



Easter Blessings!

EASTER SUNDAY, we will have a Grand Easter Feast, a gigantic gathering, a celebration of God's Love. It will be in SMX Convention Center near Mall of Asia. No tickets required, just like The Feast. Just walk in. It will be a beautiful time of God's Love.

Three days before, this time, with tickets, because we want



a smaller group of people gathering for the Holy Week Retreat -- Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Black Saturday, mornings only, 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

The afternoon is free for you-- you can have rest, go to your parish, celebrate with them. But in the morning, I want you to be spiritually and emotionally recharged.

Yes, there are tickets. It takes millions upon millions of pesos just to have the Grand Easter Feast and the Holy Week Retreat.

Someone told me, "Bro. Bo, the ticket is kind of expensive. Last year, it was only P1,000.00. Now, it's P1, 500.00."

One reason is we added another day. Last year, there were only two days-- Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

We wanted a fuller experience. So, we're having the Retreat all the way until Black Saturday, so that we get ready for Easter Sunday.

But then I ask this: Is it really expensive? In one sense, it is. But I want you to think about our other priorities, and how much we spend for them. Think about the value, in terms of having three days, four days, actually, being in the Presence of the Lord.

I was talking to a young person. He said, "Well, Bro. Bo, I attended a concert, ticket cost P15,000, three hours. Here, we have three-four days. Right, the Retreat is not expensive."

It's about value. What do you value? What are your priorities?

Is the Lord your priority? Is your spiritual life your priority?

So, put your value there.

Have blessings-filled Grand Easter Feast!

May your dreams come true,

Bo Sanchez



A GLORIOUS EASTER to everyone!
JESUS IS ALIVE!
He was. He is. He always will be.
And His Kingdom has come!

YOUR KINGDOM COME!

Congratulations, Everyone,
for our hugely victorious
Holy Week Retreat, from Holy Thursday
to Good Friday, at the SMX Convention
Center, Manila!

We thank and honor our Builders and Leaders headed by Bro. Didoy Lubaton for our Holy Week Retreat; our beloved priest celebrants, and powerful speakers led by our dear founder Bro. Bo Sanchez; our partner Feast Districts – Makati and Quezon City; the creative people of the Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television (SVRTV); our hundreds of faithful Feast Servants, and our thousands of blessed attendees: *Maraming Salamat po!*

Indeed, God's Kingdom has come here and now -- where there is faith, hope, and love, where there are people who are willing to serve and "die a little" so that others may live more, where God is worshipped, thanked, celebrated and His amazing love is received, and where JESUS is-- God's Kingdom is truly upon us.

We washed each other's feet on Holy Thursday, we died with Jesus with our selflessness on Good Friday, we expectantly hoped and actively waited on Black Saturday, and so, we rise again with the Lord on Easter Sunday.

We proclaim: "We are an Easter People!"

Get ready to be blessed more as we welcome you to The Feast,
where *You are loved!*

Mayroong Magandang Mangyayari Sa 'Yo!

Alvin Barcelona

Merry Easter!

LAST Sunday, April 13, 2025, we celebrated Palm Sunday, the beginning of our Holy Week. In his Homily during Mass at The Feast Bay Area, Rev. Fr. Joel Jason pointed out the palms “are not simply mindless ornaments.”

He pointed out the palms remind us three bold statements we must reflect on during Lent. Read on, *page 4*.



The Holy Week, indeed, is a time of deep reflection on our faith. Bro. Bo Sanchez points out the Light of Jesus Holy Week Retreat has reminded us to ponder upon our values, our priorities, *page 1*.

Speaking of values and priorities, we honor our leaders giving precious time for contributing contents for *The FEAST FAMILY*.

You see, Holy Week is when our leaders are most “in demand” for talks and other tasks in our mission fields.

One of the busiest is Bro. Alvin Barcelona.

“Really tight. Really hectic this week,” he said of his commitments.



Yet, he managed to beat the deadline for his Easter Message for this issue. Coming from a mission in Butuan City, he sent the article by email shortly after landing at the Manila airport. Just in time for our reflection: “God’s Kingdom has come,” *page 2*.

Bro. Audee Villaraza again helps us with reflections on what Life really is: victories and defeats just as King David experienced, death and new life, just as Jesus went through. Details in Bro. Audee’s *Flashback* on Talk 9, the last of our series, *WHO CAN LEAD US?*, *page 10*.

By the way, the word *Easter* is from *Eoster*, pagan goddess of spring and fertility celebrated in the Anglo-Saxon culture around the spring equinox. Early Christians adopted *Easter* as name of the celebration of Jesus’ Resurrection which also occurs around the spring equinox-- when day and night are of equal length.

In Tagalog, *Easter* or *Resurrection Day* is *Pasko ng Muling Pagkabuhay*.

In Spanish, *Pascua de Resurreccion*. *Pascua* is derived from the Latin *pascha*, from the Ancient Greek *paskha*, from the Hebrew *Pesahk* or *Passover*-- spelled with capital *P* because it’s the name of a most important holiday among the Jews celebrating their freedom from slavery in Egypt (Exodus 12).

Reflect on it: Our *Pasko* is celebration of our spiritual freedom, Jesus coming to be our Savior, yes, *ALIVE* in our midst.

Merry Easter!

All for God’s Glory,

Randy Borromeo
Media Ministry
Executive Director





Holy Mass



PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Homily

REV. FR. JOEL JASON
on the Gospel Luke 23:1-49

Excerpts:

Good Morning, Everyone!

