



NEWSLETTER
June 11, 2023



Move On!

I ALWAYS preach this: *Grief heals.*

But grief, like any other good medicine, has a time limit, and this time limit is different for each person.

But *Grief past its expiration date becomes toxic.*

After one Feast, a middle-aged Mom and her twenty-something daughter asked me for prayer. The mother could not speak and just sobbed in front of me.

So, the daughter took me aside and whispered, “Brother Bo, please pray for my Mom. Since my father died, she just mopes the

whole day. She doesn’t do anything. She is not living. My siblings feel we’ve already lost both our parents. We’re practically orphans....”

“I’m so sorry to hear about this,” I said. “How long has it been?”

She said, “Six years ago...”

Perhaps this is an extreme example, but I’ve met many others who are trapped with their pain—and they’re unable to move forward towards God’s purpose for each one’s life.

If this is you, I’ve got good news. You can move on. How? Trust that you are not alone.

Move on—God is with you!

Have a life-changing Feast today!

May your dreams come true,

Bo Sanchez

**WELCOME to the continuation
of The Feast Talk *Wilderness*,
series on the book of *Numbers*.
Talk 6: *Move On—God Is with You!***



Popcorn, Anyone?



YOU want it crunchy. With butter and a bit of salt. You munch it when you're watching a movie. It makes you happy.

Fr. Paolo Asprer did not talk about popcorn during his homily last Feast. That Sunday, June 4, 2023, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. So, Fr. Asprer talked about the fruits or gifts of the Trinity. There are two—which you definitely want-- more than tons and tons of popcorn, *page 3*.

If you cannot have popcorn—
if you cannot be happy—you still can
Move On—God is with You!
That's the message of today's Feast
which our founder, Bro. Bo Sanchez,
introduces on *page 1*.

Oh, but there are those who
have lots of popcorn. That's what
Bro. Bo and Bro. Audee Villaraza
pointed out in last Sunday's Feast Talk. But why do some have popcorn,
and others don't? Bro. Audee demonstrated *why*, and pointed out that
instead of asking *why*, just *Celebrate Your Appointment*. How?
That's the message of Talk 5 of our series, *Wilderness. Flashback on pages 16-34*.



And meet Krissan Medilo who,
more than popcorn, is enjoying her
appointment as scholar of Pag-asa
ng Pamilya Foundation, our
featured Mercy Ministry this month
of June, *page 35*.

So, have a bag of popcorn today
and be happy!

All for God's Glory,

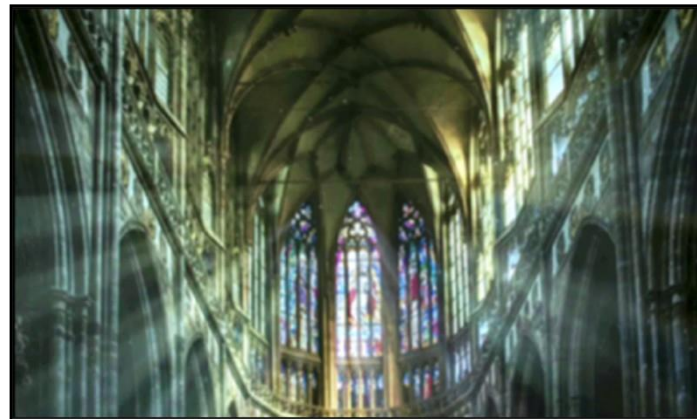
Randy Borromeo
Media Ministry
Executive Director





FLASHBACK! **JUNE 4, 2023**

Holy Mass



THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

REV. FR. PAOLO ASPRER
on the Gospel: John 3:16-18
God So Loved the World

GOOD MORNING, Sisters and Brothers in Christ!

Peace and blessings to Everyone!

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity which is a central mystery of our faith. So profound yet has deeply practical lessons and challenges in our life and faith.

When we speak about the Trinity, two important fruits-- or gifts:

First, the Trinity reveals to us that God is a mysterious God. *Mahiwaga*.

A mysterious God.

People always ask me: "Father, how is that: Three in One God?"

Are there really 3 in 1? Or 1 + 1 + 1? Mystery.

Second, in as much as God is a mysterious God, He is also a missionary God. A deeply personal God, a relational God—that at the very heart of God is family, community, fellowship.

We have only one God. But in God, God is family, community, a fellowship of love.

Two Fruits of the Trinity

First: The Trinity Reveals God Is Mysterious

What does *mystery* mean? It's a reality imbued with the hidden Presence of God. *Hindi ibig sabihin na wala tayong mauunawaan, kundi limitado ang ating pang-unawa.*--It doesn't mean that there's nothing we can understand, but that our capability to understand is limited.

There is always more to understand. Our limited mind cannot fully grasp such tremendous mystery of faith. Even our fragile and divided hearts cannot fully respond to that gift of overflowing love.

You know, God is already happy in Himself—but real happiness overflows. Meaning to say, that's the mystery of God's love. *Hindi ibig sabihin wala tayong mauunawaan.* It only means that the full comprehension of such mystery would happen when we meet God face-to-face -- in what we call *beatific vision*.

Ang Diyos, Siya lang nakakaunawa ng pagiging Diyos-- God, only He can understand being God. And we cannot fully understand that. And what is the proper disposition when it comes to mystery? Humility, wonder, gratitude.

What is the difference between an intelligent person and one who is wise?

An intelligent person would say, "I know everything."

But a wise person would say, "The more I know, the more I do not know."

We are called to humility, wonder to this mystery of faith.

You know, here's this classic story about St. Augustine, one of the Church fathers:

St. Augustine is reflecting on that mystery of the Trinity. He is at a seaside, when he suddenly encounters a boy digging a hole in the sand. The boy goes back and forth from the beach to the sea, getting sea water which he pours into the hole.

St. Augustine asks the boy, "What are you doing?"

The boy replies, "Well, I'm putting the entire ocean into this hole."

St. Augustine says, "That's impossible!"

The boy retorts, "Neither can you put the Holy Trinity in your tiny little mind. What you're thinking, trying to understand the Trinity, that is also ridiculous, that is also impossible."

Why? Because even St. Paul would say, "Even the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom and intelligence."

