



**NEWSLETTER**  
**July 2, 2023**

## *Family Matters*



WE continue our new, special Feast mini-series, titled *What Matters Most*--about five aspects of our life that have been hit hard since the Coronavirus Disease (COVID)

Pandemic: Faith, Family, Fitness, Finance, and Friendships.

Last Sunday, July 2, 2023, we started with Talk 1 on *Faith*.

This Sunday, July 9, 2023, our Grand Feast, we tackle Talk 2 of our special Feast mini-series: on *Family*.

Yes, Family really matters. But how well do you really know your family?

If you're a parent, how well are you prepared for your role as head of the family? It is said that few are really prepared for the role of parenting—or actually, no one at all.

If you're a child, how do you deal with such a reality: that your parent lacks preparation to take good care of you?

As a parent, do you really know what or who your child really is?

Children, have you well expressed to your parents your inner thoughts, your inner self?

We ask these questions because yes, a parent's decision affects the whole family. And parents' issues may be passed on to their children.

If these are negative issues, how do parents or children break the chain of the ill-effects of these issues?

Talk 2 of our special series tackles these questions, to be preached by Bro. Audee Villaraza.

Be inspired as this talk sheds a new light on parent-children relationships.

May your dreams come true,

**WELCOME to the continuation  
of our special Feast series,  
*What Matters Most***

**Bo Sanchez**

## *Family Talk*

FILIPINOS have a peculiar custom when it comes to having new visitors over at their home.

When they know that a first-time guest is coming over, they'll turn the entire house into a showcase/showroom.

Mom will start bringing out the plates and shiny silverware-- those have been in the cabinet, unused since the time of Jose Rizal.

She'll swap the ratty pillowcases in the living room with the good ones from the extra room. She'll put out newly washed rugs and light the scented candles to make every room smell like a garden.

She'll even bring out the good toilet paper from the bathroom. Until then, everyone in the family has been using the 1-ply toilet paper. The one so thin that it disintegrates the moment you touch it. But when there's a new guest coming over, the 3-ply toilet paper is brought out.

And when the guest finally arrives, they're brought to the best room in the house, while the backroom is on lockdown for the entire duration of the visit.

How do you distinguish family from a guest? Guests are always taken to the best rooms in the house, but family members get to go even in the backrooms – where all the clutters are.

Family gets to see everything. Family also talks about everything.

The Feast is a family. ***And as a family, we have to be able to talk about the hard stuff.***

And that's precisely what we're going to do today: *a family talk.*

Our key message: ***Make God the head of your household.***

May today's Feast bless your family with deeper, loving relationship.



All for God's Glory,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AuDee'.

**AUDEE VILLARAZA**

## *All in the Family*

THE idiom, *all in the family*, means something that is only for members of our family-- this is not for people who are not in our family.

In this issue of *The Feast Family*, we are talking about family -- and we are not keeping this all in our family. We spread the message to everyone, because for us, everyone is family we love.



But Fr. Bob McConaghy, in his homily in last Sunday's Feast, cautioned us about giving family all our attention, all our love. Why? Because Fr. Bob was explaining last Sunday's Gospel-- about our Lord Jesus saying, "Unless you love Me more than you love them (your mother, father, son, daughter) you're not worthy of Me."

Confusing? Read on, *page 3*.

Our founder, Bro. Bo Sanchez, says family *does* matter, *page 1*. So, family

is one of the five topics of our special mini-series, *What Matters Most*.

Bro. Audee Villaraza preaches *Family Talk* today. Intro on *page 2*.



Yes, we are family. A faith group is usually called a *community*.

We call ours the Light of Jesus *Family*.

We are family. We care for each other. That's why we have the Light of Jesus Pastoral Care ministry for the emotionally wounded.

And we call those serving in the ministry not simply as counselors but as *carers*. Need to talk? Check out

Part 2 of our series on LOJ Pastoral Care, our feature in our *Mercy Ministries* section this month of July, *page 35*.

*Welcome to our Family!*

All for God's Glory,

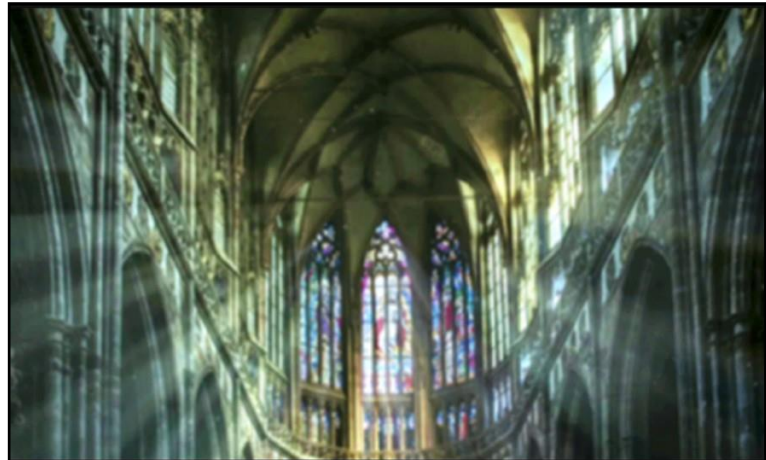
**Randy Borromeo**  
Media Ministry  
Executive Director





***FLASHBACK!***  
**JULY 2, 2023**

## Holy Mass



**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

### Homily

**FR. BOB McCONAGHY**

on the Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42

THIS is one of those Gospels in which our Lord seems to be asking something that is very unrealistic of us.

Every day we see our mother and father, we love our mother and father.  
Every day you see your son or your daughter and you love them.

But Jesus was saying, “Unless you love me more than you love them, you’re not worthy of me.”

Very confusing. And the only way, really, that I think I can begin to share the deeper meaning of this Gospel is to tell you the story of the happiest man I’ve ever met in my entire life. But in the eyes of the world, he should have been among the most unhappy -- because of the cards that were dealt to him very unfairly.

## The Happiest Man

When I was made parish priest many years ago at a place called St. Peter and Paul in Lehighton (Pennsylvania, United States), I was there seven years.

And when I moved in, the former parish priest and I had dinner and he said, "Let me explain some of the things that go on the programs in the parish."

But then he said, "Now, not to worry, because you won't have to get up and open the doors of the church because George Sipple takes care of that. At the 6:00 A.M. Mass, he will have everything set up by the time you get over to church. And not only that. We have two or three nursing homes in our parish. George takes Holy Communion to all three of them once a week."

I said to myself, *This guy is a real dynamo. I really am looking forward to meeting him.*

So, the next day, I got up in the morning, about quarter to 6:00, for the 6:00 A.M. Mass. I went over, and the church was about half full. People in Lehighton love to go to early Mass before they go to work.

And so, I asked someone at the back pew, "Where is George Sipple?"

They said, "Front row, first man on the right."

And so, I went down and there I met George Sipple-- 80 years old. He had set everything up, opened everything up, and he was at that front row for the whole of the Mass, received Communion so beautifully. And then, after Mass, I met him in the Sacristy and he very graciously welcomed me to the parish.

And he said, "Father, I want you to come up to my house and have breakfast with my wife. I want to introduce you to Anna."

I said, "Okay, I'll do that."

He said, "But oh, Father, wait until you meet my son Joey."

When he said that, his eyes were wide open with pride and I thought, *Well, maybe he's the mayor, maybe has a Ph.D., or maybe he is very talented musically. I didn't know.*

George said, "Come on up with me."

So, we drove up to his house, went in. I greeted and met his wife Anna, and then I met Joey.