Today, we begin the *HOLYness* week in our Church calendar. We call this Holy Week. In Tagalog, *Mahal na Araw*.

This Sunday, in particular, we call it The Sunday of the Lord's Passion. That is why our Gospel today is taken from Luke, recalling the events of the Lord's passion and death. The color of our Liturgy is red, symbolizing the blood with which our Lord redeems us.



Concelebrant
REV. FR. BOB McCONAGHY



But this Sunday is also called Palm Sunday. In Tagalog, *Linggo ng Palaspas*.

In all churches today, there will be blessing of palms. The priests will bless the palms. And you will put the blessed palm in your home.

Palms Statements

The palms that will be blessed today and be put in your homes are not simply mindless ornaments. They are bold statements. Every time you see your palm, remind yourself that together with Christ, you are making these statements:



1. No to Vanity.

Ladies usually put their cosmetics in their vanity kits. Some call them *kikay* kits. When we hear the word *vanity*, we usually associate it with physical beautification. But the biblical meaning of *vanity* is much deeper.

Ecclesiastes 1:2 says: "Vanity of vanities. Everything is vanity." The Hebrew word is *habel habelim* which means *bubble*. When you see a bubble, especially if it's under the sun, it looks attractive, right? Our instinct is to immediately grab the bubble-- but the moment we take hold of the bubble, it disappears or bursts. The bubble is just temporary. Beautiful but not permanent.

A *no to vanity* means we will not run after bubbles.

In the time of our Lord, the Israelites also carried palm branches. They used it during the Feast of Tents. They would use the branches of the palms to set up their tents. Remember that they were journeying in the desert. A tent was their temporary lodging until they reached the Promised Land. Every year, the Jews would go out of their houses and build tents to remind themselves that once, they were wanderers in the desert.

Also, it's their way to remind themselves that this Earth is not our permanent home and that the Kingdom of Heaven is our permanent home. We call that The Feast of Tents or The Feast of Sukkot. Whenever we wave those palm branches, it's also our way of declaring: "Lord, I will not chase after vanity."

St. Charbel said: "The ignorant man clings to dust until he becomes dust. The wise man clings to heaven until he reaches the kingdom of heaven."

This means you become who or what you cling to. Today, together with Jesus, we proclaim: "No to vanity."



First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

4 The Lord God has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; 5 and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. 6 I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.

7 The Lord God is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

2. No to Violence

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, he entered riding a donkey. People then were shocked because most probably, they were expecting Jesus to arrive on a horse. If not a horse, it could be through a chariot. They thought that Jesus was entering Jerusalem as a political conqueror. But Jesus made a statement by riding on a donkey which is not a political animal nor a mighty animal but an agricultural animal. Later on, the donkey became known as an animal of peace because of its gentle nature.



Jesus was kind of saying: "I did not come here as a political conqueror. I came here to conquer human hearts."

We are called not only to be peacekeepers but peacemakers. As a peacekeeper, you maintain peace but only a shallow kind of peace.

For example, you're mad at your wife. To keep the peace, you slap your wife. That is what happens when a palm becomes a fist.

Palm Sunday is also a day to ask: "What do I make of my palm? Is it an instrument of peace or does it become a fist that silences my enemies?"

A peacemaker follows not the way of violence-- but the way of peace. Whenever disagreements arise, you have a dialogue with the other person.

Today, let us say: "I will say no to violence. I will only say yes to peace."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 **R: My God, my God. Why have you abandoned me?**

8 All who see me scoff at me; they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads. 9 "He relied on the Lord; let him deliver him, let him rescue him, if he loves him." (R)

17 Indeed, many dogs surround me, a pack of evildoers closes in upon me; they have pierced my hands and my feet; 18 I can count all my bones. (R)

19 They divide my garments among them, and for my vesture they cast lots.

20 But you, O Lord, be not far from me; O my help, hasten to aid me. (R)

23 I will proclaim your name to my brethren; in the midst of the assembly, I will praise you. 24 "You who fear the Lord, praise him; all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him; revere him, all you descendants of Israel!" (R)



3. No to Vainglory

Vainglory is when you live for attention. The disciples felt that way when they entered Jerusalem.

James and John even requested: "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."

Nowadays, people sell their souls for worldly desires. *Ipagpapalit ang puri para sa papuri. Lahat ipapakita para kumita.*

We will experience true glory only when Jesus is with us. Let's not look for people's applause because it's only temporary. Let's desire God's applause because it will bring us to life eternal.

One last story. Two donkeys, namely Donkey 1 and Donkey 2, are talking with each other. Donkey 1 is the donkey that Jesus rode on.

Donkey 1 said, "People are strange. Yesterday, they were singing '*Hosanna*' to me. They were laying their clothes on the road as I passed by. But now, no one notices me."

Donkey 2 said, "That is the way with us. Without Jesus with us, we are nothing. Apart from God, we are nothing."

A wise man said: The soil without a tree is still soil. But a tree without soil is nothing. The water without a fish is still water. But a fish without water is nothing. God without man is still God. But man without God is nothing. The soil is the natural environment of the tree; hence, when the tree is out of its natural environment, it will die. The water is the natural environment of the fish; hence, when the fish is out of its natural environment, it will die.

Who is our natural environment? It's God. That is why when we are separated from God, we are nothing. We will die.

