



For the Battle Is The Lord's

LET me offer some reasons
we sometime--or many times-- lose
our battles in life.

1. We're too afraid to even face them.
2. We're going against giants.
3. We're fighting them alone.

Today, we continue our breakthrough series: *Who Can Lead Us? A People in Search of a King*-- as we study deeper the books of *Joshua*, *Judges*, and now, *Samuel*.

We come to one of the most popular and well-loved stories in the Bible: David and his battle against Goliath. But as always, this is not just a bedtime story for kids.

We'll understand better how David was chosen by God – over his seemingly and outwardly more qualified brothers. We'll be amazed at how our current talk series speaks to us so much of what's happening in our country – of how we choose our leaders.

We'll learn how to face our giants – our fears. And *Do it afraid* -- but not alone.

Above all, we'll realize again that the only way to defeat giants – whether they are societal ills or personal problems – *is to surrender*– not to the enemy, but to God, and acknowledge that the battle is *His*.

That's what David powerfully declared as he defeated Goliath:

"All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and He will give all of you into our hands." (1 Samuel 17:47 NIV)

Get ready for another power-packed Feast!

Welcome to The Feast where *You are loved!*

Mayroong Magandang Mangyayari sa 'Yo!

Alvin Barcelona



Remember, Receive, Repent

Those are the three **Rs** for a fruitful Lent.

That's the message of Rev. Fr. Paolo Asprer in his Homily last Sunday Feast. How do you do that?
Read on, *page 3*.



Rev. Fr. Bob McConaghy, Mass concelebrant, is recovering from an eye surgery, and thus with dark eyeglasses, he looks like, in his words, "Hollywood Bob." Still, he presented a good way to follow the message on *Repent*. He offered to be available to hear Confessions at Feast Bay Area, *page 7*.



Bro. Alvin Barcelona reminds us that what to *Remember* in our journey to a fruitful Lent is *The Battle Is the Lord's*, *page 1*. That's the theme of Talk 7 of our Feast series, *WHO CAN LEAD US?* Who shows us the way? Stay and be blessed by today's talk.

Yes, as Bro. Audee Villaraza's prompter: *Follow the Right King*, Talk 5 of our series, *page 11*.

And to *Receive*, check out the Love Offering message of Bro. Didoy Lubaton, *page, 25*.

We'd like to present a fourth **R**.

If we follow these messages in this issue of *The FEAST FAMILY*, we'll definitely have a *Reward*: The joy of Resurrection Sunday! Easter Blessings, Everyone!



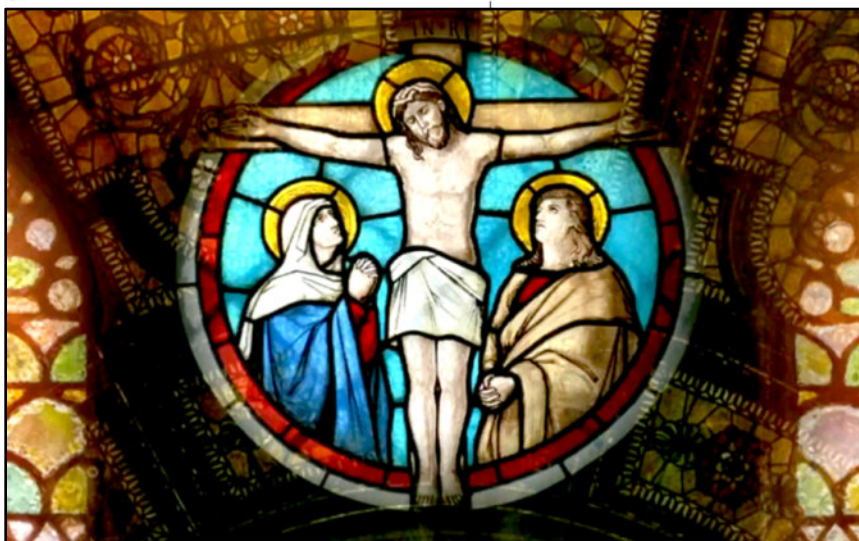
All for God's Glory,

Randy Borromeo
Media Ministry
Executive Director





Holy Mass



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Homily

REV. FR. ANGELO PAOLO ASPRER
on the Gospel Luke 13:1-9

Excerpts:

WE are now on the Third Sunday of Lent which is part of our 40-day spiritual preparation, purification, and pilgrimage towards Easter-- the greatest mystery of our Catholic Christian faith.

Lent is a celebration of the Paschal mystery: the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

For us to immerse deeply into this journey towards purification, we are called to a life of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving or charity. Look up, look within, and look forward or look outward.



Concelebrant:
REV. FR. BOB McCONAGHY

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Reflection

This Lenten Season, we are called to reflect. For us to reflect, we have to re-examine ourselves and rekindle the gift of love, hope, and faith. Receive, remember, and restart or reset.

We are called to reflect on one of the fundamental questions of life:
"Am I happy?"

Sometimes, the simplest or the shortest question is the toughest to answer, isn't it? There's the tendency to complicate the simple and to simplify the already complicated.

I think the more important question is: "Is God happy for you?"