## The Routine

Let me tell you just a bit about Joey. Total 55 years before I met Joey, when he was born, they couldn't get his head out of the birth canal. So, the doctor went in with the forceps, kind of forced it in a bit, squeezed too hard, and brought Joey out with complete brain damage. And George could have sued the doctor and won millions of dollars for that. But George didn't do it.

The doctor said to him, "You have a very difficult choice here. Joey should be institutionalized. The state should take care of him because he will never go to school, he will never be able to talk to you in a way that you will understand him, and he would never be able to work. We would encourage you to put him into a state institution."

But George said, "No, we won't. We'll take him home."

And so, they did.

That morning when I met Joey, I immediately found out the routine.

George had been retired for many years, and every morning at 4:00 A.M., he and Anna would get up. They would take Joey, they would toilet him, they would bathe him, they would dress him because he wasn't able to put together buttons, and pull up his zipper.

Then, every morning, especially when George became an adult, they would take him downstairs and put him on a very comfortable Barcalounger (comfortable reclining chair) and there he would stay. And off to Mass George would go.

When he brought me to his house, introduced me to Anna.

Then he said, "This is my Joey!"

His wife Anna had cooked Joey's breakfast—it had to be pureed because he couldn't eat anything solid-- or he would choke.

George said, "Father, now it's time to feed Joey."

So, he began to feed Joey. And I marveled at what I saw. This had been going on for decades, the same routine every day:

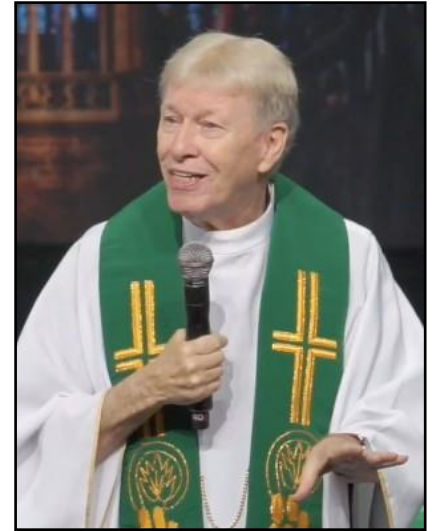
"Okay buddy, here we go," George said.

He then began to feed Joey. The only thing Joey could do in communicating back was this sound, "Ehrrrr." And he would do that often.

"That's okay, buddy," George replied.

And he would feed Joey again and Joey sometimes would spit it out and it would be on his chin.

Very lovingly, George wiped his chin and said, "That's okay, Joey, you're doing fine."



## The Host

Well, it took George 45 minutes to feed his Joey, and never, during that time, did I see anything but absolute joy in his face as he was doing it.

And then as we were going out the door, he said, “Father, I have to tell you something. We’re so blessed to have Joey. He never gives us a hard time. We just love loving him!”

Now, think about that. Every day, for 55 years, without any recognition of mom and dad. They give him love without receiving that much in return and when I saw him wipe off the spit from Joey’s chin, I thought to myself, we pray, *Give us this day our daily bread*-- and then, maybe, we spit the food out.

But George kind of reminded me of Papa God, the Heavenly Father, Abba, Daddy God—that when we do that, he wipes our chin and says, “You can always begin again.”

Oh, well, I remember being in the convent looking out from my window at very steep steps that go up to the church. And I would watch George very slowly, making his way up those steps, holding on to the railing to get Holy Communion hosts from the church and to distribute the hosts to homes of elderly (in the village).

The look on his face was one absolute anticipation-- couldn’t wait to get the hosts, and he had that look on his face like, *Oh, boy, I’m going to go get Jesus.*

One time, George said to me, “Father, you know what, when I go in to those old-age homes, and I go to the Catholics there, and I hold up that host ... they come to life, their eyes are so bright.”

And I thought to myself, *Yeah, they’ve seen the real Presence of Jesus reflected on the face of George who knew how to love sacrificially.*



### Reading I: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16A

<sup>8</sup> Now it happened that, on a certain day, Elisha passed by Shunem. And there was a great woman there, who took him to eat bread. And since he frequently passed by there, he turned aside to her house, so that he might eat bread.<sup>9</sup> And she said to her husband: “I have noticed that he is a holy man of God, who passes by us frequently.<sup>10</sup> Therefore, let us prepare a small upper room for him, and place a bed in it for him, and a table, and a chair, and a lampstand, so that when he comes to us, he may stay there.”

<sup>11</sup> Then it happened that, on a certain day, arriving, he turned aside into the upper room, and he rested there.<sup>14</sup> Later Elisha asked, “Can something be done for her?” His servant Gehazi answered, “Yes! She has no son, and her husband is getting on in years.”<sup>15</sup> Elisha said, “Call her.” When the woman had been called and stood at the door,<sup>16</sup> Elisha promised, “At this time, and at this same hour, with life as a companion, you will have a son in your womb.”



## The Tears

Oh, well, George came to me one morning after Mass, and he said, “Father, please pray for my daughter Anna. She was just diagnosed with brain cancer.”

“What?”

“Yes, Father. Could you pray for her?”

And I did.

I didn’t hear him say to me when he asked me to pray for her, “Father, why?! Look at all those that have been going on. I got this Joey who isn’t able to... and now my poor Anna! She has brain cancer. Why?!”

George didn’t say that.

Anna died two months later. George was at the funeral, in the front row, with his wife, and he attended Mass and he cried. The price of love is lost and we pay with our tears.

But the next morning, without of being in denial of what had happened, George was there at 5:30 A.M. to set up for Mass.

Oh, well, I was there seven years and about five years into being there, his wife Anna had a stroke. And I remember being with George in the Intensive Care Unit and she was dying.

And he took a hold of her hand and said the most loving words to her: “Anna, thanks for putting up with me all these 56 years. But we had good times, didn’t we? We took such good care of Anna and our beloved Joey. I’m going to miss you.”

He gave her a kiss. She died shortly after that. Then a year later, his Joey died. So, he was all alone in the world now.



### Reading II: Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

<sup>3</sup> Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

<sup>4</sup> We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.<sup>8</sup> If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him.<sup>9</sup> We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.<sup>10</sup> As to his death, he died to sin once and for all; as to his life, he lives for God.<sup>11</sup> Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.



## The Cross

I remember vividly that our Diocesan newspaper did a full-page story on George Sipple in which he shared his life and his love of God and his love of people. People were moved by what they read. Two weeks after that article came out in the newspaper, I got a telephone call from his next-door neighbor: “Something’s wrong. George is on the floor. We’re calling the ambulance.”

I made my way up as fast as I could-- only two blocks away.

I opened the door and when I went in, you know what, he had a heart attack. And usually, people who have a heart attack when they fall over, they’re kind of maybe scrunched up, crumpled, face up. Not George.

I’ve never seen anything like this in my entire life.

He was lying on the floor, faced down, with his arms spread wide (like the arms of Jesus on the Cross).



The cross that George picked up daily for almost 60 years, he could finally lay down. I believe it’s the same. It kind of explains the Gospel vividly. He never asked why. He always was able to ask a second question that we never ask when we’re hurting, when we have to pick up our cross.

Notice Jesus doesn’t say, “Pick up My cross.” He says, “Pick up yours.”

And George did that every day but asked the second question: *Where, where are you taking me with all of this?*

You see, George loved God more than he loved Anna, more than he loved his daughter, and more than he loved his Joey. Love here doesn’t mean romance. It doesn’t mean feelings only...

Cross is an instrument of great pain at times but it is the greatest symbol we have of unconditional love.

George learned that unconditional love in quiet, in realizing that he could share anything with Jesus. He never edited his prayer, he never held back, and he told me he was simply being in the Presence of Jesus and allowing Jesus to completely love him, and doing that, he was able to love his family even more.