As we wave our palms today, let's tell the Lord: "I will not chase vainglory. I will not look for the applause of other people. I will look for Your applause."

When God applauds you, it'll not bring you to vainglory but to eternal glory.



Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

6 Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. 7 Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, 8 he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. 9 Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Worship!

SIS. PATNUBAY BUAN:

Church, whatever position you are in, may you be seated, or standing, let us just allow ourselves to be embraced by God's love and thank Him forever, and together we sing...



NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:

If you know where your joy comes from, if you know where your strength comes from, if you know where your confidence comes from, can you give a shout of praise to the Lord? Come on! Hallelujah!

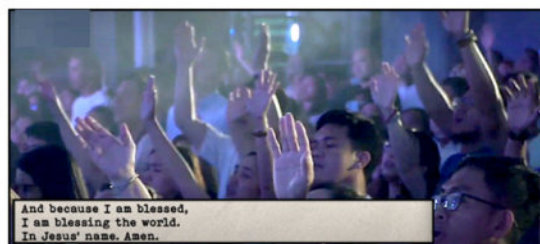
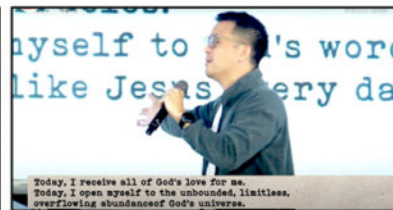
Everybody, say: My joy is in the Lord! My strength is in the Lord!

My heart is *with* the Lord! God is good!

How many of you came here tired from this week? How many of you need rest? Need peace?

Are you ready to receive a blessing from the Lord?

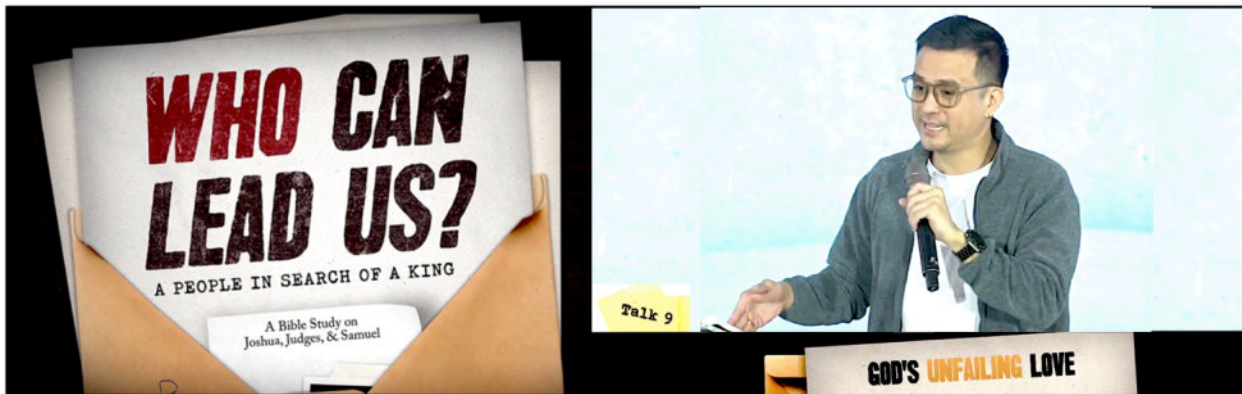
All right. May I invite you to lift both hands in the air, with conviction in your heart and with joy in your voice, say this out loud:



Lay over your hands
and give glory
to God's Word:
*Thy Word
is a Lamp
unto my feet
And a Light
unto my path.*



Talk



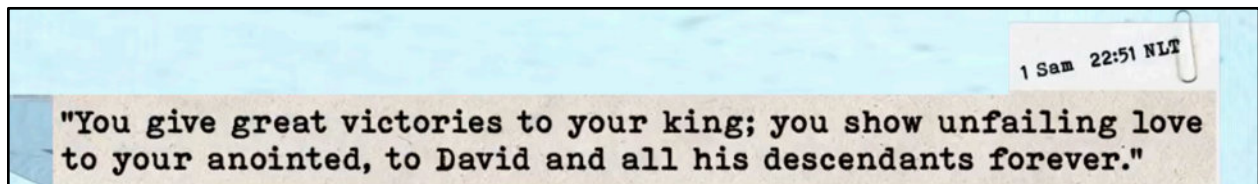
BRO. AUDIE VILLARAZA:

I have some unfortunate news. Today is the last talk of this series *WHO CAN LEAD US?* Good things always come to an end. But for every ending, there's always a new beginning.

Next week, we're going to dive into something new. It's going to be Grand Easter Feast. I hope you're going to be there for our Holy Week Retreat. But for now, I'm going to close this the right way.

Finally, we came to this guy named David, who is regarded as the greatest king of all of Israel. He was somebody whose heart was after God. A man after God's own heart. But if David had some victories, he also had some defeats. David had some highs, but he also had some lows.

In 1 Samuel 22:51, David gives a testimony about God's love.



David says that God is someone whose love never fails. It endures forever. David has been through so much in life, yet he says: "Lord, you give great victories to me and my descendants forever. I feel your unfailing love."