Are you not just successful in life but living a fruitful life? Look at the Lord on the Cross. Was He successful? Is He successful by worldly standards?

In the eyes of God, a person can be successful but not necessarily lives a fruitful life. A person who bears so much fruits in the eyes of men and women, that person is a failure. But in the eyes of God, that person is fruitful.



First Reading: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

1 Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock across the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 There an angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in fire flaming out of a bush. As he looked on, he was surprised to see that the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. 3 So Moses decided, "I must go over to look at this remarkable sight, and see why the bush is not burned." 4 When the Lord saw him coming over to look at it more closely, God called out to him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am." 5 God said, "Come no nearer! Remove the

sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. 6 I am the God of your father," he continued, "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. 7 But the Lord said, "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. 8 Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the hands of the Egyptians and lead them out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey." 13 Moses said to God "But when I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' if they ask me, 'What is his name?' what am I to tell them?" 14 God replied, "I am who am." Then he added, "This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you." 15 God spoke further to Moses, "Thus shall you say to the Israelites: The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations."

Three Rs for a Fruitful Lent

How can we journey towards a fruitful celebration of Lent?

Remember these three **Rs**:

1. Remember

How is your memory?

The irony is that we forget the things that we should remember and we remember the things that we should forget.

In the First Reading today, Moses, experiencing the Revelation of God, challenges the Israelites to remember the marvels that the Lord has done for them.

Choose to remember the graciousness of God. Choose to remember the grace and lessons and not the pain--otherwise, we will not be able to move forward in our lives.



2. Receive

In our Second Reading today, St. Paul reminds the Corinthians to receive and nurture the gift of salvation. We cannot ask God to guide our footsteps without us deciding to move our feet. It takes two to tango.

St. Augustine says: "God created the world without our consent but He can never save us without our cooperation."



Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 103:1-2, 3- R: The Lord is kind and merciful.

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name. 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. (R)

3 He pardons all your iniquities; he heals all your ills.

4 He redeems your life from destruction, he crowns you with kindness and compassion. (R)

6 The Lord secures justice and the rights of all the oppressed. 7 He has made known his ways to Moses, and his deeds to the children of Israel. (R)

8 Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger and abounding in kindness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him. (R)

3. Repent

That's our Gospel Reading today. If we do not ask for forgiveness for our sins, there are no new beginnings.

You have to say goodbye to your old self to be able to say hello to the new you.

In his book, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, Mitch Albom said: "If we are not brave enough to say goodbye, life will not reward us with new hellos."

The *re* in repent means *you go back*. The *pent* in repent means *penthouse*.

The penthouse is the topmost part of a building. I think each iconic landmark has an observatory desk where you can see the entire 360-degree view of that city. Some examples are the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, the Eiffel Tower in Paris, and the Statue of Liberty in New York.

This means that when we repent, we go back to our highest and most profound dignity as children of God.

Sin is a downward movement. Salvation or repentance is an upward movement. Because of God's grace of salvation, we are called once again to remember and receive the gift of being reborn in our dignity as spiritual children of God.



Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

1 I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea, 2 and all of them were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. 3 All ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was the Christ. 5 Yet God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the desert. 6 These things happened as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil things, as they did. 10 Do not grumble as some of them did, and suffered death by the destroyer. 11 These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us, upon whom the end of the ages has come. 12 Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall.

The 5 Languages of Apology

1. I am sorry.

You admit your fault before the Lord without justifying it.

2. It is my fault.

You point to yourself. This is humility and personal accountability.

3. I promise not to do it again.

Saying sorry for what you did not mean to do-- not for those that you repeatedly do.

4. How can I make things right?

You ask how to make amends for what you have done.

5. Please forgive me.

The passwords to God's love, a new beginning, healing, and reconciliation are: "I am sorry. It is my fault. I promise not to do it again. How can I make things right? Please forgive me."

Amen.



REV. FR. BOB McCONAGHY:

I'm not trying to be Hollywood Bob up here with the sunglasses on. Actually, my eyes are healing from surgery and I can't take the lights. So, you'll probably see that for a few weeks...

I'm going to be available from 10 to 12 until 2:00 P.M. hearing Confessions. If you've been away for many years, if you're scared, if you're carrying something really heavy, and embarrassing, and you would love to go

to confession, come see me. I won't lecture you; I won't give you a hard time, I'll welcome you, and then absolve you. So, be not afraid to come. I'll be there until 2:00 P.M. And two weeks from now, I'll be there from 10 A.M. to 12 noon.

And always remember what Padre Pio said: Once you are absolved from your sins, don't think about them anymore and don't worry about them anymore. Any temptation to do that is not coming from God but from Satan who wishes to discourage you. So, be not afraid.

And then, after that, you can receive the beautiful plenary indulgence of the Jubilee of Hope.



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Worship!

SIS. MARIZ PAMAONG:

Good Morning, Feast! I invite you to stand.
We're going to worship the God who gives
us joy. And this is the day that He has made.
And He is here. So, lift your hands.
Come on!

Church, God's Spirit is breathing
and moving and He is awakening the dry
and dead places back to life. He is the one who redeems, and revives, and recovers.
If you believe that , come on, sing our hearts with faith. This is good news.
Come on!