Because the temptation would be, “If I love them more than I love God, I’m going to be an angry guy.”

## The Sacrificial Love

But George was just the opposite. The happiest man I have ever met in my entire life had every reason to be unhappy. But he loved God first, and what kind of love is that? The same kind of love as on the Cross—he loved sacrificially and loved loving that way because he knew Jesus loved him that way.

Very often, you know, we think about obligations to God and that somehow, we must become what He wants us to be and would then say, “You’re worthy of me.”

No, that’s not the meaning of this. The meaning of this is that God doesn’t love us as we should be or could be. He loves you just as you are and you need simply to be with Him in the quiet and allow Him to love you.

I’ll close with this: Pope Francis, such a humble guy, he’s available, welcomes people, not nasty to people. At 86, he’s really an old guy.

But he said, “You know, sometimes, I get at the end of the day and I’m so tired when I go to the chapel...”

The Eucharist is exposed, he said, “I’m too tired even to open up the book to say my night prayer. I’ve gone through so much during the day with all the difficulties of the church. What I simply imagine is that Jesus in the Eucharist is looking at me with great love. Most of the time, when I do that, I fall asleep but 20 minutes or so. Then, I’ll wake up and, you know what, I don’t feel guilty because I know during those 20 minutes, Jesus never took His eye off of me.”

And He never takes His loving eye off of you either.

Go to Him, be with Him in the silence. Don’t edit your prayer. Pick up your cross whatever it is—financial, emotional, relationships, work, school, that can be painful. And sometimes it’s very painful.

But when you get in the quiet, remember what George asked. He asked his why as anyone would have.

And you know what, Jesus never answered that question. God the Father never answered one time in history the question, “Why?”

But He always answers the question, “*Where?*”

*Where are you taking me with all of this?*

He’s taking you to love your mother and father, your son or daughter, anyone among your families and friends because that’s where He’s taking you—to love them a little more deeply with unconditional, sacrificial love.

May we be like George and be happy no matter what. Have a good week.





**AUDEE VILLARAZA:**

I want to call on some very special people in the house of God today-- the birthday celebrators in the month of July. We want to bestow a blessing to you from the Lord.

Everyone, lay your hands on our birthday celebrators:

*Father, thank you so much for blessing these people. This is their month. But we believe that this is also their year, a banner year when they will experience a breakthrough like no other because You will deliver them from certain burdens that are holding them back. We pray that whatever limitation they have brought in the season of their life, that they break through that limitation. We pray for all their dreams, all their goals and all their plans. We pray that you will send them the resources that they need, opportunities will flow, blessings will flow, healing will flow. And we believe this in faith. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.*

***Happy Birthday!***



## New Blessing

I was with my son earlier in Mass. How many of you have kids? Raise your hand--all those who bring their children to The Feast. I was with Ethan, my five-year-old earlier and we were sitting there where we usually sit—at the end of the hall—at the top. During the part of the Mass, I noticed that he was so immersed in what was happening here. He was staring at Fr. Bob intently. And I was wondering what was my son thinking. Because he was really just keenly observing.

I asked him, I whispered to him, “Ethan what are you thinking of?”

He looked at me and he said to me, “Daddy, I’m so bored.”

How many of you know what I’m talking about?

“If you’re a parent and your kids said the same thing to you: “Daddy, Mommy, I’m bored.”



But you know, we have a blessing today. Ever since the Coronavirus Disease (COVID) Pandemic happened, we’ve been praying that we would have a little Awesome Kids Ministry—where we gather all the kids.

But in the meantime that we do not have yet that Ministry,

I am so happy to be able to announce to everyone that starting today, we now have a Children’s Room where you can bring your kids—in the Elizalde Hall, just at the back.

The only deal is there must be a guardian—a parent or a nanny—who will be with the kid.

And if you’re guarding your children, you don’t have to miss the Mass, you don’t have to miss the talk.

Because we have *live* streaming there. So, you can still watch The Feast and be blessed. Wonderful, wonderful victory here.

And we’d like to thank our Admin Team that Didoy and Mayi Lubaton are leading. They are the ones taking care of this.



## Love Offering

We want to be good stewards of the resources that you give to us every single week and some of you might be asking where what you give goes. We use that to support our Mercy Ministries – you know the Mercy Ministries that we have.

But that also goes to support our weekly gathering here at The Feast. And so, now we are a little challenged because you have been giving faithfully and relentlessly.

And as good stewards of this Community, I'm happy to announce that starting this month as well --and this will happen towards the end of the year-- that every month—July, August, all the way to December, we're going to have at least one Grand Feast every month – at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

On July 9, we're going to have one session Grand Feast at the Reception Hall from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. That's possible only because of the grace of God and because of your relentless giving. So, we want to thank you for continuously giving to support what we do here to support what God is building here in this world.

Lift up your Love Offering envelope. Even if you feel like it's not enough—because it will never be enough-- you can never out-give the Lord. The Lord is truly more generous than any of us. So, lift up your hands and I want you to say this with me:

*Dear Jesus, this does not come just from my pocket but it comes from my heart.*

*It comes from my sacrifice and I give this willingly, happily, without any regret. I know that you will use this to bless others like You have blessed me. Use this to further build Your Kingdom.*

*In Jesus' Name. Amen.*



**WAYS TO GIVE**

Light of Jesus Family Mega Manila, Inc.  
003970143807

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# Worship!

## EXHORTATION



### MHADS PAMAONG:

Good morning, Feast!

Today, we're going to sing a familiar song from Feast Worship. We're going to sing *God's Promise* today.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

You know, I remember, it's July. It's the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July. *Ju-like* that? 😊

We're now done with the first half of the year and, praise God, we are still here standing-- by God's grace! Hallelujah!

And I know, Brothers and Sisters, some of us may be coming from different situations, different heart postures, different seasons. Some of us may be celebrating or maybe, you came in here with a heavy heart.

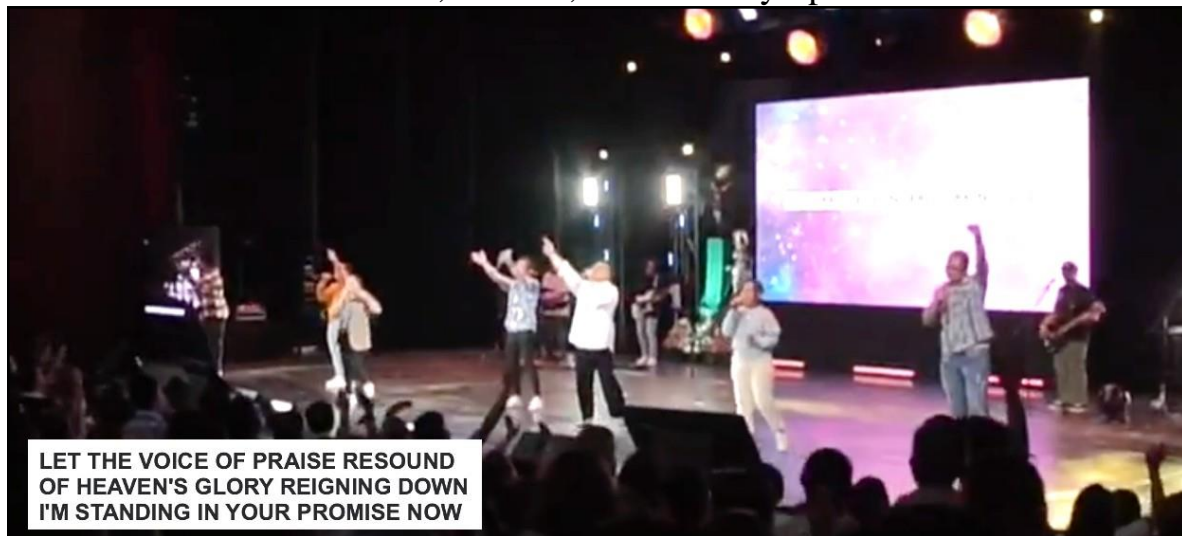
Let me share with you a powerful verse from Psalms 139:10:

*"Even there, Your hand will guide me and Your right hand will hold me fast."*

Brothers and Sisters, it's telling us that God's goodness will still bring comfort, that God's goodness will still provide, and if it brought us through the past months, years, I declare in faith that He's going to do it again!