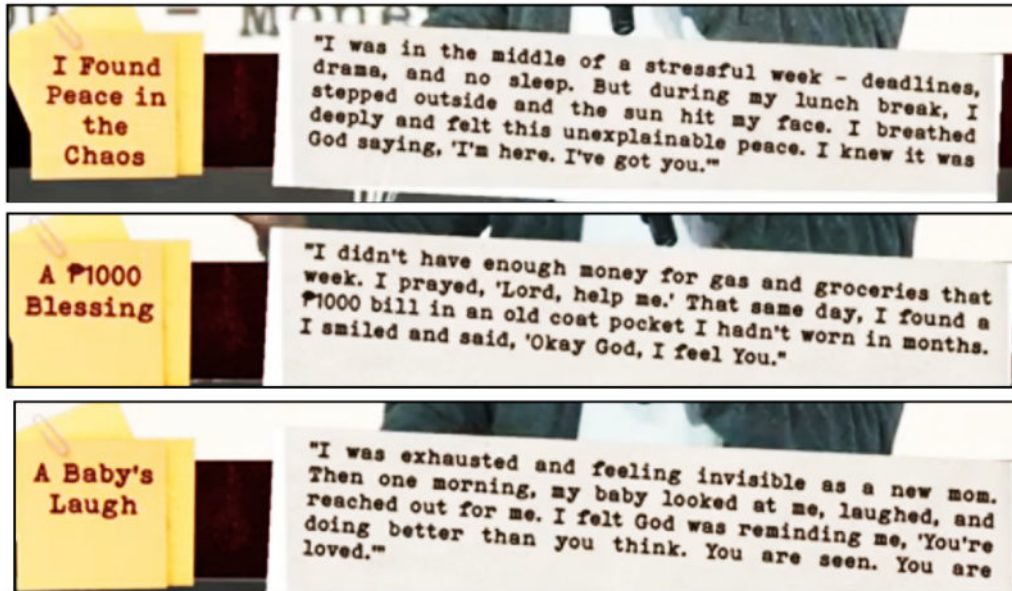
Do you also have a testimony about God's love? It doesn't have to be a big testimony. It doesn't have to be a testimony as big as David's. You don't have to kill a giant like Goliath to have a testimony.

In the same way, you don't need to be a recovering addict to have a testimony. You don't need to come from a broken family to have a testimony. You don't need to have 14 children with 14 women to have a testimony.

Testimonies

Sometimes, the loudest testimonies are the smallest because they show us that God's love can be found even in the small places.

I googled some really cool testimonies. Maybe some of you can resonate with these:



I love small testimonials because they show us that God's love can be found in simple choices, through a random text message from an old friend, through a simple hug, through a worship song, and through the sun shining on you.

These testimonies tell us one truth and one truth alone:
God's love never fails.

Put your hand over your chest.

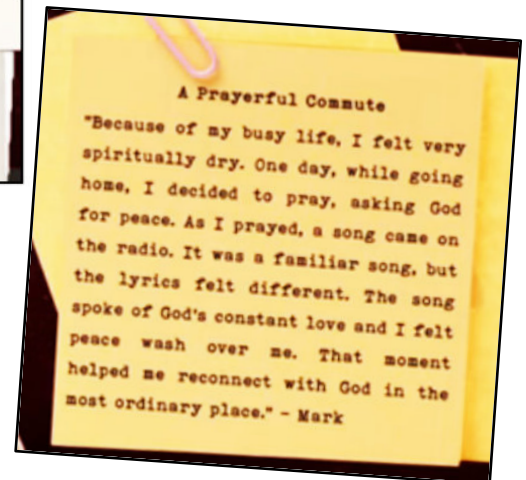
Say this with me:

"Lord, I need Your Word. I need your wisdom.

Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening. In Jesus' Name. Amen."

One more time, Everybody, lift your hands and let's sing:

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



Victories...and Defeats

We're going to look at the life of David from a different perspective.

We've seen David as a shepherd boy defeating a Goliath giant. We've seen David conquering nations and defeating his enemies. We've seen David forgiving King Saul.

Now, we're going to look at David from a different angle. We've seen his victories. But I believe that if we're going to understand and appreciate David, we also need to see his defeats. If we know only about David's strengths and not his weaknesses. We might feel that David is perfect -- and we're not.



I don't want to stand here in front of you and just talk about my milestones or showcase my unbelievably good-looking smile.

If that's the only thing that you see every Sunday, you might think, "Why am I so messed up? Unlike Brother Audie, who seems to have everything going for him?"

So, I've got to share my defeats with you all the time, so that you can relate to me.

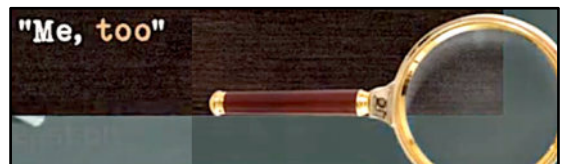
The two most powerful words that bond you with another person are:

"Me, Too."

"You're afraid of the future? Me, too".

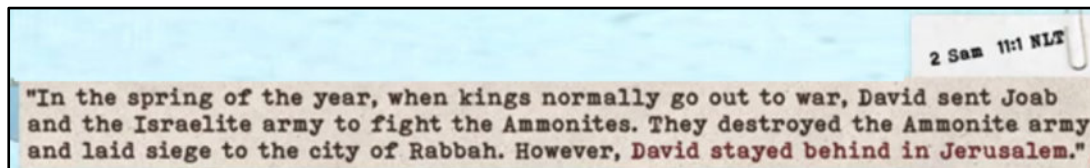
"You worry about your family? Me, too."