AWAKE MY SOUL AND SING

SING HIS PRAISE ALOUD



THERE IS A SOUND
I LOVE TO HEAR

IT'S THE SOUND OF
THE SAVIOUR'S ROBE

WHERE PEOPLE PRAY



OH WAKE UP YOU SLUMBERING



**BRO. JIMMY
SAN BUENAVENTURA:**

We praise you Jesus. Father God,
we trust You. We trust in Your mercy.
We trust in Your faithfulness.
We trust in Your provisions.

Strengthen us, Father, to rely
on You alone.

And as we continue to worship, give us
that confidence in Your love, as we sing:



I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR FAITHFULNESS



**I'VE SEEN WHAT
ONLY YOU CAN DO**



I BELONG TO YOU WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE



YOU'RE MARVELOUS



BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:



How many of you are coming from a tiring week? If you encountered so many burdens, look around you. You're in good company now. You're not the only tired person in this place. Some may be even more tired than you.

But you want to know why I love faithful people? Faithful people don't have to pretend that everything is okay, that everything in one's life is fine.

Faithful people don't have to say, "I'm pretending that it's okay."

Because faithful people, you might be walking in defeat but you believe that one day, you will receive the victory in Jesus' Name.

You might be walking in weakness right now, but you know a day is coming when the strength of God is going to overcome all of your weaknesses.

And so, as faithful people, we find our confidence not in our strength but in God's strength.

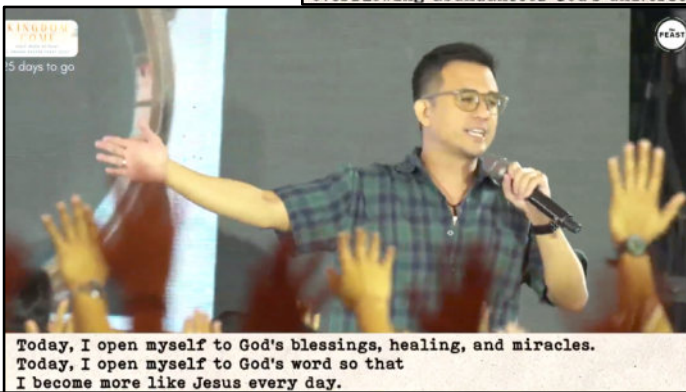
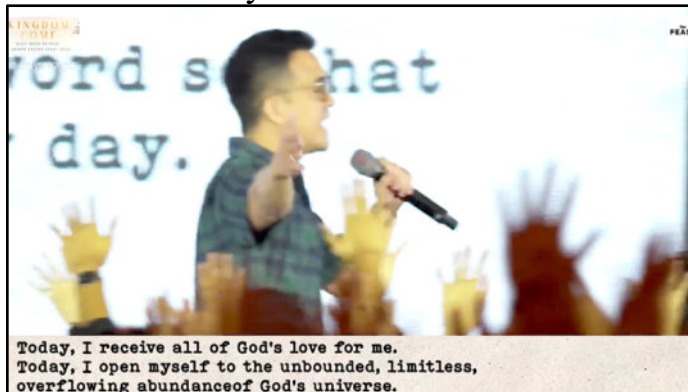
So, on the count of 3, I want you give your loudest victory shout.

1-2-3! Come on!



NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

I'm just excited to pour out God's wisdom. Are you ready to be blessed?
Lift your hands and say this with me:



Let's lift our hands to honor God's Word and sing:

*Thy Word is a Lamp unto my feet
And a Light unto my path.*

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Talk



BRO. AUDIE VILLARAZA:

We are in election season. So, there's wisdom on life about what we're going to study: about a person named King Saul. He was the first king of Israel. He was the predecessor of King David.

"In his old age Samuel appointed his sons judges over Israel... His sons did not follow his example, but looked to their own gain, accepting bribes and perverting justice."

This did not sit well with the Israelites.

So, they had advice for Samuel, who was their leader at that time:

"Therefore all the elders of Israel assembled and went to Samuel at Ramah and said to him, 'Now that you are old, and your sons do not follow your example, appoint a king over us, like all the nations, to rule us.'"

You could detect that they were a bit

envious of the neighboring nations, and they wanted a king to rule over them. But here is the response of Samuel:

"Samuel was displeased when they said, 'Give us a king to rule us.' But he prayed to the Lord. The Lord said: Listen to whatever the people say. You are not the one they are rejecting. They are rejecting me as their king."

There are two interpretations of this passage.

The first one is that Israel did not need a human king because they already had God as their king. They needed another king.

The second interpretation is that God allowed them to have a king, but not just an ordinary king. The king had to have a heart for God, just like David -- a man after God's own heart.

The second one has more legs because if you look down through Deuteronomy, the old text in the Torah, you'll note that Moses himself is giving us criteria on how to choose a human king.

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We all have different criteria for choosing our leaders.
But I believe these are the ones God is looking at:

1. The king will not amass horses.

"But he shall not have a great number of horses." --Deuteronomy 17:16-20

Back then, horses represented nuclear power--superpower.

God's message to the Israelites was simply: "God is your superpower."