So, I invite you, whether you're online or you're here, let us sing not because of the good things that He has given us but because He Himself is good.

In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.



**BO SANCHEZ:** May I invite you just to be grateful to the Lord.

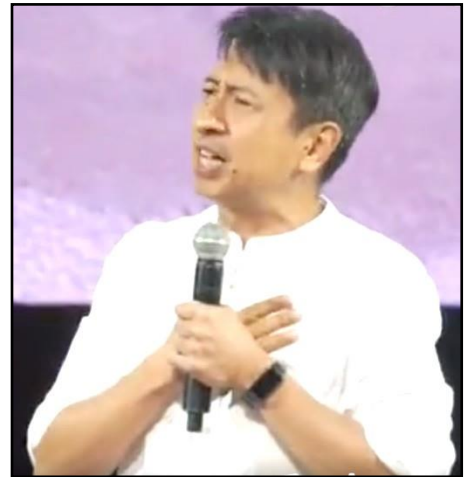
I want you to think of how you are here and the reason you are here is God has been good to you. And that His goodness has been chasing you around.

Sometimes, we are faithful and sometimes we're not. Sometimes we're okay pursuing the path of God. And sometimes we make those detours. Raise your hand if sometimes you make detours. And we make mistakes. But I've got news for you. The God who is faithful will keep on even if you go detouring and going to the wrong path. God is the God who chases after you.

Everybody, put your hand over your chest. Everybody, say, *God's goodness chases after me. God's blessing, God's abundance, God's forgiveness are chasing after me.*

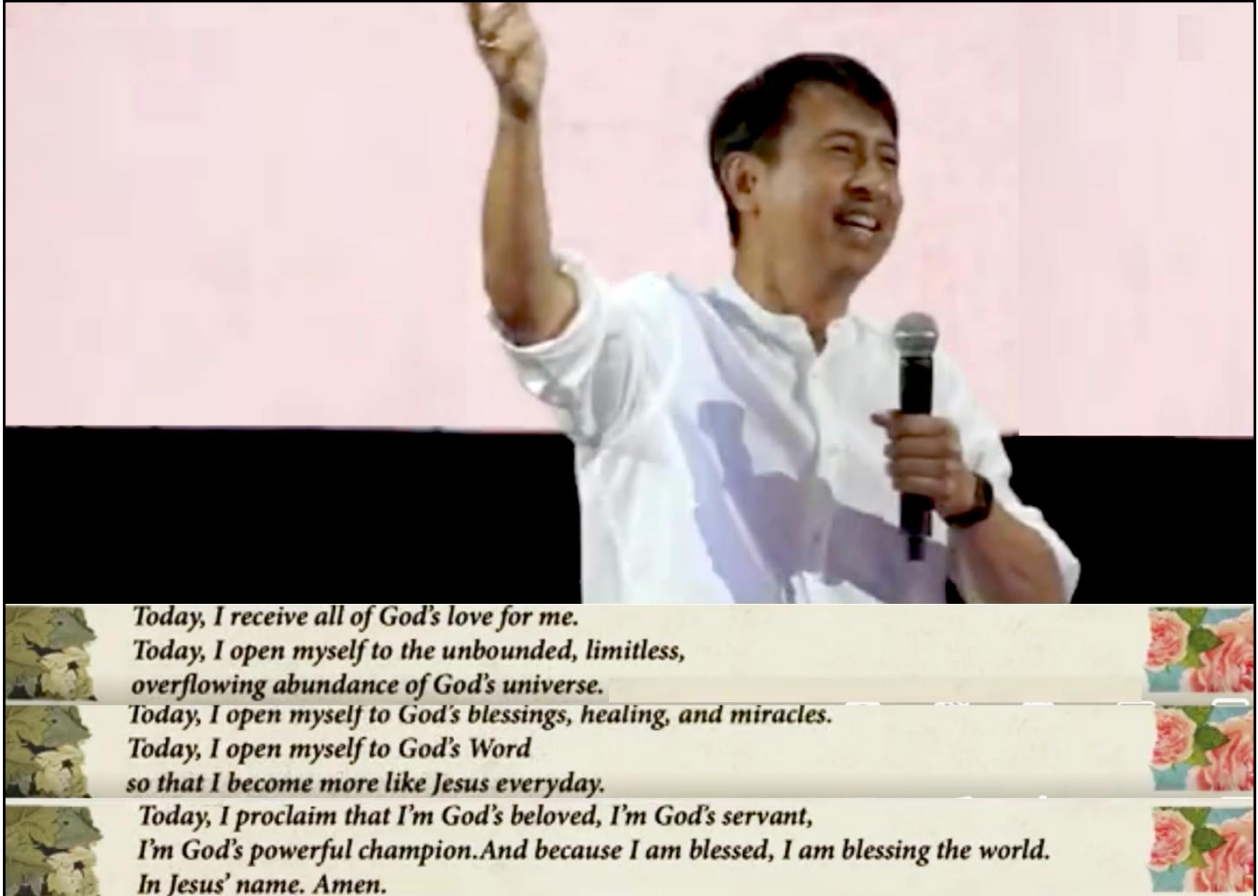
God is a God who is faithful. We may be unfaithful but God is faithful. We may not be very good but God is very good.

Everybody, sing and worship Him! Hallelujah!



# NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

Let's pray our favorite prayer today:



Give the Lord  
a big hand  
and love Him.

Let's give  
our Worship Team  
a big hand.

Thank you  
so much guys.  
Beautiful.

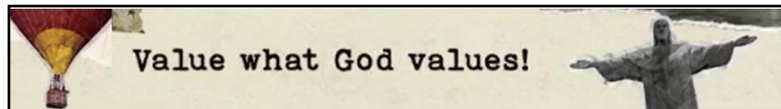




# Talk



EVERYBODY, say:



My role today is not to give you the talk but to introduce the entire series. It's a mini-series. There will be five messages in this series and the series is called *What Matters Most*.

My wife Marowe and I, we're very busy preparing for the celebration of our 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. And so, there was this one day, we were chatting, and you know, we were listing down the many things we have to pay for. So, we have to pay for the venue, and okay, we had to pay for the food, catering. We had to pay for the clothes. We have to pay for the sound system. We have to pay for the photos, and we have to pay for the video, yes.