When you say that to somebody, it instantly bonds you. We all have defeats. We all have losses. Why? We're all human. Some of us might feel blessed right now, but the next day, some of us might feel burdened. That's the fact of life. That's why it's good to look at David who also had failures. While he was a good king and a faithful servant of the Lord, David also failed God.





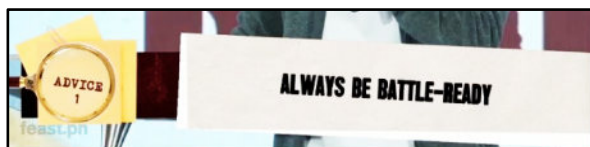
We'll explain the three big failures of David-- and the nine life-saving lessons we learn from these three catastrophes...



It wasn't that David was left behind. He *stayed* behind. We know that he's not a coward but for some reason, he stayed behind. For me, that set up the sin.

Why? Here are two reasons.

- He was absent from battle.
- He was alone and he was distant from his comrades.



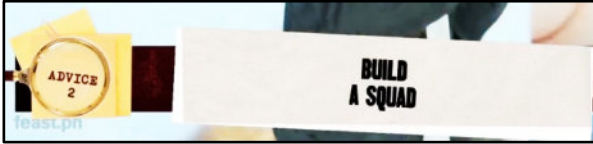
You're always going to be in a battle. Who among you is tired of traffic? Who among you is tired of debts? Who among you is tired of taking maintenance pills?

I know some people who say: "I'm tired of this kind of life!"

So, they work out to be healthy, they get rid of their financial debt. But the moment a bit of comfort comes, they go back to the same habits.

If we're going to learn anything from David, it's to always be battle-ready. Always put on the armor of God when you step out of your comfort zone. The enemy will always find a way to attack you. Never relax because evil never relaxes.





In the army, a soldier is part of two teams: a squad and a platoon.

A squad has 8 to 12 soldiers.

A platoon has 3 to 4 squads.

The platoon is a group of about 20 to 50 individuals representing your organization, your community, or the company where you work. That's important.

But there's a more important group which is the squad-- persons who you are close to. It could be your Light Group, your family members, your closest confidantes. A platoon is a blessing but a squad is a necessity. You need to have both in your life.

St. Peter gives us good advice.

He says: "Stay alert. Watch out for your great enemy, the Devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

I wonder why St. Peter used the analogy of a roaring lion. How do lions attack their prey? Lions, unless they're super hungry, will never attack a herd of animals. That's why giraffes, deer, and zebras travel together. More chances of surviving.

Because the rule of the jungle is if you're alone, you might as well pour ketchup all over yourself because you're part of the meal.

Do you ever wonder why temptation is at its strongest when you're alone in the bathroom, in the bedroom, with your thoughts in your head while you're scrolling down on your phone?

The irony of life is you can be surrounded by a lot of interesting people, but be on your phone and still be alone. Isn't that sad? Sometimes, you think that you are surrounded by so many people, but you are alone. So, what do you do?

You build a squad. Build this group that you can call at 3:00 a.m.

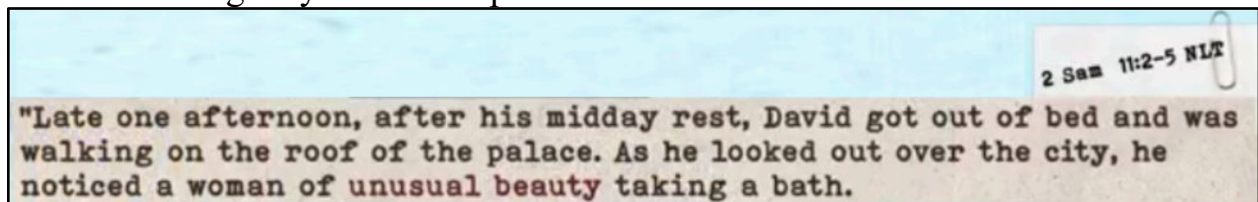
I have what I call 3:00 a.m. friends. When I am in trouble, I can call them at 3:00 a.m. and they will answer. They are Didoy Lubaton and Mike Viñas. I can call when I'm being tested. You need to have people like them in your life -- people who will run through the mess that you're in and save you. You have people like that? If you don't, you better look for one.

You can find them here, in church.





There are tasks that David should have done, but there are those that David did not do. I'll give you an example.



David's greatest mistake is Bathsheba. David was doing so well until Bathsheba showed up.

When David saw this woman with unusual beauty, he should have called his wife and said: "Honey, you've got to call our neighbor and tell her not to take a bath in the nude because some people might see her... There are predators out there."

That's what David should have done. But you know what David did? David picked up his phone not to call the wife-- but to take photos.

Here's the second mistake: Instead of just ignoring that woman, David sent messengers to fetch her.

What should David have done? He should have walked away upon learning that the woman is married-- because he, too, is married.

But they dined by candlelight. Before the evening ended, they proceeded to make a baby.

The best way to stop sin is to not start at all. If you have a pornography addiction, stop looking at those images that might tempt you. If you know you have an addiction to that substance, stop tasting it again and again-- because that's how the addiction starts. The best way to stop a sin is to not start it at all. But, hey, if you happen to start the sin, you defeat it while it's still small.

You know, you defeat it while it's still young and it's still developing. Recognize it when it's still small.



The best way to stop is
to not start at all.

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Some don't recognize the sin when it is still small.