Besides God, you don't need anybody else because He's giving you the power.

2. A good leader is somebody who does not have too many wives.

"Neither shall he have a great number of wives, lest his heart turn away."

--Deuteronomy 17:16:20for

At that time, wives represented alliances. That is why kings would look for and marry a princess from neighboring nations to form alliances with these nations and thus become more powerful.

God is simply saying: "I'm your greatest alliance. I'm the only royalty that you need in your family."

3. A good leader does not accumulate a vast amount of silver and gold.

How many of you believe that good leaders don't look at worldly wealth as their treasure-- but they look at eternal wealth? That's what you can bring to Heaven, right?

God is simply saying: "I'm your treasure. Don't accumulate anything that moths and vermin can destroy."

But then, Moses shifts his perspective a little...

Three Ways of a Good Leader

Moses now says three ways that a good leader should do:

1. The king will have a personal copy of the Scriptures.

A good ruler needs to have a good dose of Scripture regularly. He should be aligned to God's Word because that's where he gets his wisdom. He can have advisors but more than that, He needs God's wisdom...

"And to observe carefully all the words of this law and these statutes, so that he does not exalt himself over his kindred." --Deuteronomy 17:16-20

2. The king must obey.

If you're going to be a good leader, your boss should be God and nobody else.

3. The king will not exalt himself above others.

A leader is a servant of the people. Sometimes, we forget that whenever we're put in positions of power, we think people are here to serve us.

Jesus said: "For the Son of man did not come to be served but to serve."

Let's not be entitled people. Entitled people will say: "I deserve." But humble people will say: "I serve."

Put your hand over your chest and say: *"Father, we Thank You for Your wisdom that's going to pour out in this place. Today, I pray that You use this to speak to all Your children here who are so hungry for Your wisdom, Your word, and guidance. We need this message, especially for our families, our companies, our businesses, our nation, and our countries. Use this Lord. Let it bring to life the understanding of Your Word and the appreciation of how to put this into action. This is our prayer. In Jesus' Name. Amen."*

One more time, sing with me:



*Thy Word is a Lamp unto my feet
And a Light unto my path.*

The Message

Here's my message:

Follow the Right King.

Let's have a quick experiment: I'm going to ask someone-- here, Sis. Kathleen-- to do something amazing.

Kathleen, this is not staged. You did not know I was going to approach you. The Holy Spirit guided me so that I can speak with you. But I need you to do something very important. On the count of 3, I want you to look up to find something up in the ceiling that's super: 1- 2- 3!

Do you see it?



Okay, honesty system now. Everybody, I want you to be truly honest: When I told Kathleen to look up, how many of you also looked up? Did you see anything? There's a ceiling, right? Good light, chandelier... What is my point?

We are all followers, whether you like it or not. When you see somebody look up, you also look up. Maybe, you're also following the latest trends in *TikTok*, food, fashion, and music. We're all followers, but we're following not only trends --but also people.

But are we following the right people?

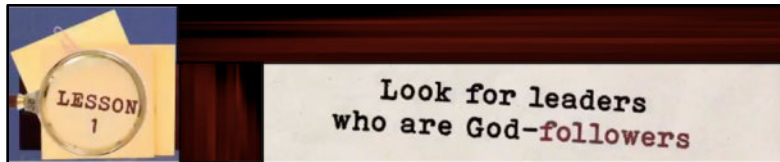
When it comes to your health, are you following the right advice from that good doctor? When it comes to your relationship, are you following your spouse? When it comes to your financial life, are you following the right mentors? When it comes to the most important aspect of your life-- which involves your soul and your spirit-- are you following the right God? Are you following the right King?

Three Lessons from Saul's Story

I'm going to preach again about the life of Saul.

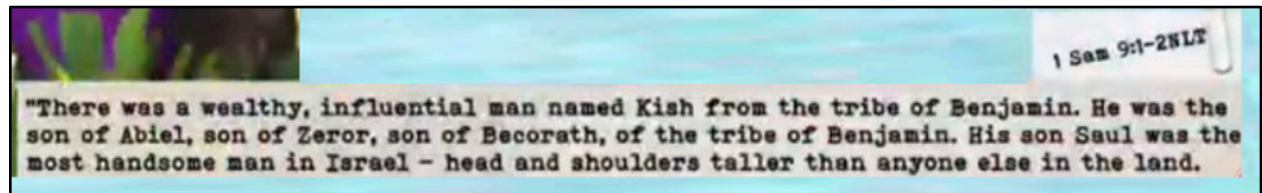
When I was studying his story this week, I saw the value that will help us navigate through this season of our nation.

I'll give you three key lessons:



1. Look for leaders who are God-followers.

A good leader is not just somebody who leads but who follows who is correct.



From this passage alone, you can already perceive how Saul is described.

Four situations describe who Saul is:

1. Saul is wealthy.
2. Saul comes from a wealthy family.
3. Saul comes from an influential family.
4. Saul is the most handsome man in Israel. He happens to be taller than anyone else in the land.

If this is a beauty pageant, like the Search for Mr. Israel 2025, Saul would probably bag the crown because physical appearance is what a pageant is about. He fits the package.