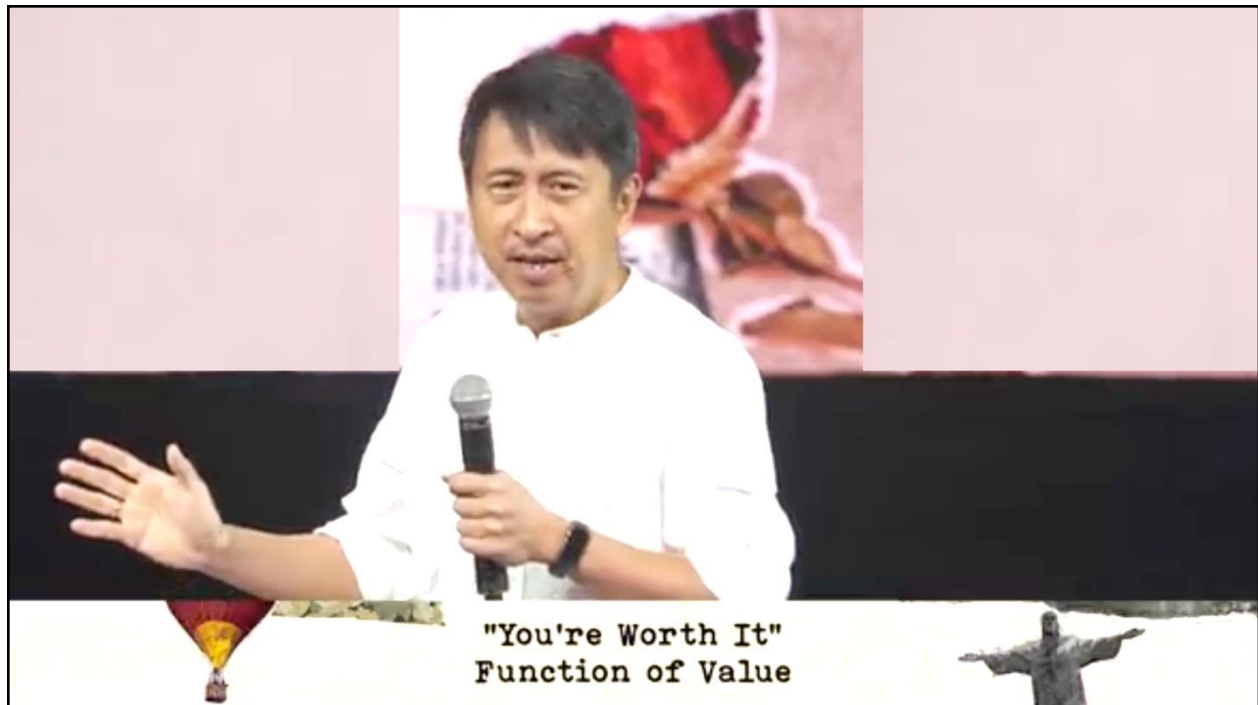
And as we were going through the list, my wife reached out to me and said, "Love, sorry. So expensive."

And she added, "Let's not do it anymore, this celebration."

I told her, "You like, let's just elope."

And then I looked at her and I said, "Sweetheart,"  
—three words: "You're worth it."





Everybody, say those words: “You’re worth it.”

Life is about knowing what matters most. Life is a values game.

Please understand this: How many of you want to live a fantastic life?

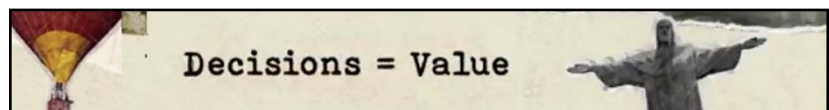
A life for God. A life of love. A life of dedication, commitment, and blessing.

If you want those, please understand, you’ve got to win the values game. You’ve got to know what matters most.

I repeat this: If I want to know your values, I could, if I wanted to, you know, maybe give you a piece of paper, and say, “Can you write down your values? What are you thinking are the top things that are most important to you? Can you?”

I probably might get a few answers and that might be helpful. But they might not be accurate. Because it’s so easy to fool ourself.

You want me to know how I can know your values? All I have to do is look at your decisions.



Because your decision every day is a product of your values. All I have to do is to look at your daily decisions. Actually, if right now, you’re listening to me, and you’re having a difficult time making a very important decision in your life, my bet is, my suspicion is, you’re not clear about your values, about what is most important to you.



## What's Important to You?

Decision is all about value clarification.

I remember my mentor—his name is Joey Bonifacio. He was talking about this: How many hours do we have in a day? Just in case you don't know, it's 24.:)

And so, Joey was saying that every day, there is a train that passes in front of you with 24 box cars. And when a box is in front of you, appears in front of you, that box car is empty. And so, what we do, is we fill that box car.

These are decisions that we have to make. And I repeat that the decisions we have to make come from our values. And so, what do we put into that box car? When the hour is over, that box car is full and then a new box car comes



and again, it's empty. You cannot slow down the train. You cannot stop the train if you wanted to. It just keeps on moving. That's what time is.

And my dear friend, a time will come when that train will stop on its own. Yes or no? And then we have no choice. It's over. The end game. But while your life continues -- and please inhale... and exhale... inhale, one more time... exhale... the train continues. And there will always be this new box car that comes in. And it will be empty. Every single hour, you put in what you value the most.

These box cars are magical. Why? Because what you put in the box car, over time, grows—multiplies. You put

***Magical Boxcars: What you put in multiplies over time!***

the wrong thing in, the wrong thing grows and multiplies. And it will haunt you five years from now, 19 years from now, 20 years from now.

But you try to put the good thing in that box car. That good thing will multiply. And I want to thank God that I can look at my wife who's celebrating her birthday tomorrow (July 3)... Did I put the right, the good thing in my box cars 25 years ago? I think I did. I think we both did. And that box car is so magical that 25 years later, we're harvesting the right thing.

## A Weighing Game

My dear friends, this moment, right now, there's an empty box car in front of you. It's 9:40. a.m. What are you filling that box car? It's a decision that comes from your values -- what's important to you. And I pray that you value what God values.

I end with a Scripture verse.

It's about values. Matthew 6:19-21:



*Matthew 6:19-21 NIV*

*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,*

*Matthew 6:19-21 NIV*

*where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

My invitation to you is to change the word *treasures* with *values*. Let's read again:

*Matthew 6:19-21 NIV*

*"Do not store up for yourselves **values** on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves **values** in heaven,*

*Matthew 6:19-21 NIV*

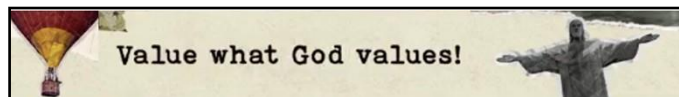
*where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your **value** is, there your heart will be also.*

So, here's how I end: Do you know that life is a values game? And it will all depend on what you put in that box car. But at the end of the day, it's a weighing game. It's how good you are in knowing your values. Values are about weighing scales. And my dear friends, you have a weighing scale. It's your heart. Where your values are, there will your heart be. Your heart is your weighing scale.

Now, here's my question: Is the weighing scale malfunctioning? And sometimes, weighing scales malfunction.

What should you do? Get it calibrated—to the heart of God. Your heart must value what God values.

Value what God values.

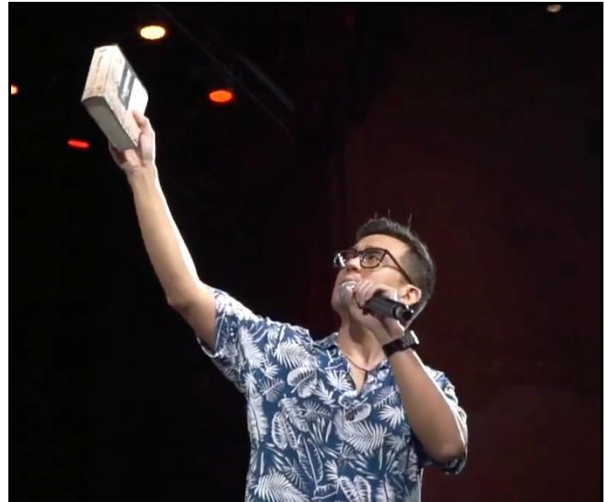


Please welcome Audee Villaraza.