God is a mystery. The Church is a mystery. Our faith is a mystery. Each person is a mystery.



Second: The Trinity Is Missionary

Isn't it that there are times we cannot understand ourself?

I have this good friend who says, "You know what, Father, I've been married for more than 25 years now but there are times I cannot fully understand my husband."

Mystery! We are a mystery to ourself. Sometimes, our mind and heart contradict. Our good-- even best intentions and conduct-- contradict. Our most cherished hopes, reality, contradict. We are a mystery to ourself. That's why the proper disposition is humility, openness, wonder.

Back to the second important fruit of the Trinity: When we speak about the Trinity, God is not just simply mysterious but He is also a missionary God who wants to reveal Himself to us-- that at the very heart of God is family, relationship.

The Trinity is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—Creator, Redeemer, Sanctifier.

There is the Lover, there is the Beloved, and there is the Love that exists between the Lover and the Beloved.

There is the Gift, there is the Giver, there is the Recipient of that gift.

What else? Word, Spirit, Breath.

God outside us, God beside us, God within us. That's the Holy Spirit.

Mother, Child, Womb.

At the very heart of God is relationship.



Reading I: Exodus 34:4B-6, 8-9

^{4B} Moses cut two more stone tablets, and early the next morning he carried them up Mount Sinai, just as the LORD had commanded. ⁵ The LORD came down in a cloud, stood with him there, and pronounced his holy name, the LORD. ⁶ The LORD then passed in front of him and called out, "I, the LORD, am a God who is full of compassion and pity, who is not easily angered and who shows great love and faithfulness. ⁸ Moses quickly bowed down to the ground and worshipped.

⁹ He said, "Lord, if you really are pleased with me, I ask you to go with us. These people are stubborn, but forgive our evil and our sin, and accept us as your own people.



What ‘Relationship’ Means

Now, the Triune God invites us to reflect: How do we relate with one another?

Do we relate with one another based on roles, functions, social status?

Or do we relate with people not just as objects but as subjects—as persons.

Ang Diyos na ating sinasamba, personalan.

--We worship God personally.

How do we relate with people? How is the quality of our relationships? Is our relationship based *only on utility*—as in, what are called *user friendly friends*? What if you have no more use of the person—there’s nothing more the person can give you?

Would you still love that person? Is our relationship simply based on utility, pleasure-- you have that common interest, but it doesn’t, you know, level up?

It is said true relationship it is based on virtue. Desire the goodness of each other.

And when you are in a relationship, prepare to be vulnerable. Where does the word *vulnerability* come from? From *vulnus*, meaning *wound*. When you are in a relationship, prepare to be vulnerable.

You know, in the Trinity, we would see “the sharing of mind, heart, spirit.” Father, Son, Spirit. Distinct in persons but equal in majesty, equal in divinity-- but they are united in their mission. They are different, but foremost among them is respect-- reverence for each person.



Reading II: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

¹¹ And now, my brothers and sisters, goodbye! Strive for perfection; listen to my appeals; agree with one another; live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. All God’s people send you their greetings.¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



The Trinity Is Who We Are

Sisters and Brothers, this is the gift and the challenge of the Trinity: We are called to be vulnerable when it comes to our relationships. In the Holy Trinity, there is no power play, there is no alienation of power. It's always a sharing of heart, being united in mission.

When power meets power, there is power play—*tagisan ng kapangyarihan*.

When power meets weakness, there is alienation of power-- but when weakness meets weakness, there is a unison of mind and heart.

My dear friends, it is in the Trinity that indeed we are called to be missionary, that we prepare to be vulnerable for our mission, for our vocation, for our service in the Kingdom of God.

For love to be real, it must cost, it must hurt, it must empty us of our self.

My dear friends, the Trinity is not just simply an abstract idea.

The Trinity is who we are and *Whose* we are. Amen.





BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:

Good Morning, Everyone!

Praise God!

My name is Audee Villaraza.

I am one of the servant leaders,
and I am serving you today.

Do we have first-timers joining us here?
We want to recognize you, we want
to honor you, we want to clap
our hands for you and say,
“Welcome to the family!”



I pray that you feel the joy that you
are here and that you are our special
guest.

After here, we would love
to meet you personally,
we would love to connect
with you.



How about special people in the house, those celebrating their birthday in the month of June, please stand up. All the birthday celebrators. Come on, stand up. We'd love to do the honor of praying for you, bestowing upon you a special blessing.



May Everybody please lift up one hand...If you're beside them, or you're part of their family, make them feel that you're there for them...

Let's all pray together:

Father, we thank You for unleashing a blessing for each of these persons' life. We do not know what they need but we know that You will supply every abundance, provision, resource, breakthrough, and blessing that they need in this season of their life.

Father, continue to strengthen their body, mind, and spirit so that they can serve You even longer and even better and to serve those around them. Whatever blessing that you have for them, we continue to declare Your faithfulness in their life. May the best years of their life happen now. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Happy birthday!



We want to acknowledge Sis. Marowe Sanchez. Let's clap our hands because our dear founder, Bro. Bo Sanchez, and his lovely wife are back in town (from the United States where they held *Breakthrough*, a concert with other Feast Builders).

We want to also acknowledge a special person, Bene Sanchez (*at right, 3rd from left*), son of Bro. Bo. If you see him outside, congratulate him because yesterday (June 3) he won the very first April Brewer's Cup competition in the Philippines. He's a brewing master! He prepares the best coffee in town! Praise God!





Love Offering

How many of you were late going to Mass?

I had the same experience because there was traffic going into the parking lot. I know some of you experience that every time you come to The Feast.

But I can't really blame my being late on the parking situation outside. I was late also because I dressed up my son at the parking lot. He usually comes with me and I bring him while he's still sleeping and I wake him up at the parking lot. So, I was a bit late because of him.

But I can't really fully blame it on him. It's because I woke up a bit late.

I had to sleep at 12:30 a.m. because I had to finish watching a movie that I started at 10:30 in the evening. So, I really cannot blame my coming to Mass late on anyone or anything else. I am to blame.

There was a time in my life that whenever I gave to the Lord, I would say that it's only now that I am giving to the Lord because nobody taught me to do it. I blame it, sometimes, on the people around me.