Let me stretch this even further. If this is a presidential election, Saul could be part of the top three or win by a landslide.

Here's an interesting fact: In the United States, since the onset of television, they found out that almost 2/3 of the time, the taller candidate usually wins.

For us Filipinos, this might not be a factor because we're all vertically challenged. We've had leaders who are quite short.

But we do have three qualifiers-- and this is not a political talk. Rather, we're learning from the wisdom of God to help us navigate through these times.

Filipino Conditions for a Leader

Here are three conditions that Filipinos look into a leader they would vote for:

1. Strong Political Alliances

When you belong to a good political party, it can be a plus factor, especially for the masses.

2. Name Recall and Popularity

People gravitate towards popular people such as celebrities. That's why it's easier for well-known people to win, especially in the provinces.

3. Campaign Resources

When candidates have the money to get their names out in the media or put their faces out on billboards.

This is the reality in our country. I'm not inventing. I'm not trying to debate with you. I'm just telling it as it is. We like people who are powerful, famous, and full of charisma. We love people with confidence.

Research says that persons with the most charisma tend to sell products better. They tend to get promoted easier. They tend to be trusted by people more.

But it can also work the other way. People with charisma are the most successful scammers because you trust them.

We like looking at charisma but charisma has no meaning without character. Charisma without character is like a time bomb that's waiting to explode.

If you're focusing only on charisma and not the character, that's a poor way of judging a leader.

Character is valuable. Charisma might get you to different places, but only character will keep you there. Charisma might get you a spouse, but character will give you a good marriage. Charisma might get you the job, but only character will give you an impact in the workforce.

Saul started with some charisma and people loved him for it. Sadly, because he lacked character, his story would shock you-- he failed God and the nation of Israel.

Here's another trait that is as important as character: *conviction in God*.

Saul was described as wealthy, influential, tall, and handsome. But not once did the author say: "Oh, this person has a good relationship with God."

Saul was supposed to be the king of Israel, God's beloved nation. But the author says nothing about his relationship with God.

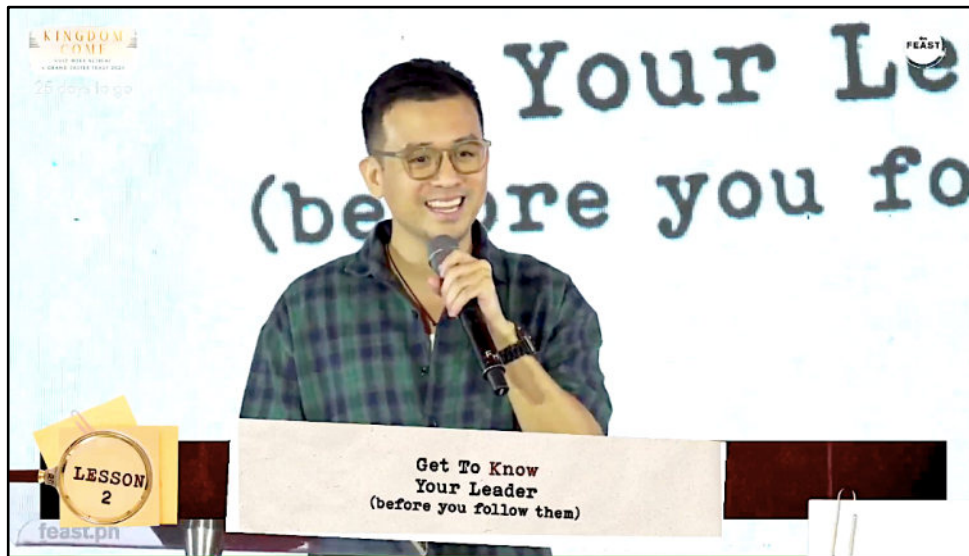
What Is My Point?

Look for leaders who have a heart for God.

Many leaders have a heart for God. I want to honor some of our government leaders who have made a way to bring The Feast to the provinces. We have a Feast in Butuan and Tacloban because of the support of our government partners.

So, there are good people out there. You just need to look for them.





Lesson 2: Get to know your leader before you follow them.

Samuel tells Saul: "You're going to be the next king."

This is how Saul responds:

1 Sam 9:21 NABRE
 "But I'm only from the tribe of Benjamin, the smallest tribe in Israel, and my family is the least important of all the families of that tribe! Why are talking like this to me?"

Can you perceive the insecurity of Saul?

He didn't want to be there because he was so unsure of himself.

And then:

1 Sam 9:22 NABRE
 Then Samuel brought Saul and his servants into the hall and placed them at the head of the table, honoring them above the thirty special guests.

The guy didn't want to be there in the first place. Now, he's at the head table!

What happens next is amazing because it reveals to us how insecure Saul is:

1 Sam 10:20-23 NLT
 Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel before the Lord, and the tribe of Benjamin was chosen by lot. Then he brought each family of the tribe of Benjamin before the Lord, and the family of the Matrites was chosen.

1 Sam 10:20-23 NLT
 And finally, Saul, son of Kish, was chosen from among them. But when they looked for him, he had disappeared! So they asked the Lord, "Where is he?"