**AUDEE VILLARAZA:**

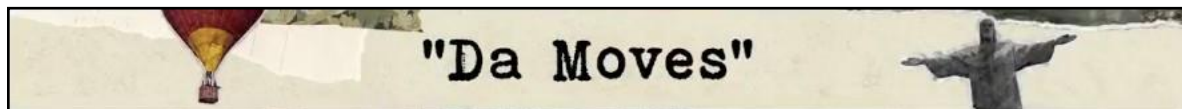
Give honor and reverence  
to the Word of God today:

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



THERE is a popular Filipino saying that whenever you try to make an attempt or when you're interested in someone, you say this in Tagalog: *Da Moves*.

I'll give you a classic example of *Da Moves*:



You have a crush. You ask the woman: "Miss, what's your name?"

She asks, "Why?"

You reply: "No big deal. I just want to know if your surname looks good together with my surname."

*Da Moves.*

One more example: Again, you have a crush. Ask her: "Miss, are you a fan of ABS-CBN (leading broadcast network calling viewers *kapamilya*-- family).

"Why do you ask?"

"We just want to know because we want you to be *kapamilya*, part of our family.

*Da Moves.*

One more. One last: Borrow a ballpen from your crush. Then tell her, "The ballpen doesn't write."

She says, "I just used the pen. It works."

You, giving her a piece of paper: "Oh? Okay, write your phone here."

*Da Moves.*

I want to thank Bro. Bo for sharing those lines with me. Those lines came from him—just kidding.

I want to acknowledge the presence of our dear friend Bro. Adrian Panganiban in the house of God today. Thank you, Bro. A for being here. We're so blessed by your presence.



## God's Message

You're probably wondering why I am sharing about *Da Moves*.

Because our big message is this:

*God is waiting for your move.*

*Da Moves*.

For the next five Sundays, we're going to be talking about five very valuable aspects of life: Faith, Family, Fitness, Finance, and Friendship.

There may be more but we believe these are five very important aspects. And this is in no way in order. But I believe this: That it's not an accident that Faith is the first. Because Faith is, if not one, it's the most important aspect of our life-- it's our faith in God. And so, for the next few Sundays, we're going to talk about these five ones.

We're going to open and take Scripture from the book of *Matthew*. This is a Scripture that's not new. Chances are, some of you have already heard this. It comes from Matthew 8:5-8:

### *Matthew 8:5-7 NLT*

*When Jesus returned to Capernaum, a Roman officer came and pleaded with him, "Lord, my young servant lies in bed, paralyzed and in terrible pain."*

*<sup>7</sup> Jesus said, "I will come and heal him."*

### *Matthew 8:8 NLT*

*<sup>8</sup> But the officer said, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come into my home. Just say the word from where you are, and my servant will be healed."*

This is a line that we always say here at the Mass. It's a very familiar line. We'll break open this passage. I want you to close your eyes, put your hand over your chest and say: *Jesus, speak to me. I'm wide open. I'm listening. I pray that Your message today will set me free and will change me. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*



One more time everybody:

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



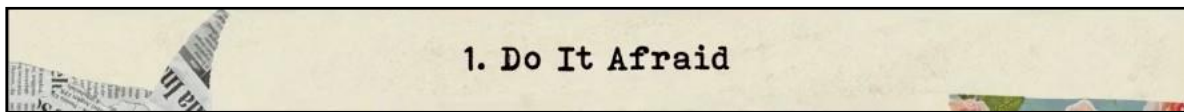


God is waiting for your move.

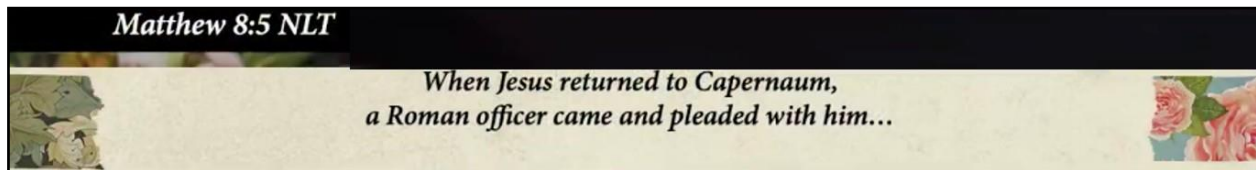
So, the question is: What is your *Da Move* when it comes to the Lord?

There are three ways we're going to teach you: Three ways to move in faith—because our topic today is *Faith*.

How to move in faith? To learn to move in faith, first, you have to *Do it afraid*.

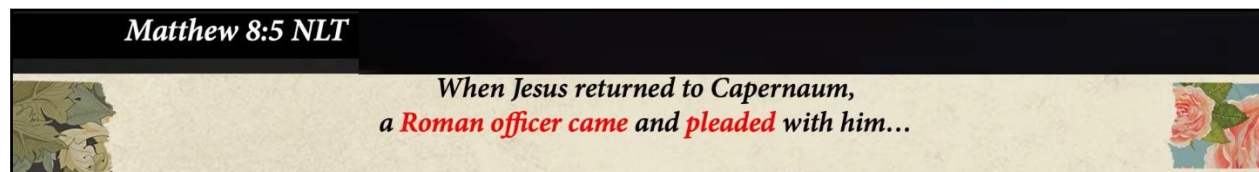


Let's go back to Mathew 8:5:



If you're reading this during the time of Jesus, when Matthew wrote it, chances are, you would be shocked to hear three words together in one sentence.

What are the three words?



### **Three Words: 1. officer 2. came 3. pleaded.**

Now, why would you never see these words in one sentence during the time of Jesus?

First, because a Roman officer, back then, this guy was called Centurion (commander of a military unit). Roman officers were bosses. They had high authority.

Second, back in the day, if a Centurion needed something from you, he would not *come* before you. He would have you fetched so that you'd be there, available for the boss for whatever he wants from you.

Third, an officer would never *plead*. Usually, it's the other way around. People would plead to the Centurion. But in this case, you see in the story that the Centurion, the Roman officer, was the one coming to Jesus and pleading to Him.

Now, if you're going to use modern lenses, picture this for a moment: Imagine a CEO—chief executive officer-- of a Forbes 500 company. Somebody who is really powerful, somebody who's really rich, somebody who's really successful.

Imagine that CEO coming down from his penthouse office to the basement staff room and looking for the very first new clerk and saying, "I need you."

That's what it looks like: the Centurion was lowering himself before Jesus. Remember that the Romans, they were rulers of the Jewish people. They were the bosses.

Now, the question is: What would compel such a guy to lower himself and come to Jesus and plead – not even for himself but in behalf of his servant?

Anyone, answer? Lead? Faith? I'm looking for one word...

Let me give you a clue: What compels married people to stay together? What would compel a parent to go to work every single time— to leave family behind and go abroad? It's *love*, right?

Love makes you do something unpredictable. I mean, how many of you know that? That parents would go abroad to work even if they're afraid to leave their family? Why? Because they love their family. Why is it that parents would sacrifice day and night to provide for their children? Because they love those children.

Why is it that you serve here at The Feast week after week, after week?

It's because of love.