Some of you might be blaming your parents. But there comes a point in your life when you're no longer 12 years old. You're no longer 15 years old.

When you give to the Lord, it's a personal responsibility that you take upon yourself.

Like: "I'm going to give the fruit of my labor, of my income, to the Lord and that's on me."

I can't force you to give. You can't force the other person sitting next to you because it's your responsibility. You're tithing, you're offering. When you give to the Lord, it's you working with the Lord-- it's your relationship with God.

So, there comes a point in your life that you say, "Okay, today I'm going to give You the fruits of my labor, Lord. And it's not because my parents told me to. It's not because my wife told me to. It's not even because my pastor told me to. It's because I want to-- because I love You, and this is my responsibility to build Your Church with You."



Know that when you lift up your love offering, it's not just because God is blessing you. It's not just because you want something from the Lord. It's not out of necessity that you're doing this. But it's because you trust that God is your Provider-- that He is your Blessor, and that there are more blessings to come!

So, say this with me:
*“Dear Lord, I give this
with my whole heart
cheerfully, lovingly
to Your Kingdom.
Bless me more so I can
give more.
In Jesus’ Name.
Amen.*

WAYS TO GIVE

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Worship!

EXHORTATION



VEIA LIM-VINAS:

Good Morning, Feast!
My name is Veia. I have the wonderful privilege of leading you into Worship, serving you this morning in Worship.

Who here loves to Worship?
Yeah, we all do! And I believe that God loves it when we worship.
Not because He needs our worship—God is all powerful, God is all glorious!

He doesn't need our worship, but I believe that we need to worship.

The Word of God in Psalms 90:14 says: *“Satisfy me in the morning with your unfailing love that I would sing with joy and that all my days will be filled with gladness.”*

Now, I don't know what you came here for. But I do know that you have a need and what I am sure of is that our God will satisfy your need, will fill your need with His unfailing love.

So, come on, lift your hands to Heaven, put your hands up. Open up your heart to His unfailing love, open up your life to His unfailing love!

God is here and He is ready to meet your need. We're going to sing of His love. His love changes us. His love can heal us! Thank You, Jesus for Your love!





Wherever You called me to
Whenever I'm called to You
I will follow



FEAST BAY AREA WORSHIP
I Will Follow
Lyrics and Music
by Adriel Zachary Yokingco,
Jhon Robert Javier,
and Ralph Kim Paguio



AUDEE VILLARAZA: I love those words resonating in this place today.

I want you to know that when you lift up your voice, you're not just singing a bunch of songs. You don't sing just because it's your favorite song.

Or sometimes, you don't sing because you can't carry a tune. You don't do that.

The reason you lift up your hands, and you lift up your voice and when you take a posture of surrender is this comes from the depths of your heart that says,

“What a joy it is to worship You Lord! What a joy it is to know you! What a joy to love You! What a joy it is to serve You! And so, because I love you Lord Jesus, I will follow you. Not because it's convenient, not because it's comfortable, but because it's a calling. I'm called to serve You. I'm called to follow You. I'm called to love You.”

Praise God.

I want you to give a big hand for our Worship Team for leading us into the Presence of God.

Is it just me but... Do they sound like the Spotify music that you hear?

We are here together with Feast Worship. They are the ones producing, creating, writing all these God-anointed music and they are here with us today and it's such a joy. Welcome back, Aio who was with the *Breakthrough* concert as well. Thank you so much.

It's such a blessing to be here. Not because of Feast Worship, not because of your leaders, but because Jesus is here.

NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE **DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE**

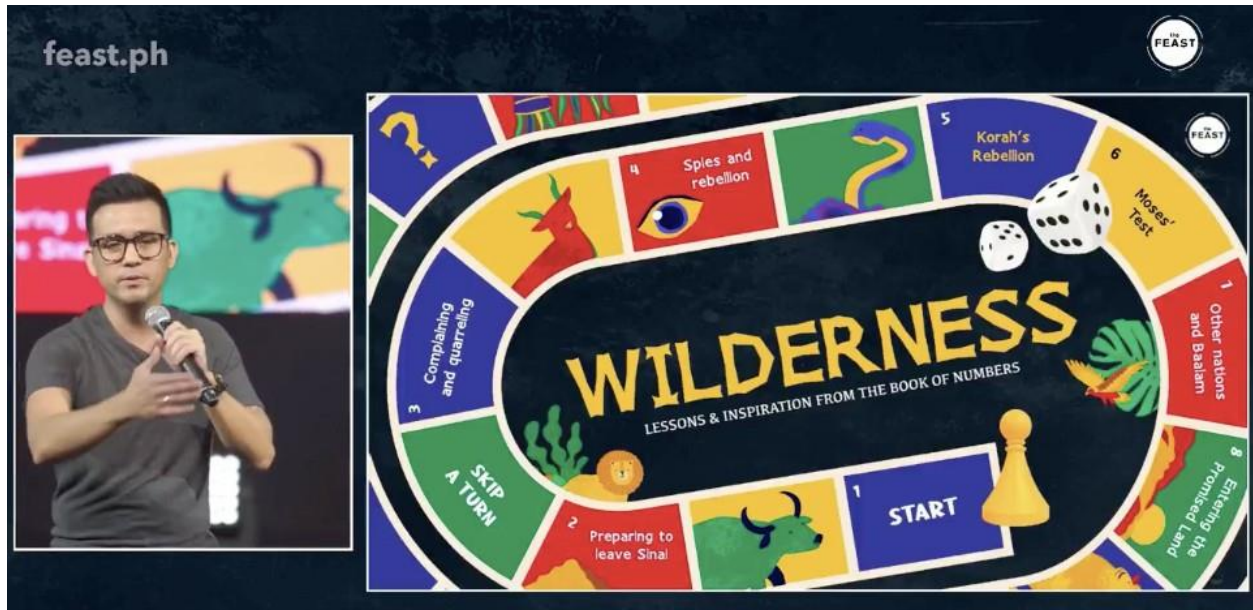
May I invite Everyone to lift both hands in the air. Declare God's abundance in your life as we all say...

