OF ATTENDEES: 130 YEAR ESTABLISHED: 2019

#### The BUILDER

NAME: Edward Marcel C. Gacusana EMAIL: e.gacusana@gmail.com BIRTHDAY: April 15, 1974 AGE: 50



### **Finding The Feast**

Bro. Edward served at the Mary Help of Christians Parish but stopped serving for eight years to focus on work and support his wife and two kids. He had been reading the books of Bro. Bo Sanchez even before he attended The Feast. Following a crisis, he found The Feast. He shares:

"In 2015, I went through a crisis and fell into depression. Someone invited me to attend a Feast in Santa Rosa, where Laguna District Builder Bro. Jon Escoto was preaching. Later, I was invited to help organize a Mission Feast at Perpetual Help College-Calamba. I carried the sound system, set up the projector, brought the musical instruments, and took care of the venue's rental fee.

Months later, I was asked to help disciple friends and serve in the Prison Ministry of Feast Calamba."

### **Beginnings**

Eventually, Bro. Edward became a Feast Builder.

He continues: "In 2019, Bro. Jon introduced me to a small group that started a Feast Video in one of the restaurants in San Pablo City. Bro. Jon asked me to facilitate a four-week retreat every Saturday afternoon. He then extended my assignment and guided me to lead the mission."

In 2019, Feast San Pablo began at SM Cinema San Pablo with over 700 attendees. In 2020, however, as the Coronavirus Disease (COVID) Pandemic struck, Feast San Pablo shifted to the online Feast at Home.

Undaunted by the Pandemic, Feast San Pablo organized daily online Shelter Groups (SGs), its version of our Light Groups.

After the Pandemic, The Feast struggled through setbacks.

Bro. Edward recalls: "Finances became a challenge as many were still hesitant to attend in-person worship. Additionally, the rental fees for the cinema, including lights and sounds, increased. As a result, we had to find a smaller place to continue our weekly worship service."

### **Discipleship Mission Goes On**





Feast San Pablo persevered in its discipleship work, continuing its Shelter Group meetings both online and in-person. To this day, attendees have the option for weekly meet-ups. The mission also expanded to schools, focusing on evangelizing the youth.

In 2025, Feast San Pablo is determined to continue its discipleship and mercy ministry activities. It will also begin mission work in Mindoro Oriental.

"Despite the challenges, we've kept loving and discipling people for Jesus," Bro. Edward adds.

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# **Blessings**

# My Refuge

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." - Psalm 46:1

I battled crippling depression and anxiety, triggered by childhood trauma including molestation, harassment, and the loss of my brother and mother.

I mistakenly believed my faith meant I shouldn't feel these emotions, seeing them as sinful.

Joining a church group, The Feast, and their **By CHER CUS** Light Group (LG) was a turning point. Sharing my traumatic past was incredibly difficult, causing physical manifestations of my suppressed emotions.

I almost quit, but the unwavering support from my LG members, who declared they wouldn't give up on me, showed me God's embrace. Their words inspired me not to give up on myself.

The Feast helped me acknowledge my pain and seek professional help. These strangers became my friends, and The Feast, my refuge.

Depression is a real illness, not a sin. Jesus understands our suffering. He loves us despite our pain and will never leave us.

# Why Me?

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. - Joshua 1:9

"Why me?" Sounds familiar? Yes, those two words we often utter when we are asked and tasked to do something outside our comfort zone.

By ANGEL GESMUNDO

I've struggled with my self-esteem since I was a child. I used to be afraid of being noticed or recognized by others. Even if I knew I would be good at something or was interested in it, I was the first person to refuse.

I am my own number one critic. I often feel undeserving of value and unworthy of receiving anything. My mind is clouded with doubts and endless overthinking. But I have thrived in life and matured not just in mind but also in faith. I have agreed with myself to lessen this habit of asking "Why me?" and instead submit my life to God. Now, I see His limitless love for me and the incredible chance to be closer to Jesus through serving in His ministry.

# A Message of Hope

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint." - Isaiah 40:31

Losing my father left me heartbroken, and a severe battle with COVID-19, pneumonia, and meningitis nearly took my life. I survived but was bedridden for six months.

When a doctor told me the illness had left me with the mind of a seven-year-old, I felt hopeless.



By KIRBY ESTAYAN

Then, a friend invited me to The Feast. At first, I came for the food. But I stayed because I felt something deeper. The messages felt personal, as if God was speaking directly to me. Even when I only had enough money for transportation, I kept coming back.

Despite my struggle to walk, I was asked to serve at The Feast. I helped by organizing and taping cables-- a difficult task-- but I later understood it was part of my journey.

The Feast gave me many responsibilities.

My biggest question was: "Bakit ako? Why me?" I eventually realized my co-servants were the people I needed for my healing. Even while I was still recovering, I gave my all.

God told me, "Child, I see you differently than that doctor. I know you, and you will do better to glorify My name."