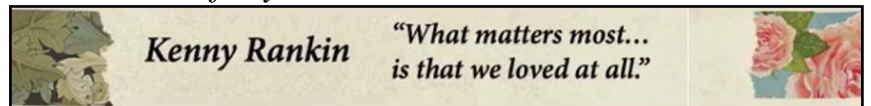






## Love Matters

Love makes us do unpredictable matters.  
No wonder, my very good friend Kenny Rankin, American singer-writer, said:  
*It's not how many summer times  
we have to give to fall  
The early morning smiles  
we tearfully recall ...*



Source: [LyricFind](#). Songwriters: Alan Bergman / Dave Grusin / Marilyn Bergman.  
*What Matters Most* lyrics © Capitol CMG Publishing,  
Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC, Universal Music Publishing Group

What matters most is that we loved at all. Why do we love? Why do we love, really? Because of the two greatest commandments of Jesus. First: *Love God with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your soul.* And the second greatest commandment is: *Love one another as I have loved you.*

What is the verb in that? *Love.*

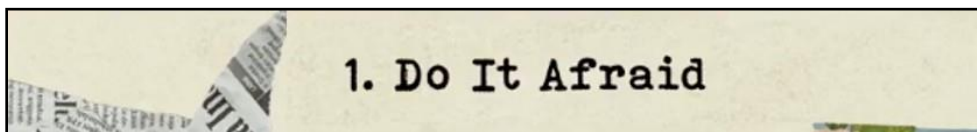
That's why we love. I truly believe this: That at the end of our life, when we're long gone, you know what our legacy will be? Our life will not be defined by how many accomplishments we gathered and awards we received. Our life will be defined by how much affection we had given.

That's what people will remember the most. How much you loved them.

It's love. That's the reason this Centurion did what he did. It's because his love for his servant was greater than his pride, his ego.

It's love. That's also the reason you as parents, you as children of God, do what you do—because your love for that person and that situation is greater than your fear, greater than your security. So, you know that when your love is greater than anything, you can do things afraid.

Do it afraid. That's the first move in faith.





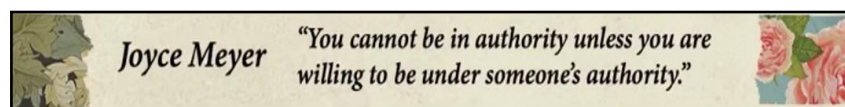
To move in faith, you have to acknowledge the authority of Jesus.

Let me read it to you. In Verse 9, the Centurion says to Jesus:

*I know that You can do this, Jesus because I am under authority of my superior officers and I have authority over my soldiers. I only need to say, "Go," and they go. Or, "Come," and they come. And if I say to my slaves, "Do this," they do it.*

This soldier, he's a Roman officer, remember? He's a boss. He has authority. But he also acknowledges that he's also *under* authority. He has superiors but he also has subordinates.

I remember a beautiful quote by American author Joyce Myer:



You know who is the most dangerous person in the world is?

The scariest person in the world is a person who never listens. A person who does not think, "I should report to this person because I'm the boss."

Persons who think they're the greatest, they're the smartest, they are very dangerous. Because they never listen. They think they have the full authority.

What's happening here is the Centurion is teaching us a lesson in humility.

He's saying "I'm a leader, I'm in authority-- but hey, I'm also under authority. I also have bosses."

And you know, I've met some people who have the heart of this Centurion. We have an OB-GYNE—obstetrician-gynecologist—my tita, my aunt. She's the OB-GYNE of our family for as long as I can remember. She delivered most of my cousins. She delivered my two kids. She has decades and decades of experience.

But you know, one time, she told me, "Auds, I'd studied medicine for as long as I can remember but now there is a point in my practice that I cannot not explain how things work. Where my skills as a doctor ends, that's when the grace of God begins."

That's amazing. She acknowledges that there's a higher authority above her.

## Strong Relationship with Jesus

When He heard what the Centurion said, Jesus said this:

*Matthew 8:10 NLT*

*<sup>10</sup> When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. Turning to those who were following him, he said, "I tell you the truth, I haven't seen faith like this in all Israel!"*



I wonder if Jesus would look into this crowd – whether you're here, or online—He would say, "I have not seen faith like this person's faith-- in all of Parañaque, in all of Bicutan, in all of Cebu, in all of Davao, in all of Metro Manila."

You want to have that kind of faith that Jesus would say about you, "I have not seen faith like this anywhere."

That's what He was saying about the Centurion and He added:

*Matthew 8:11-12 NLT*

*<sup>11</sup> And I tell you this, that many Gentiles will come from all over the world – from east and west – and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob at the feast in the kingdom of Heaven.*

*Matthew 8:11-12 NLT*

*<sup>12</sup> But many Israelites – those for whom the kingdom was prepared – will be thrown into outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

You know, this tells me one thing: This is a message that says that Heaven is not a place just for people who attend Mass every day. Heaven is not a place for those who pray the Rosary regularly. You'd be surprised that maybe when we get to Heaven, we'll see people there who had never attended a spiritual community.

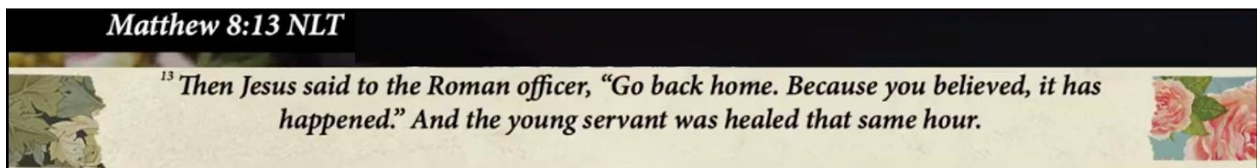
Jesus was saying that many Gentiles—pagans, non-believers-- will come from the East and West – people who had never even heard of Him. But they have faith stronger than our faith.

So, what is the lesson here? The lesson is that our faith should be so strong that even if our practices are not as strong, our relationship with Jesus would be the strongest.

**2. Acknowledge the authority of Jesus**



Here's the third way to move in faith: Trust that Jesus, God, has already handled it. Trust that whatever you're going through, God has already handled. Let me read to you how this story closes. It ends this way, in Verse 13:



When I was reading this story, somehow it did not make sense to me for Jesus to simply tell the Centurion, "Go home."

I mean, for every non-believer, one thing that you would do is that you wouldn't want to go home if there's a problem at home. If somebody a home needs to be healed, you're going to look for a doctor. You're going to look for a hospital. You're going to take matters into your own hands.

And yet Jesus said something so strange. He said, "Go back home."

## Nina's Story

May I share with you one last story, before we close...

I'm going to be sharing a story on behalf of somebody because she's unable to share her story. This is a story of my friend—her name is Nina Siglos. Some of you might know her.



Nina Siglos

Nina, when I met her, she was only 19 years old. At her tender age of 16, Nina was, like young people, she had dreams, she had hopes, she had plans. And she was a young bright student. But then, something would happen in her life that would shift her plans and would derail her priorities. Because she would go to the doctor to seek for counsel, and some procedures, because her menstrual cycle was irregular.

So, they did a full body check-up on her. And little did she know that that day she went for a brief visit to the hospital would turn into one of the most devastating days of her life. Because when they were doing the MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) they discover not the cause of her irregular menstrual cycle. But they discovered

that in the center of her brain, there was tumor. It was called microadenoma.

So, just like any person would do, she sought a second opinion and the second opinion, the same thing. And then she sought another opinion, and then another, and then another, and then another—until five doctors later, they would say the same thing: that Nina has tumor right in the center of her brain.

And the scariest part about it is that if it would be left untreated, the tumor would lead to blindness and other life-threatening illnesses.

So, imagine: a young girl, by the age of 16, finding out about the sickness. And it changed her entire life.