Today, I receive all of GOD's love for me.
Today, I open myself to the unbounded, limitless, overflowing abundance of GOD's universe.
Today, I open myself to GOD's blessings, healing, and miracles.
Today, I open myself to GOD's Word
So that I become more like JESUS everyday.

Today, I proclaim that I am GOD's beloved.
I am GOD's servant.
I am GOD's powerful champion.
And because I am blessed,
I am blessing the world.
In JESUS' Name, Amen.



Talk



This message is for someone who is looking for hope. If you need hope, this message is for you: the reason of the season of your life...

This is the message: *Celebrate your appointment.*

In the last few weeks, we have been walking through the wilderness and we've been seeing the Israelites—how they've been dealing with the situation that they're in, and there's one recurring theme.

You notice, when you read the book of *Numbers*, how the Israelites just love to complain? They're blessed, but... there's something good, but... There's always a reason for them to complain.

In Talk No. 3, we saw how the Israelites had manna coming from Heaven—skybread, we said. And yet, they complained-- they wanted more variety, they wanted more options. That's in Talk 3.

And then last Sunday, in Talk 4, we showed you how the Israelites were complaining about this Land that God already promised them—and they were complaining that there were giants in that place. And so, they were afraid—they were operating in fear, not faith.





Today, you're going to see, we're going to show you, how the Israelites will again complain, this time, about the Priesthood. They complain how Moses is being used by God.

They cry out, "Why not us? Why? What makes Moses so special that he's the only one that God is using?"

When you read through the book of *Numbers*, from Chapters 1 to 10, you'll note the Bible says that the Israelites did as the Lord commanded. But then Chapter 11 onwards, it went downhill from there. They became very disobedient.

And it's like when you're reading the passage, you're thinking, "Really? You're going to complain? Again? Like, this is the third time you're complaining..."

This reminds me of the story of this man who's walking around with two friends. The friends saw the guy had bandages on his ears.

One friend, pointing on the guy's right ear, asks, "Why do you have a bandage on your ear?"

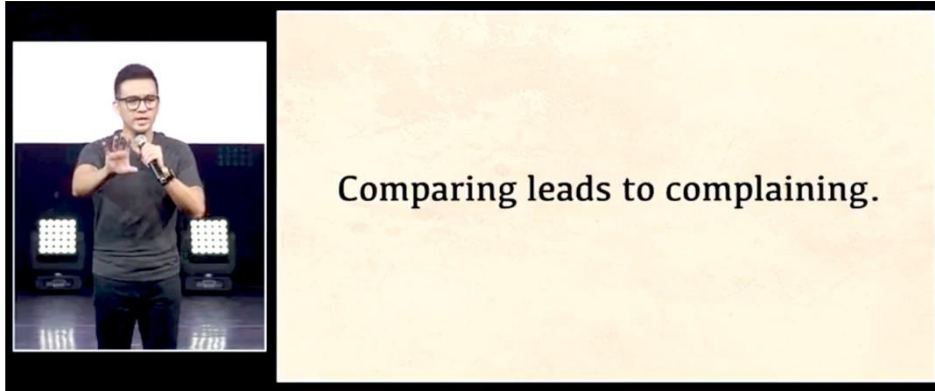
And he says, "I was ironing my shirt one day. The phone rang and I got confused—instead of picking up the phone, I picked up the iron..."

The other friend, pointing at the guy's other ear, asks, "What about the bandage on your other ear? What is it for?"

"Well, my phone rang again..."

It's like, what is the intention of the author writing the complaints of the Israelites again and again? What is this pattern all about?

And you'll see this. It's about the foolishness of the Israelites. And yet the author does not stop there. He creates another pattern that shows something else...



When you read through all the chapters in the different books and the verses in the book of *Numbers*, you'll see that there's a recurring theme of foolishness.

But you know what else there is? It's the recurring theme of reminding all of us here of our own stupidity in life—how we repeat mistake after mistake, after mistake.

And also, in the midst of our recurring stupidity, there lies God's reliable mercy.

How many of you need God's mercy? Doesn't it give you joy right now to know that God will continue to grant you His mercy again and again?

But why is it that the Israelites complain? I've got a simple reason: It's because they always compared. Here's the truth that you can take home today:

Comparing leads you to complaining.

Let me illustrate...

Let me give this bag of popcorn to someone who looks hungry...
Please give this to that little girl...
This is not planted or anything...

May I put some words in your thoughts now...

You're probably thinking, "Why is it that she's the only one who gets the popcorn? What has she got, to be so chosen? Why is she the only one special?"

Because she's a little girl? Is it because, you know, she looks like she's hungry?"

See, for a lot of us, that's the framework of our thinking: When you see somebody holding something that you don't have, you start thinking, "Why them? And not me?... Why has God blessed her and not me? What is it with her?"





Popcorn for You!

You see, the Israelites, that's what they did. They started comparing everything that was happening in their life. They compared their situation in the wilderness to their situation in Egypt. Remember that? They compared their situation with Moses being the high priest.

And then they even went as far as comparing meat to manna: "Why do we have manna and not meat?"

You see, when you start comparing, that's when you start complaining:

"Why is it that I don't have what they have?"

Can you hold out that popcorn bag, little girl? Thank you so much for doing that—just a bit effort.

Did you know that before I gave you that popcorn, that popcorn started out as kernels of corn?

But I needed to put them in the microwave oven so they would pop—I did it just a while ago, so, they're freshly popped. There are lots, so, you may share them to as many people as you can.

Before I gave you the popcorn, they started as hard kernels. How is popcorn produced? You put the kernels in heat.

But friends, think about it: that little bag of popcorn, it's a bunch of kernels of corn, stored in the same bag, that's cooked in the same heat, that's cooked in the same oil -- and yet, not all of the kernels popped at the same time.

What is my point? Stop comparing because your turn to pop will come eventually.

I want you to believe right now: "Hey, eventually, my breakthrough will come. My blessing will come."

So, stop comparing. Stop complaining.

Instead, what do you do? Start celebrating your anointing. Start celebrating your calling. Start celebrating your God-given appointment.

Everybody, please welcome my dear, dear friend, somebody we love so much, Bro. Bo Sanchez!



BO SANCHEZ: Stand up a bit, raise your hand towards the Word...