I became a hardworking and joyful servant. I am now able to lead the Production team with passion and dedication.

Once broken, I now stand as a testimony of hope, proving that with God, nothing is impossible.

## Why Me? ... from page 5

I began to accept and love myself every day. Every "YES" I say to Him draws me closer to the person He wants me to be. There are times I fall back to the "Why me?" state. Yet God whispers, "Bakit naman hindi ikaw, anak?" ("And why not you, My child?").

Then there's peace in my heart, reassured I'm not alone in this journey. The negative thoughts in my head are far from His ways. I know He brought me to this world for a purpose. And every "YES" I say is one step closer to my courage zone.

I am His work in progress. What is there to be shy about?

I stopped asking "Why me?" And now say, "Let Your will be done to me."



God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

-- Matthew 5:7

# For Children and Persons Deprived of Liberty

Feast San Pablo serves abandoned and abused children.

At right, the Feast San Pablo members bringing hope and joy at the Center for the Welfare and Protection of Children (CWPC) in San Pablo City.



A letter of one of the kids.

Feast San Pablo also serves children in conflict with the law (CICL) in San Pablo City. *Above* are members in one of their regular visits.

Feast San Pablo also serves the persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) at the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology in San Pablo. BIMP BIMP BIMP

Bro. Edward shares.

"We visit them monthly, celebrating Mass, sharing God's Word, and leading worship. We also bring food and personal hygiene kits to the CICL and PDLs." Indeed, The Feast Mercy Ministry wins disciples for Jesus.



## Thank You!

The Feast Family, now organized as the Feast Mercy Ministries, is a spin-off ministry of the Light of Jesus Family founded by Bro. Bo Sanchez.

Earlier named as Kerygma Family, The Feast Family is a unique online, non-physical, borderless, international community of friends who support each other's personal growth.

Partner beneficiaries of the Feast Mercy Ministries flourish because of your generous support.

Thank you for being with us. We pray that you find your daily source of inspiration from the resources that we send to you. We pray too that you may consider giving to The Feast Mercy Ministries. No gift is too small.

Thank you very much in advance for your gift. Our prayer is that God will continue to reward you as you give.

#### **FOR EXISTING DONORS:**

Thank you for the Love. Your monthly donation helps us to continue extending support to our Light of Jesus spin-off organizations, including our partner beneficiaries. Your gift will sustain our operations and, we hope, help us reach out to the persons our Lord has called us to make disciples and give them renewed hope.

Be a Feast Family member. Write or call us. Now.

Email Address: jocelyn@kerygmafamily.com

Website: https://kerygmafamily.com

## **Our Partner Beneficiaries**

Jeremiah 33 Foundation is a shelter for minor girls particularly victims



Grace To Be Born is a halfway home for pregnant women in crisis.





of sexual abuse.

He Cares Mission provides shelter and pastoral care for street children. Pag-asa ng Pamilya Foundation grants scholarships to indigent students.





Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer

provides financial assistance and pastoral care for indigent cancer patients.

The Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center ministers to those who are emotionally and spiritually wounded.



**H.A.I.L. MARY** is acronym for Healthcare Assistance for Indigents and Lepers of Mary, adopting the Blessed Mother as the patroness of its mission to eradicate leprosy in Abra within 8–10 years.







The Light of Jesus Disaster Recovery Ministry provides evacuation assistance,

relief goods, financial aid, and other needs of calamity victims.

#### The Light of Jesus Prison Ministry

brings Jesus to the Correctional Institution for Women to give them hope for a new life of dignity.





**Anawim Lay Missions Foundation** provides a home for poor elderly who have been abandoned by their family and have nowhere else to go.

# **CHOOSE HOW YOU WANT TO GIVE**

- 1. Donate ONLINE (through credit card) Go to www. kerygmafamily.com and click 'DONATE' box Paypal I US Donations.
- 2. Pick Up from Your House or Office (Metro Manila Only) Cash or Checks Address Checks to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. and call Joy at (+632) 725 -9999 loc 112 or text (+63) 922-828-9890 and we'll pick them up from your home or office.
- 3. Mail 12 Post-Dated Checks to Our Office for US and CANADA: Address Checks to Kerygma Family, 848 Rainbow Blvd # 1937, Las Vegas, NV 89107. For Other Countries/Philippines: Address Check to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. and mail (registered mail) to Shepherd's Voice, 60 Chicago St., Cubao, Quezon City, Philippines 1109.
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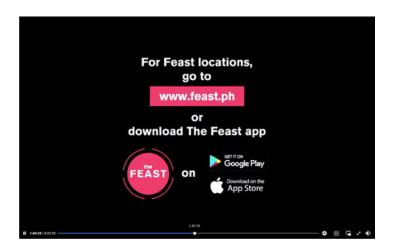
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Go and make disciples of all men.

— Matthew 28:19