So, what happens? You tell a white lie and then you tell another white lie until it becomes a web of lies. You're so lost that you don't even recognize what's right and what's wrong. Some of you started borrowing money with little interest. You keep on borrowing money until the interest is already eating you alive and you're now wallowing in debt.

David just defeated the giant Goliath. But then he gets defeated by a woman named Bathsheba. How ironic is that? What is this telling us?

Sometimes, the real giants that you face are not the Goliaths. But the desires that go unnoticed -- the conversations that you don't have with your wife, the feelings that you don't communicate to your friends, and the desires that you allow to grow in your mind and your heart.

Our real giants are
the small desires that go unnoticed.

Kill the wrongdoing while it's still small. Fight it while it's still gestating.



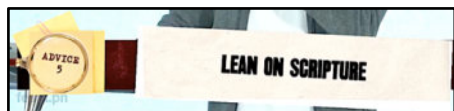
The moment when you are tempted, you consult God. Don't consult God when the problem is already at Level 10. You consult God while the problem is still at Level 1.

Include Him in the process.

Matthew 26:41 says: *Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.*



There is a saying that the eyes are the windows to one's soul. If your eyes see something that's dark, the darkness will transfer and go inside your spirit.



You're protecting something so important

The Word of God is your strength and your weapon.

When you go out into the world, you bring the Word of God with you. Don't ever go out without that weapon because the Word of God is our greatest weapon against sin.

In Psalms 119:11, David said: *"I have hidden Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against You."*



One great way you can get rid of your temptation is if you actually tell it to someone you trust. All of a sudden, you

feel so humble. When you tell that temptation to someone, that sin loses its power. When you tell it to someone you trust, you will realize that the Lord actually heals you. Anything that you reveal to the light, it's illuminated and you feel light. You feel like there's a burden that's being removed from you.



After finding out that Bathsheba was pregnant, this is what David did:

2 Sam 11: 6, 8-9. NLT

Then David sent word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." So Joab sent him to David. Then he told Uriah, "Go on home and relax."

David even sent a gift to Uriah after he had left the palace. But Uriah didn't go home. He slept that night at the palace entrance with the king's palace guard.

Uriah replied, "The Ark and the armies of Israel and Judah are living in tents, and Joab and my master's men are camping in the open fields. How could I go home to wine and dine and sleep with my wife? I swear that I would never do such a thing."

So the next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and gave it to Uriah to deliver. The letter instructed Joab, "Station Uriah on the front lines where the battle is fiercest. Then pull back so that he will be killed."

David wanted Uriah to come home and sleep with Bathsheba to make it appear that the father of Bathsheba's baby is Uriah and not David.

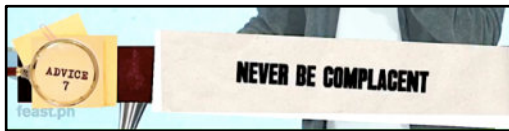
Uriah, however, did not go to bed with his wife, saying, "How can I sleep with my wife when my fellow soldiers are out there on the battlefield?"

David then asked Joab to put Uriah at the front lines to be killed. From an adulterer, David is now a murderer.

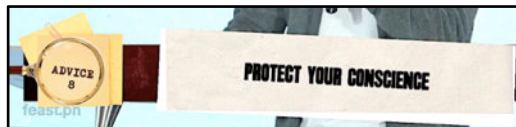
This is a battle that he just lost. But it doesn't mean that he lost the war. Whenever we lose a battle in life, some of us think that we've lost in life's war. Not true.

Have you ever tried concealing wet underarms? The more you try to hide it, the more the stinky juices form. So, what must you do? You've got to let the wind blow the wet underarms dry.

When we try to conceal sin after sin and lie after lie, they fester in our life. You can never conceal a sin. Just own up to it. You acknowledge that you might have lost the battle, but that doesn't mean that you lost the war. Reveal it to the Lord. When you continue to conceal, God cannot heal.



None of us is immune to sin. Some of us sin more than others -- but we all sin. Just because you're faithful yesterday and you're faithful today, it doesn't mean that you're going to be faithful tomorrow.



You have only one, so you might as well protect it



This Lenten season, one of the best pieces of advice is to encourage people to receive the Sacrament of Confession.

Come before the Lord and acknowledge your sin before Him. Instead of concealing your sin, give it to the Lord. I want you to realize and to be encouraged that even though you have messed up, even though you may have sinned, God's love never fails. God's love will never quit on you.

GOD'S LOVE NEVER FAILS.

I love the story of David because it speaks so much about who we are and how we also struggle. I want to show you how the relentless love of the Lord changed David from the inside out.

This is the same way that God is going to do to speak over your life.

God justified David. While everybody else saw a shepherd boy, God saw a king in David.

People might see you as a failure, but God sees you as faithful.

People might see your mistakes, but God sees you as a masterpiece in the making.

People might see all your liabilities, but I believe that God looks at your potential.

Because the Bible says that God does not look just at the outward appearance.

Only man does that. God looks at the heart. God justified David. Because of that, David felt so empowered that he defeated the lion, the bear, and Goliath.

David said: *"The Lord is my strength. He is my rock. He is my fortress. He is my deliverer."*

In the same way, God's love strengthens you. God's love empowers you.

God Disciplines David

When you're weak, God makes you strong. When you find yourself at the lowest point of your life, He comforts you. God empowers you.

But God also straightened out David. God disciplined David. He corrected David because that's what every good father should do.