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

Put your hand over your chest, and say:
Father, speak to me...

From Numbers 16: 1-3, this is the story of a guy by the name of Korah. It sounds like Cora—I know it’s a girl’s name. But Korah, with a K, was the name of a guy from the tribe of Levi. And something about the Levites, I’m going to explain later.

But this guy, no matter how special the Levites were, his tribe was on a mission, and the appointment that he received, it was not enough. He was comparing – why Moses had the popcorn, and he didn’t.

Who is Reuben? What’s the tribe of Reuben?

Reuben is the eldest of 12 kids.

Now, I want you to think of this—very, very important: Reuben—probably the tribe of Reuben—is saying: “Why the Levites? Our younger sibling gets the special role of being the keeper of the Tabernacle, the sacred instruments of worshipping God. Why them? Why not me? I’m the eldest?”



“One day Korah son of Izhar, a descendant of Kohath son of Levi, conspired with Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth, from the tribe of Reuben. ² They incited a rebellion against Moses, along with 250 other leaders of the community, all prominent members of the assembly.

Numbers 16:1-3 NLT

Conspiracy

But this time, the Levites, some of the Levites, were complaining. One of them, Korah, was complaining why Moses had the popcorn.

And probably, Reuben, the tribe of Reuben, some of these guys—On, Dathan, and Abiram—they conspired.

They said, “Hey, let’s say there’s something wrong here. It’s unfair. Why only *they* have the popcorn?”

³ They united against Moses and Aaron and said, ‘You have gone too far! The whole community of Israel has been set apart by the Lord, and he is with all of us. What right do you have to act as though you are greater than the rest of the Lord’s people?’”

Numbers 16:1-3 NLT



Here’s the paraphrase:

Paraphrase of Korah’s complaint:
“Hey Moses, we’re all God’s chosen.
What makes you think you’re so special?”

So, I want you to know that this is not new.

Four chapters before this event, the same complaint came from the lips of the sister and brother of Moses -- Miriam and Aaron.

This is what they said:

“Miriam and Aaron criticized Moses because he had married a Cushite woman.

Actually, that was just an excuse – smokescreen.

You know what I’m talking about? When you’re envious or jealous of somebody, you will look for what’s wrong.

But actually, this is the issue:

² They said, ‘Has the Lord spoken only through Moses? Hasn’t he spoken through us, too?’”

Numbers 12:1-2 NLT

Which is true. Miriam and Aaron—very important: Aaron, high priest; Miriam, the prophetess...

But there’s something wrong... And that’s what we’re going to talk about today...



Put your hand over your chest again, and Everybody, say:

Father, let your Word be so loud in my heart, it will shake me up and remove anything in my life that is pulling me away from you. Purify my soul to be ready for more of You in my life. More blessings-- more grace, more abundance, more presence, peace, more love, more joy, more healing.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.

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





Hyperlinks

I want you to know that the author of *Numbers* uses hyperlinks-- just like *Exodus*, and just like *Leviticus*, and just like *Genesis*.

So, the author uses repetition to be able to wink at you and tell you:

“I’m telling you something that was spoken before. I want you to connect these two things together, these three things together, these ten things together—because they say the same thing.”

Miriam-Aaron criticizing Moses. Siblings—they’re brothers and sister. Korah in the tribe of Levi, criticizing, complaining against Moses.

Wait a minute... Where, again, to what tribe does Korah belong?
The coup plotter, the one who wants to do the coup against Moses?

What tribe did Korah come from?

Levi!

Moses—what tribe does Moses come from?

Levi!

So, Korah was a brother of Moses in the same tribe.

So, it’s the same theme—

this is a repetition.

This is a wink from the author.

This is a hyperlink.

What is he saying?

**Korah was a “brother”
in the same tribe of Moses.**

Now, I want you to know sibling does not only mean blood brother.

We’re going to talk today about the evil of sibling envy.



Cain and Abel

So, the first hyperlinked story that the author of *Numbers* wants to bring us to is the Cain and Abel story in the book of *Genesis*.

Cain, the older brother of Abel, what does he do? He kills Abel. Because Abel and Cain, they present an Offering to God and God accepts the younger brother's Offering—and does not accept Cain's.

And Cain says, “Why? Why does he have the popcorn? Why not me?” *Kill!*

Cain and Abel's story, the refrain, just keeps on repeating, again and again all throughout the Bible: Miriam-Aaron against Moses; Korah complaining about his brother—tribal brother-- Moses. Sibling envy. It's the evil of sibling envy.

My friends, I want you to think about this: Do you know someone in the office, in the family, among your friends, gym-mates, somebody, you know, co-alumni in your school...She was a good person. You know, generally good, generally okay. All of a sudden, it seemed there was a switch—this thing that happened... All of a sudden, she goes against you. Talks about you. Destroys your reputation. Does not want to talk to you anymore. You know, spreads lies about you, wants to step on you, wants to crush you.

You wonder, “What happened? Why? She was supposed to be this good person. She's my friend. Why?”

And then you find out *why*. Later on... Because you got promoted and she didn't.

This is real. This happens everywhere.

Here's the problem: They don't even know they're envious. Yes, or no? They don't. They are oblivious to the fact.

You ask them, “Uy, you're just envious...?”

They reply: “No! I'm not! This is injustice!”

They feel righteous indignation. They're saying, “I just want to correct the wrong that's happening here.”

Hmmm. You're just envious.



The Half-Truth

This is the message here. Let's examine what Korah said to Moses.

This is what you call a half-truth. It's a mix of the truth and a lie. And I want you to know this is very dangerous. Why?

Because it is more deceptive.

And so, Korah says, Numbers 16:3:

'You have gone too far! The whole community of Israel has been set apart by the Lord, and he is with all of us.'

Question: Is this true, or is this false?

It's true. In fact, this is a biblically based statement. It comes from where? It comes from Genesis 12. It comes from Genesis 28. It's all over the place.

This is true. But he mixed it with a lie. What's the lie?

Next statement:

What right do you have to act as though you are greater than the rest of the Lord's people?"

Numbers 16:1-3 NLT



That's a lie.

Why?