1 Sam 10:21-23 NLT
 And the Lord replied, "He is hiding among the baggage." So they found him and brought him out, and he stood head and shoulders above anyone else.

Questions To Reflect On

Before you choose a leader, you've got to know who the person is and look at the person's character. The most dangerous way you could ever do is to put in leadership position someone who is broken, insecure, and greedy-- because that person will bring these traits when he's in that position.

Before you even look at Saul as a 43-year-old king, you have to know that he was a 13-year-old insecure boy who didn't even want to be there in the first place.

I'll tell you a story...

When I was in high school, we voted for the most popular person in our class as class president. He was the top one in academics. He was the captain of the volleyball team. He fit the part. He was tall. He was handsome. Naturally, he won by a landslide.

But as soon as he became president, we saw he was not the leader we wanted. He started bossing people around and exacting unreasonable demands from everybody. We started hating him... until we found out that he came from a broken family. He was so insecure as a child that he brought that with him when we gave him the power.

The last thing we want is to put people in power who have unresolved issues-- because they'll bring their issues with them when you put them in position.

Here are questions to reflect on when we are choosing leaders:

1. Do they have integrity?

Integrity is about honesty. Ethical people are good leaders

2. Do they have compassion?

Real empathy and concern for the well-being of others

3. Do they have humility?

Are they servants of the Lord? Are they servants of the people?

4. Are they just and fair?

There should be no *padrino* system or *palakasan*.

5. Do they have a respect for life?

As Catholics, we want leaders who promote human life.

6. Are they accountable?

Are they transparent in their dealings? Do they act well even as no one is looking, and they don't do things under the table?





Lesson 3: Your Decision Affects Your Family-- and your nation, too.

Let's go fast forward a bit in the story of Saul.

Now, Saul has disobeyed God multiple times.

Hence, God rejects him.

The Lord will continue to give you chances to go back to Him. But there is a limit to the Lord's chances especially when your heart has hardened just like that of the Pharaoh.

There can be a place where the Lord can no longer reach you.

God gave Saul multiple chances to repent and to be God's follower.

Unfortunately, he kept on failing until the Lord said, "I'm rejecting Saul. I am now appointing a new leader."

Now the Lord said to Samuel, "you have mourned long enough for Saul. I have rejected him as king of Israel, so fill your flask with olive oil and go to Bethlehem. Find a man named Jesse who lives there, for I have selected one of his sons to be my king."

This is the first time we're hearing about the family of Jesse who is the father of David.

God is now pointing us to David but the story shifts to another character by the name of Jonathan, the son of Saul.

Picture this for a moment. Jonathan is supposed to be the next in line to the throne.

Now, he has a predicament: Option 1 is to fight back and claim what is rightfully his. Option 2 is to submit to God and choose the rightful king of Israel.

How many of you believe that it only takes one person in your family to make a crucial decision about ending a cycle of sin and the Lord changes the trajectory of that whole family? Do you think it's possible?

Yes! Because God can do it. Jonathan chose Option 2. In the verse below, Jonathan is having a conversation with David.

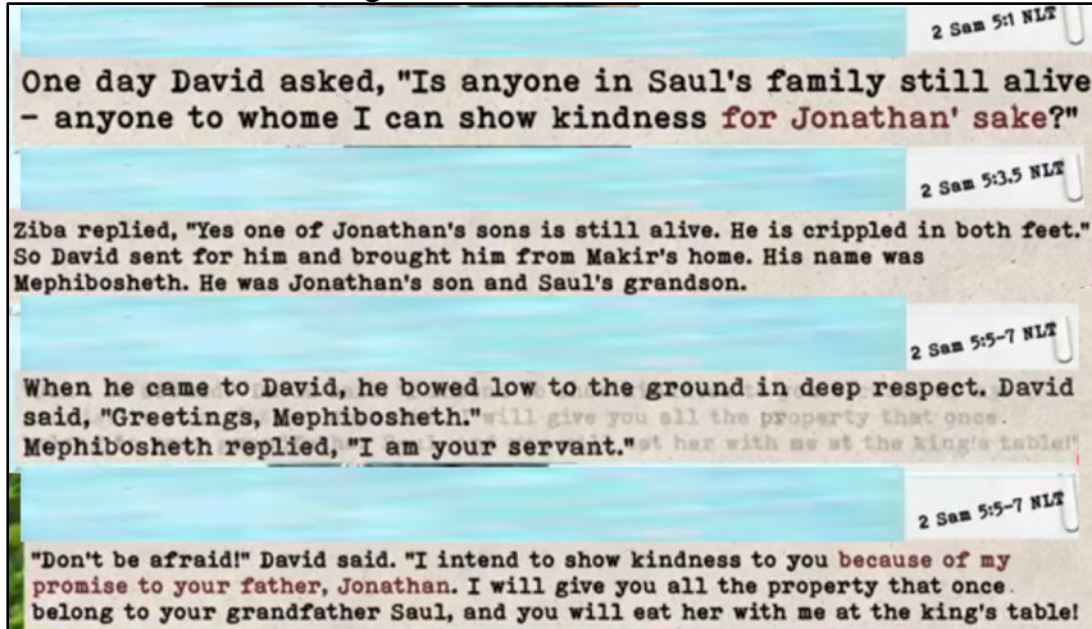
"May the Lord be with you as he used to be with my father. And may you treat me with the faithful love of the Lord as long as I live. But if I die, treat my family with this faithful love, even when the Lord destroys all your enemies from the face of the earth."