If a father and a mother love their children, they discipline their children because they don't want the children to grow up in wicked ways.

How did God discipline David? He disciplined David through Nathan.

Nathan said: *"This is what the Lord says: 'Because of what you have done, I will cause your own household to rebel against you. I will give your wives to another man before your very eyes, and he will go to bed with them in public view.'"*

God disciplines us the same way. He confronts your sin and confronts you.

Why? Because He's a good father.

He straightens us out when we are messing up. But it doesn't end there because we see in the story how God understood David. Even though David sinned against God, David was not cancelled. Instead, David was restored.

David confessed to Nathan:



1 Sam 12:13 NLT
Then David confessed to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." Nathan replied, "Yes, but the Lord has forgiven you, and you won't die for this sin. Nevertheless, because you have shown utter contempt for the word of the Lord by doing this, **your child will die.**"

Sin will always have its consequences.

When you make the wrong choices, it has consequences.

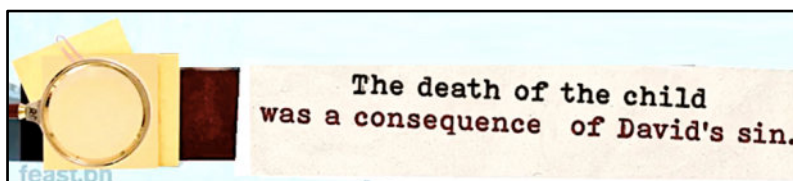
But thank God that His mercy endures forever. His mercies are new every morning.

So, God doesn't cancel you.

You know what God's love does?

God will go the distance to wash away the sins that try to destroy your life.

That's what God's love does.



What God's Love Does



Finally, this is what God's love did for David. God sealed His promise to David. In spite of all David's flaws, God kept His covenant with him.

And David says:

"You give great victories to your king; you show unfailing love to your anointed, to David and all his descendants forever."

1 Sam 22:51 NLT

Would you like to know how David's descendants were blessed forever?

From the lineage of David, came a Man. He was the Son of David, the Son of Man, the Son of God. And His name is Jesus. Descendants were blessed through this one Man named Jesus. *

*How is Jesus a descendant of David?

The Bible, particularly the first book, *Genesis* (Genesis 32), narrates that people sin against God-- so, they need a Messiah, a Savior to forgive them and set them free from their bondage.

God would send the Messiah through the lineage of Abraham, because of his unparalleled faithfulness in God. Abraham begets a son, Isaac, and Isaac begets Jacob, renamed *Israel* -- meaning *God perseveres* -- since God prevailed after Jacob wrestled with an angel, thus fulfilling God's plan that the Savior would come from David's lineage.

Jacob becomes the father of 12 tribes of Israel, one of them the tribe of Judah.

From Judah comes Jesse who becomes the father of David-- and one of his descendants is Joseph.

From Joseph's line comes Jesus. So, physically, Jesus descends from David-- and inherits the right to be in line to the throne as King of Israel.

Joseph gets engaged with Mary who conceives Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

According to the Gospels, Joseph marries Mary and thus, by the human law, he is the legal father of Jesus.

So, God fulfills His promise to Abraham to make him father of all nations and, through him, down to David, send the Messiah to the Israelites and all nations-- a covenant God fulfills for all of us to this day.)

Surrender

At this moment, I wonder how many failures, and losses, and defeats you have had in your life? It doesn't end there. Because of God's unending and unfailing love, you don't have to end in a mistake. You can end in victory because of God's love.

How many would like to receive the love of God that will change you and wash away every sin over you?

We're going to declare God's victory over our life. We're going to say that the best is yet to come. God's love is still changing us. It's not done yet. He's not done.

Put your hand over your heart and say:

Lord, touch my heart. I know that I messed up. I have sinned against You. But I believe that You have the power not just to forgive me, but to restore me and to give me a new beginning. So, I might not have done this the proper way the first time, but today, I'm doing it correctly.

Today, I receive Your love. I receive it fully. Completely. Wash away my sins, oh, God. I come back to be restored and to be renewed. In Jesus' Name. Amen”



Commitment

I want this to be our moment with God.

If there's anybody here who has never given your life to Jesus this is a beautiful moment for you when you're going to step into His Presence and acknowledge all your failures, and your sins, and your mistakes, and your errors and say:

"Lord, I want You to be in my life."

But for those of you who come here every week, this is a renewal of our faith to declare one more time that Jesus will be our Lord...But there's one thing that I believe, that we know this already, but for some reason, I get surprised every time: that God can love me again, and again, and again-- in spite of my sins. That completely keeps me in awe.

So, starting today, here's what I want you to do: I want you to walk into the throne room of God and expect Him to bless you. And expect Him to love you. And expect Him to forgive you. Expect Him to be with you all the days of your life.

Lift your hands in the Presence of God and say this with me:

Dear Lord, I am a sinner and I need a savior, So, I look to You, right now, to change me from the inside out. I believe that You are the Son of God and only You can rescue me. So, from this moment on, I call You my Savior. I call You my Friend. And I call You my Redeemer.

Thank You, Jesus, for making me brand new.

Let's take this part, Everybody, from the bowels of your heart, I want you to declare out loud:



Love Offering

Yesterday, I was talking to one of our former social workers in our Anawim Home for Abandoned Elderly. She was sharing about Anawim's needs.

And I said, "Yes, I will help."

The day before, a former Feast servant, already in Bicol, and doing great work there, asking for help.