God really told Moses to be their overall leader-- Exodus 3, and so on...

I mean, God really said, "Moses, you're going to be the leader."

Be wary, be very concerned, and be afraid of half-truths. Because a half-truth is a mixture of truth and a mixture of lie.

You know, I have a prayer. Let's pray this prayer against half-truth:

Lord, if I believe in half-truth—any half-truth—bonk me on the head.

That's my prayer. I pray it a lot because I can actually fall and slip into a half-truth.

Moses' Response

This is Moses' response to Korah: Love, love, love. Love is Moses' response to Korah:

"Now listen, you Levites! ⁹ Does it seem insignificant to you that the God of Israel has chosen you from among all the community of Israel to be near him so you can serve in the Lord's Tabernacle and stand before the people to minister to them? ¹⁰ Korah, he has already given this special ministry to you and your fellow Levites. Are you now demanding the priesthood as well?"

Numbers 16:8-10 NLT



Moses is saying, "Korah, hello! May popcorn ka rin, e. —You also have popcorn. It's just in a different package—just a different brand. How special is your appointment! Korah, God has already given this special ministry to you and your fellow Levites. You know, the Levites are so special. Are you now demanding the priesthood as well?"

Friends, I need you to say this: *Celebrate your appointment.*

Korah comes from the Kohathites. This is their duty—Numbers 4, this is way in front of the book:

"The duties of the Kohathites at the Tabernacle will relate to the most sacred objects."

Numbers 4:4 NLT

When we focus too much on what we think we deserve, we forego what God has already delivered to us.

They were the keepers of the most sacred objects of the Tabernacle.

They were to construct, they were to carry Tabernacle.

That's their work.

What Is Your Work?

You know, when I was reading about this, when I was unpacking this, I was reminded of one person I meet regularly. At The Feast in PICC, there's a waiter at the backstage. His name is Eugene. Eugene serves us coffee, or whatever. The first time I had a conversation with Eugene, this is how it went:

I asked him, "What's your name?"

He says, "Eugene, po."

And, I don't know when he said this—maybe the third or fourth sentence.

He said, "Bro. Bo, I have served four Philippine Presidents."

Of course—PICC—Philippine International Convention Center. Global events, international events. So, Eugene has served four Philippine Presidents. I like that.

That's how he introduced himself. He does not see himself as a waiter. He sees himself as a waiter of Presidents. That's different.

You have a different stand. A different smile. A different perception of yourself.

What is your work? "Waiter lang, po."

What's your work? "I'm a waiter of Presidents."

My dear friends, I've got news for you.

You do not serve Presidents. You serve the King of Kings. That's what you do.

You serve Him in your family. Are you a son, are you a daughter serving your parents? You do not serve your parents only. You are serving the King of Kings.

Are you a husband? Are you a wife? Are you a mother serving your children? You are serving not your kids. You are serving the King of Kings.

Are you an accountant? Are you an engineer? Are you a salesman? Are you in customer service? Are you in a communication hub holding a phone?

My dear friends, you're not serving your customers only.

You're serving the King of Kings.

When you go home, I want you to understand that your most important title in the world is not accountant, it's not controller, it's not customer service, it's not doctor, it's not nurse, it's not teacher. Your title should be—and that's something you chew on before you sleep and when you wake up in the morning:

I am a servant of the Almighty God.

That's who you are.



We don't just serve Presidents.
We serve the King of kings.

What Is Your Appointment?

When I meet an usher, when I meet a person in our awesome Kids Ministry, and when I meet somebody backstage who you don't see, you don't even know the name—the person with the headphone. These people come here at 6:00 a.m. and they are the last persons to leave-- these people you do not know... I think, it might be easy for them to be discouraged because these people—you know, nobody applauds them...



Everybody applauds me. Everybody applauds Audee. They don't applaud the people who are there with the collection basket... These are the people—the security people, the people in the parking lot helping you park your car... the volunteers who serve coffee at the lobby... These people are nameless and faceless. And they do not get any applause.

How do they sustain their service week after week after week, after week?

I'll tell you how:

They tell themselves, "I'm serving the King. I'm serving the Almighty God. I am a servant of the Living God."

I want you to put your hands over your chest and say that with me:

I am serving the Almighty God.

That's who you are. That's your title.

We're servants of the King. You do not compare. You do not say, "Why does he have more? Why is his title better? Why does he have this prestige? Why not me?"

Saint Paul said the same message way forward into the New Testament.

He said:

"If the foot says, 'I am not a part of the body because I am not a hand,' that does not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear says, 'I am not part of the body because I am not an eye,' would that make it any less a part of the body? ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, how would you hear? Or if your whole body were an ear, how would you smell anything?"

1 Corinthians 12:15-17 NLT

Two Women's Appointment

Saint Paul was right. When I think of all this, I'm reminded of one person in my life.

You know, think about it: She's there—the lovely girl who got my coat a while ago. She does not preach. She does not want to. We force her once in a while.

But you see, that's not her appointment. God appointed me to be a preacher. God appointed her to love the preacher. Am I happy, or am I happy? That's her appointment.

God has an appointment for you. You don't compare. You don't.

My Mom did not preach—could not preach, either.

When I was 14 years old, I remember, my mom and my dad, they came up to me and said, “We're going to start a little prayer meeting in our garage. We'll call our group Light of Jesus—and Bo, you're going to be the leader..... Because you know how to preach.”

My Mom's role was to believe in the preacher. Ha-ha. That was her role.

I remember, I was 13 years old. I would be invited to different prayer groups to preach.

Can you just imagine? I was 13, I was thin—I'm thin now—I was *thinner*. I was smaller. I *was* ugly, yes, yeah, absolutely—past tense—*was* ugly.

I remember I would be invited to the prayer group. And I am there. You know, the moment I am onstage, there is this woman coming somewhere from the back, walking through the aisle... I don't not

see her face. Why? Because she's carrying this huge cassette recorder over her shoulder... Of course, I know who she is—her dress looks familiar... And then she sits there... I preach... At the end of my talk, you know, I go home... Once home, I hear myself... I am hearing myself... My Mom is in her bedroom, playing the recording of my talk.