Isn't that good? Jonathan chooses to honor God's choice instead of saying, "No, I'm your next king! I deserve to be in this place!"

Isn't that humility?



Now, let's go to 2 Samuel where Saul and Jonathan were already dead and David is now king.



Because of that decision by Jonathan, the entire lineage of Saul was blessed.

My point is this: When you choose to honor God's choice, God will honor your choice and bless your family.

Isn't God good? All it takes is one person in the family to say:

"It ends with me."

Whatever generational sin has been passed on by your ancestor, the cycle ends with you. You've got to make that choice. Choose to follow the right king and I guarantee that the Lord will bless your generation. Your children's children will be blessed.

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The Leader We Need

How many of you have been hurt by a church leader?

A pastor, a priest.

Or by someone you look up to?

When I joined The Feast 15 years ago, I eventually became one of the leaders of this Community and I never expected that church could be messy. I've always expected that church is a holy place and the last thing that I expected was a church leader hurting me because of some issues.

I'm just like one of you. I was disillusioned when I was hurt deeply by a church leader. But at the same time, the incident also opened my eyes to the truth that no one is perfect, including the church leaders and every leader that we put in position.

We all need the grace of God. We've all fallen short from the grace of God and we praise the Lord for His mercy. But I need you to understand that the reason we get disappointed and frustrated is we put people on pedestals that they do not deserve. That pedestal that you have in your life where you put who you would crown as king, only Jesus belongs there. Only He can be crowned as your King. The moment you put other people, situations, or things there, they will always disappoint you.

Have you ever heard of the term *T.O.T.G.A?* It means *The One That Got Away*.

But I have another term and it's called *T.O.T.S.B.:* *The One Who Stayed Behind*.

Jesus stays behind. When everybody else is quitting on you, Jesus will never give up on you. When everybody else is backstabbing you, Jesus will be loyal to you. That's the kind of king that we serve.

When everybody else is saying: "Serve me!" Jesus says, "Let me serve you."

That's the kind of king that we worship. Follow the right king. Make a difference in your family's life and our nation's life. When we put the wrong people in leadership positions, not only we who suffer the consequences, but the generations that follow after us. They will feel the consequences of the financial debt that they will inherit from our bad decisions.

Choose wisely. Allow the Lord's wisdom and grace to guide you in choosing the persons you will call your leaders.

But make no mistake. The One leader we need to have is God.

We need to say: *"Jesus, you are my Lord. You are my Savior. Nobody else deserves to be in this position. I will follow you for the rest of my days."*



Surrender



Put your hand over your chest. This is going to be our opportunity to respond to God's message-- by allowing Him to unseat any false gods in your heart and in your life. You know what that is. I don't have to reveal it to you. But God knows what that is as well and I want you to turn that over to Jesus and say:

"Lord, from this day on, I will give up all these false gods, all these false idols such as materialism, greed, lust, and all of the other sins that have accumulated in my life. I surrender them to You at the foot of Your Cross because I know that I cannot do this without You."

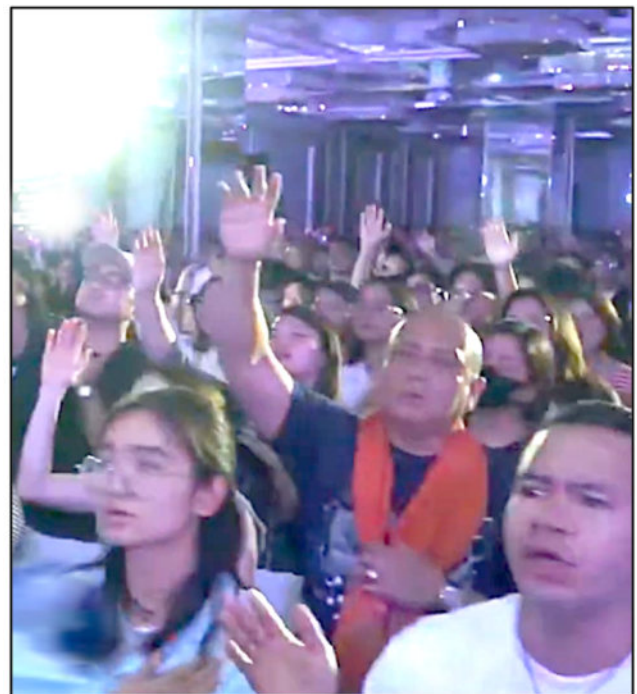
*"Because with Your grace and with Your help, nothing is impossible."
Jesus, be with us now. We want more of You in our life, in our neighborhood, in our government, in our organizations, in our clubs, in our churches, and in our families. Jesus, we want You. Come and permeate this nation with Your Presence and with Your love.*

In Your Holy Name. Amen.

Friends, I want to read to you a quote that has blessed my life-- from English Particular Baptist preacher Spurgeon Charles Spurgeon:

"You may think you can live life very well without Christ but you cannot afford to die without Him."