And I said, "Okay, I will help."

The day before that, I also helped someone. The day before that, I also helped another one.

You know, I prayed: "Lord, I am always giving..."

And I realized, "It's good that I have something to give..."

Imagine if instead, I was the one asking for help...

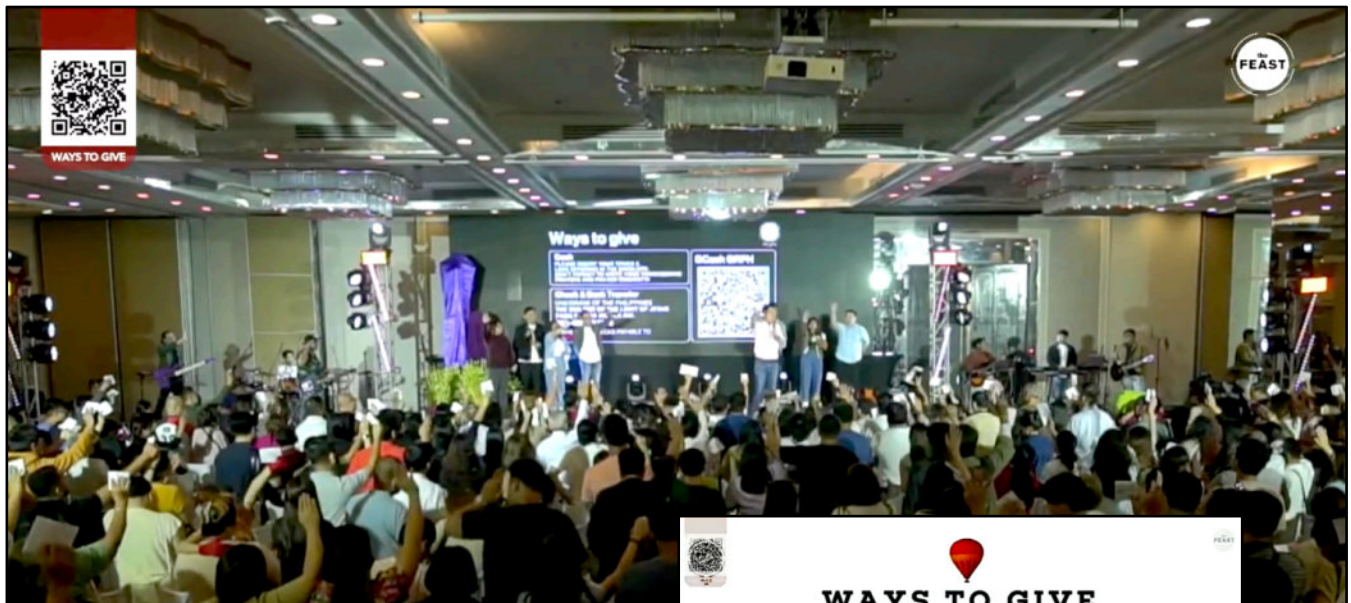
If you know you are blessed, if you have something to give...

Today, are you blessed?

Let's all stand, let's give to the Lord. Lift your envelope, come before the Lord, and let's pray:

Heavenly Father, I Thank You for this opportunity to be generous. I give my life to You and I give You this Offering. Bless me more so I can give more.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.



Let's give to the Lord with joy!



WAYS TO GIVE



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and more



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. 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

***The Feast Family* online newsmagazine is produced by the Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation, which is also our partner beneficiary, with support services from the Light of Jesus Media Assistance Ministry.**

Founder: Bo Sanchez

Mercy Ministries Chairman
Hermie Morelos

Editor-in-Chief
Cynthia U. Santiago

Chief Photographer
Edmundo L. Santiago

**Feast International
Region Head**
Vic Español

Editorial Assistant
Laarni A. Uy

Multimedia Staff
Ronaldo Antonio U. Santiago
Dylan Anthony A. Santiago

Media Ministries Head
Randy Borromeo

Contributors
The Feast Builders

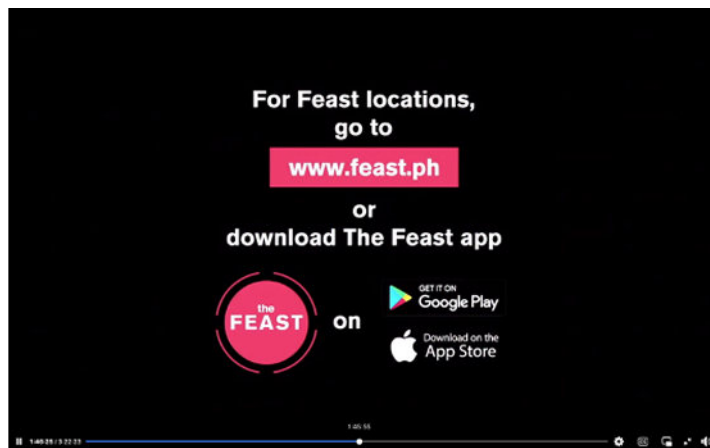
Finance Officer
Rowena Cequeña

Publication Consultant
Chelle S. Crisanto

Human Resources Manager
Erika Ventura



Multimedia Assistance Ministry



For comments, article contributions, write or call us:
Email Address: cusantiago@gmail.com
Landline phone numbers: 8725-9999, Fax 725-1230
Mobile phone: 0998-953-0657

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