I knock on the door and tell her, “Mom, you were there. You were there when I was giving a talk.. You just heard me *live*, and then now you're listening to my recording... Why?”

You know, my Mom opens the door a bit, and says, “I'm busy. Good night.”

Boom. She closes the door.

She believed in me so much – which made it easier for me to believe that God believes in me.

That was her role in my life.

You need to accept and celebrate your appointment.



Sis. Pilar Sanchez blessing Bro. Bo during LOJ Leaders' Assembly in 2012.

Second Story: Adam and Eve Switching Labels

There is a second story in the book of *Numbers* where the author hyperlinks this entire Korah rebellion to.

It's, of course, obviously, the Adam and Eve story.
This is what Korah and the rebels were saying:

“Then Moses summoned Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab, but they replied, ‘We refuse to come before you! ¹³ Isn't it enough that you brought us out of Egypt, a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill us here in this wilderness, and that you now treat us like your subjects?’

Numbers 16:12-14 NLT



Moses called them already, but they did not want to go with him...

Is there something wrong with what they were saying?

What was the land of milk and honey? Was it Egypt? No!

What was happening here? We talked about this last week.

These rebels... switching labels of good and evil.

When you redefine good and bad apart from God, you do it on your own.

You switch the labels: the good becomes bad; the bad becomes good.

You're switching labels. That is an Adam and Eve move.

In Adam and Eve, temptation: “Eat the fruit.”

Why eat the fruit? God said that's bad. But the Serpent says, no, it's good.

When you *redefine* good and bad, that *is* it: The Adam and Eve Fall.

Korah and the rebels are doing it: “You, Moses, you drove us out of Egypt—a land of flowing milk and honey.”

¹³ Isn't it enough that you brought us out of Egypt, a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill us here in this wilderness, and that you now treat us like your subjects?

Like slaves. This is the inversion.

This is what happens.

And this is our temptation, my friends.

And so, this is what has happened:

Huh? Egypt—that's slavery.
You were under cruel slavery.
What are you talking about?

¹⁴ What's more, you haven't brought us into another land flowing with milk and honey. You haven't given us a new homeland with fields and vineyards. Are you trying to fool these men? We will not come.”

Numbers 16:12-14 NLT

God's Response

This is how God responded to these rebels:

“He had hardly finished speaking the words when the ground suddenly split open beneath them.
³² The earth opened its mouth and swallowed the men, along with their households and all their followers who were standing with them, and everything they owned.
³³ So they went down alive into the grave, along with all their belongings. The earth closed over them, and they all vanished from among the people of Israel.

Numbers 16:31-34 NLT



My dear friends, what is this?

Bro. Bo, how scary! The Lord punished them!

Please know that this is an ancient book. An ancient literature has a very different way of conveying a message. You know what that incident was saying?
De-Creation.

Remember in the book of *Genesis*, when God created man? Man came from the earth. And now, the rebels are swallowed up by the earth.

It's called de-Creation.

What does it mean?

When you separate yourself from God and start redefining good and bad for yourself—apart from Him... This is good—it's already bad. This is bad—it's already good... You know, when you switch labels, what happens is de-Creation.

God is the source of Life. God is the source of joy. God is the source of peace. When you separate yourself from God, you're separating yourself from joy, from peace, from love. That's what happens.

And so, in our life, we experience that-- when we separate ourselves from God.

But you see, many more people would have died. Because a lot of people followed Korah and the rebels.

It says in the book of *Numbers*:

“...Korah had stirred up the entire community against Moses and Aaron, and they all gathered at the Tabernacle entrance...”

Numbers 16:19 NLT

So many people! It was a coup d'etat!
They wanted to kick out Moses.

God Sends a Mediator

God, He sent a mediator. A mediator of mercy.
That's what God does.

The mediator's name was Moses.

I love this guy. Look at this guy...

People want to remove you. People hate you. People don't like you.

They've sworn against you...

What does Moses do? Read 16: 22:

"But Moses and Aaron fell face down on the ground. 'O God,' they pleaded, 'you are the God who gives breath to all creatures. Must you be angry with all the people when only one man sins?'"

Numbers 16:22 NLT

The Greatest Mediator of all history.

He hung upon the Cross.

There were people who hated Him so much.

But this is what Jesus did...

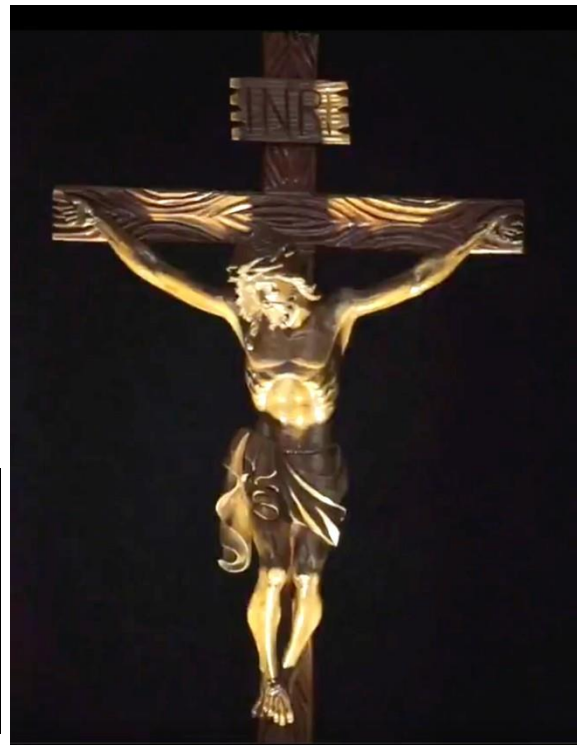
He said:

"Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing..."

Luke 23:34 NLT

He prays to God
to have mercy.

Do you know of another
mediator who did that?



The Greatest Mediator of the Universe is here in our midst...

Have you fallen into envy? Or have you falling into complaining? Or have you been redefining good and bad apart from Him, from God? Have you not trusted Him enough that He will bless you if you follow Him?

Whatever situation you are in, here is a Mediator who says,

"I'm on your side. You know, you've fallen, you've made mistakes..."

I'm on your side... I really am..."

Let's receive that mercy today.