Too many people want to live life and they think they can live life without Jesus but they're so desperate in their deathbed to have Jesus with them. We don't want that. We want Jesus right here, right now, front, back, and center. We don't want to wait tomorrow or next week to have life with Him. But we want Him now.



I SURRENDER TO YOUR GREATNESS



Commitment

If you want Jesus now, I invite you to say this simple prayer that I believe can change your life completely and set you free.

This is for somebody who has never experienced life with Jesus. If you've never encountered the Living God, and His life and goodness for you, this is a prayer for you. But this could also be a prayer for those of you who might have walked away once upon a time, and now you're slowly coming back, to realize that God really loves you, this is for you. And this is also for those who are here week after week and say,

“Lord, I need you and I want you.”

I want you to put your hand over your chest right now and say this prayer with me:

Dear Jesus, I am a sinner in need of a savior. I believe that You are the Son of God and that You died for my sins to raise me to new life. So, today, I declare that all the false gods that I have worshipped they got to go. I'm making room -- enough room-- only for You. Starting today, I want You to change my life from the inside out. I will walk with You till the end of my days and I will worship You and love You, and serve You.

Now, if that's your prayer, and if you want life with Jesus, on the count of three, I want you to lift your hands, and together, we'll celebrate life with Jesus. Here we go: 1-2-3, hands up, hands up, hands ups! come in let's sing:



Love Offering

BRO. DIDOY LUBATON:

Give Him glory, give Him praise, Everybody.
Thank You, Jesus!

We want You God. You are our everything.
We praise You, Father.

Everybody, can you be the reminder
of God's Love to the people around you? Tell them
our one big message today: *Follow the Right King.*

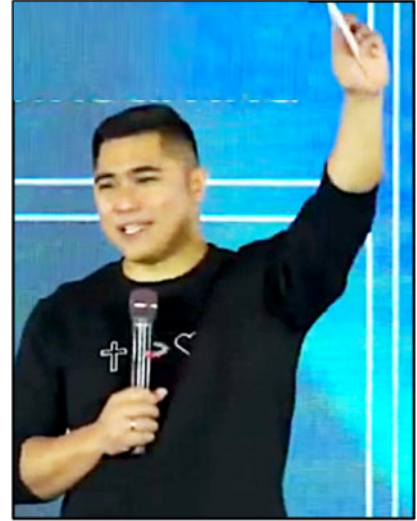
Let's now give our Love Offering.
When you give, it shows who your King is.
If you're generous, you know you have a generous
God. If you're skimpy, you know you have work to do in your relationship
with the Lord-- because God is our giver, God is our provider, God ensures
that we have everything we need and so much more.

So, give in trust that God's generosity overflows into your life.

Because as we are blessed, we are blessing the world.

As you lift your Love Offering, say this prayer with me:

*Dear Jesus, Thank You for this opportunity to give. Bless our Community
and bless me. As I am blessed, I am blessing the world. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*



Give generously to the Lord. See you next Sunday, Everybody.

And we bring back all the glory to God as we say: "Glory be to the Father,
to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall
be world without end. Amen.

The FEAST FAMILY March 30, 2025 **25**



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@kerygmfamily.com

Website: <https://kerygmfamily.com>

Our Partner Beneficiaries

Jeremiah 33 Foundation
is a shelter for minor girls
particularly victims
of sexual abuse.



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



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.kerygmfamily.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.

4. Directly Deposit to Our Bank Accounts. Deposit to Shepherd's Voice Account in any branch of these banks:
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Banco de Oro Savings Account no: 003970019804 General Araneta, Cubao Branch
Banco de Oro - Savings Account no. 000160506123 SM Cubao Branch
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Note: Text, Fax, or email us your name, date and amount of deposit, and the branch of the bank where you deposited your donation, or fax the deposit slip to us. Email us at support@kerygmfamily.com or text us at (63) 922-828-9890/ (63) 998-968-4416 or Fax to (+632) 725-1230.



FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE

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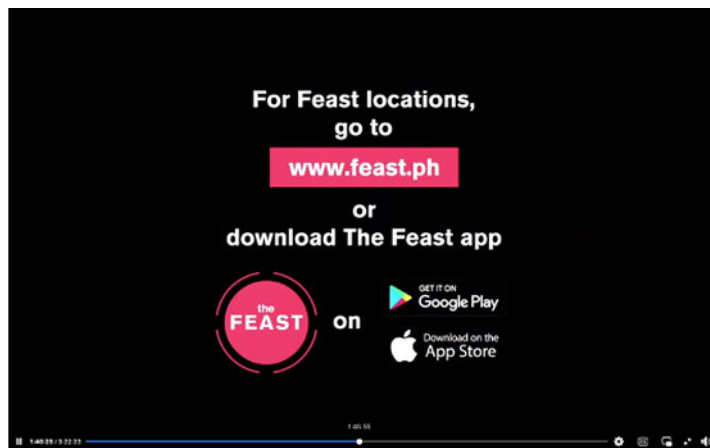
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Go and make disciples of all men.
— Matthew 28:19