Your Appointment

God has appointed you. And your first appointment is not to serve Him. Your first appointment is *to be close to Him*.

I want you to believe in that.
I want you to give yourself to Him.

Put your hand over your chest,
and Everybody, say:

Jesus, thank You for being my channel of mercy. I receive Your love. And I ask You, help me celebrate my appointment to be close to You. And to serve You for the rest of my life. Amen.





‘Here I Am, Lord’

Maybe there are people here ... You’ve fallen... You’ve made mistakes... I want you to know that you can come to Jesus now, and just say, “Lord, help me to follow You for the rest of my life. I’ve made bad decisions. I’ve tasted de-Creation in my life. But hey, I want to report back for duty. I want to celebrate my appointment. You’ve appointed me to be close to You. You’ve appointed me to serve You.

To be a servant of the Almighty God. To serve the King of Kings. I like that, Lord. In my life, in my job, in my ministry. So, here I am, Lord, I want to give myself to You.

If you’re ready to say this prayer, let’s do it.

Put your hand over your chest, or lift up your hand, whatever makes you feel comfortable, and say:

Jesus, I’m Yours. I accept You as my King. And I will serve You for the rest of my life. Life is short but this short life I’m giving to You. I want to follow You. I want to trust You I want to believe in You and I am Yours. I belong to You.

Amen!





MERCY MINISTRIES

*“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*

– Romans 5:8

PAG-ASA NG PAMILYA FOUNDATION PART 2

By **KRISSAN MEDILO**



Hi! Just call me Kriss.

As this photo shows, I am in my school uniform—the uniform of students of Systems Technology Inc. (STI) in Santa Rosa, Laguna, where I am taking up Tourism Management.

I am here as a Pag-asa ng Pamilya scholar, big thanks to our founder, Bro. Bo Sanchez.

You see, my father Christopher works as personal driver of Bro. Bo. So, eventually, Bro. Bo kindly introduced me to Pag-asa.

Here is my father (*in green shirt*) with Bro. Bo. In the *middle* is my father’s co-driver Ardie.



The Pag-asa scholarship is God’s gift I am deeply, forever, grateful for.

We are a family of humble means.

Before I became a Pag-Asa scholar, our life was difficult. Early on, my father had a job which he left for some reason. So, then, his income was cash he earned when he won in basketball games. Winning meant we would have food on the table.

Pag-Asa Blessings

To augment my father's income, my mother Anabella to this day works as a tailor, sewing curtains and stuff.

My parents struggle to sustain our family, where I am eldest of four children.

Here we are, from the left: brother King John Dominic; sister Kate Ann Pauline; our youngest, King James Patrick; mother Anabella; yours truly; and father Christopher.

Everything changed when a friend introduced my father to Bro. Bo who eventually hired him as his driver—and that led me to Pag-asa.

I count many blessings since I became a Pag-Asa scholar. I'll name four major benefits.

First, of course, is the Pag-asa grant has enabled me to pay my tuition fee every semester, plus buy my school materials. So, I am already graduating August this year.

Here I am with my STI classmates after our class.



Pag-Asa Blessings

Second, Bro. Bo not only helped me become a Pag-asa scholar. He and his family have embraced my family and me as practically part of their family. They arranged for us to have a house of our own in San Pedro City, Laguna.

And they brought us along when they go on trips, visiting tourist destinations. So, we got to visit the Enchanted Kingdom. And we got to join their company outing in Boracay, Cebu, and Bohol. I got to ride a plane for the first time.

Third, I've been inspired to fend for myself. In addition to my Pag-asa scholarship, I am able to add income for my family by working. I once worked as a nanny of my godmother's children. I also worked as a sales associate.

Now, I am working as part-time Customer Service representative at Alorica Makati, a work-from-home setup which started at the onslaught of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID) Pandemic.

I think that being a working student is not really hard if you enjoy exploring and if you love your work. Yes, you will feel tired, but working somehow pushes me to persevere in life. Besides, there's joy within me knowing that there's a purpose in what I am doing now. I can fend for myself and help my family as well.

Fourth, and the best, Pag-asa is a Mercy Ministry of the Light of Jesus Family, which has helped me in my faith journey. I've been able to know more about the Bible. My favorite verse now is Romans 5:8: *"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*

I learned that even when we are in our darkest moment, God is there to save us. He is our joy and happiness.

I always pray. I trust that everything God does in my life is for my own good.

I really thank God and I take this opportunity to say thank you to Pag-Asa.



Pag-asa ng Pamilya, founded in 1979, helps to uplift indigents through education. The foundation has granted scholarships to deserving students so they can finish school and be able to help their family.

At left, Bro. Bo meets with Pag-asa scholars.

Pag-asa indeed has helped me with my school finances which have led to many other blessings that have improved our family life.

Glory to God!



FAMILY

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.

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



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FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE

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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

Reporter-Writer
Cybill P. Bayto

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

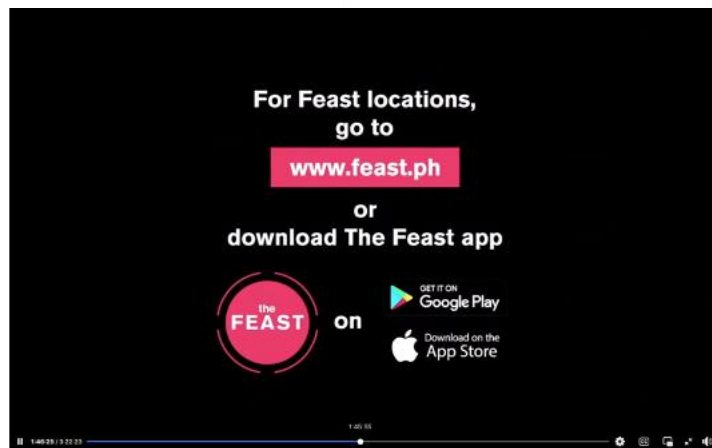
Media Ministries Head
Randy Borromeo

Contributors
The Feast Builders

Finance Officer
Rowena Cequeña

Publication Consultant
Chelle S. Crisanto

Human Resources Manager
Erika Ventura



For comments, article contributions, write or call us:
Email Address: lojlibrary2819@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