But you know, something happened. Right about that time, she had a grandmother who was a faithful attendee of The Feast. She would come every Sunday-- we were having The Feast still at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC). And she brought Nina to he Feast. Little did Nina know that would change her life because the message when she stepped into The Feast she felt was speaking directly to her.



## The Feast Miracle

How many of you can agree with me when I say that the first time you attended The Feast, or maybe when you attended The Feast at one point, and you felt like the preacher or the priest was talking to you directly?

Yeah. That's all of us, right?

And that's what Nina felt like. Because the message at that time, she still remembers: it was just when you did not know it, God would heal you. Something of that sort. That just when you least expect it, God is going to bless you.

That was the message.

And so, Nina did not want to leave The Feast without being prayed over by the preacher. So, she waited. The problem was, the preacher, he's known to disappear from time to time after the service. But because she waited and she waited, by some miracle, she saw the preacher and the preacher prayed for her.

How do I know this? Because I was that preacher.



You know, after that incident, everything changed for Nina. She felt the love of the Lord, the embrace of the Lord, and she started really building a relationship with Him. She started reading the Bible, and continued reading every day. She just started leaning in on the Lord, and she did that more and more. And at some point, during the entire year of trial for Nina, she somehow surrendered to the Lord.

And she deliberately said, “Lord, I know that You’re in charge. I know that You have already handled this. So, Your will be done over my life.”

And she just gave it to the Lord. She gave it to the Lord. So, what did Nina do? She started living her life again. She started studying diligently. She started praying even more.

She started worshipping. It became a lifestyle to her.

But you know, a year after, the scariest happened to Nina. She was going for her third MRI, and she was in the clinic. Usually, the MRI would last for just a couple of minutes, 30 minutes, a little over an hour. But for some reason, during this time, they made her wait—she and her mom—for two hours.

So, by this time, she was getting worried: “Why in the world they make me wait—if it wasn’t bad news?”

## Nina's Good News

Finally, the rad tech (radiologic technologist) came in. The rad tech talked to the mom. The mom just had this look of confusion as he was explaining ...

And then the mom turned to Nina and said, "They could not see your tumor."

"Oh, my God," Nina gasped. "Huh, what happened?"

She panicked.

And you know, the doctor came in and started explaining, "You know, I do not know what happened. But whatever it is that you're doing, continue to do that."

And then, in Nina's heart, she knew exactly what the doctor was saying: Continue praying. Continue worshipping. Continue surrendering.



My goodness, you know, today Nina is a healthy, happy young girl. .

*Above*, photo op with Nina and her mom.

Nina is not here. For as long as she can remember, her dream was to be part of Camp Calye (annual summer youth camp of the Light of Jesus Youth Missions). But she could not join because she was sick.

Today, the reason Nina is not here is, this weekend, she is officially a camper in Camp Calye.

God is good.

And I talked with her just recently and I asked her, "How do you know it was Jesus who healed you?"

She said, "I know..."

Because she received the good news on her third MRI. Just like Jesus was resurrected on the third day, Nina's good news was that she was raised to life on the her third MRI.

God is good.



Going back to the story...It makes sense...

Jesus said, "Go back home."

*Go back home.* What is that message? If I paraphrase that, it simply means this: If you're carrying a burden so heavy, right now, and you feel like you want to be in charge, you want to be in control, and you want to handle it, the message of the Lord for you today is *Go back home. Trust me. Let me do it because I've handled it already.*

Nina's story is just one of many miracle stories that we know of. I'm sure that you have your own miracle story that you carry with you. But let me go back to the very first point that I started with. *Da Moves. The moves.*

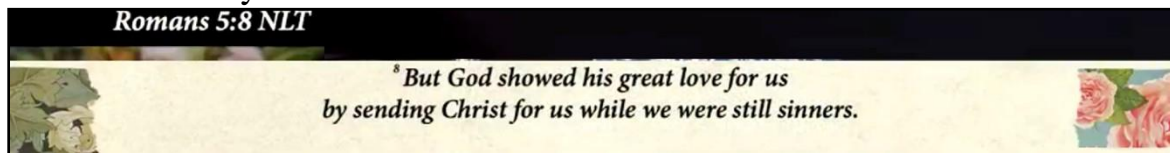
Sadly, there are a lot of people who do not have the confidence to move. Because they feel like they're insecure. Or they're unsure.

People who are unsure because they don't have the courage, so they don't make the first move. But I want you to know that when it comes to the Lord, you don't actually have to make the first move. Because God did it already. God made the first move.





Romans 5:8 says:



God showed great love for all of us by sending Christ. What was the move of God? God's move was to send Jesus. That was the move. It was a checkmate move for the Devil: Jesus Christ to be our Lord and our Savior.

So, my question for you today is this: What's your next move?

Now that God sent Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, what's your next move? Will you believe that Jesus Christ came into this world to die for you?

What's your move?

Will you proclaim that Jesus is Sovereign over every dominion in this world?

What's your move?

Will you proclaim that Jesus will be your King, your Friend, your Redeemer?

What's your move?

Because the next move is on you. It's not on God. God already moved

Now it's your move. What is your move?

If your move today is to proclaim: *"Yes Lord, I will have life with You and I will believe in You in spite of all the impossible things that I see before me, I will believe that You are Sovereign. I believe that you are the Name above every other Name. And by Your Name every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that You are Lord."*

## What Is Your Move, My Friend?



My move is this.

What's your move? You want to do the same move? Come on.

The next move is up to you. It's not up to God. It's up to you. Will you receive Jesus Christ in your life? Will you believe I faith that He can do the impossible?

What's your move?

Today, we're going to worship Jesus and we're going to declare that He is Lord and He is Savior.

In the Presence of our Almighty Father: *Lord, I pray for people who are in this place, here in Aliw Theater, people who are watching online People who will watch this later on, this week, this month. I pray for their faith. For people who have unbelief because of a faith crisis that they went through they do not believe that You can do the impossible. I pray You show Your Face and that they would have a personal encounter with You .*

*We pray that our faith would rise every time there's a crisis. We pray that our belief in You will be first and foremost because we believe in You Jesus.*

*We believe in the impossible because You are a mountain mover.*

*You are a miracle worker. You are our Lord. In Jesus'Name we pray. Amen.*



The story of Nina is just one miracle story that I shared with you. But I also believe that you yourself, you're a walking miracle because you've witnessed the miracle of God.

Two doctors told my wife and me that we would never ever have kids. We were given only 5 percent chance to have children.

But you know what? I stand in front of you with two miracles in our life. We've got two children. Because of the miracle of God.

Now, what is the miracle that God showed you? Maybe you were struggling in your finances, and you are buried in debt. But because of the grace of God, now you're financially free. Or maybe there are some of you here who have relationships that were broken but because of the grace of God, now you are in a much better place. What is a miracle story that God gave you? I want you to think about that.

And as you sing the next few lines, I want you to unleash your faith to Jesus today because you have witnessed the saving power of Jesus. You believe. You believe. You believe.



## MERCY MINISTRIES

*“Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.”*

—Proverbs 19:17

## LIGHT OF JESUS PASTORAL CARE CENTER PART 2

### *Yes, We Care*

THIS Ministry used to be called the Light of Jesus (LOJ) Counseling Center. “Counseling” means providing assistance and guidance in resolving problems and difficulties especially by a professional.

But the Ministry’s professionals do not simply “counsel.” They provide comfort and support—meaning, they *care* for the emotionally burdened.

So, the Ministry’s name was changed to the Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center.

Yes, the mission of the Light of Jesus Pastoral Care is to “Care” for you as you walk through life!

So, instead of “counselors,” we have *carers* conducting *Care Sessions*—one on one sessions with those who come to us for help. Carers are available for *live* (face-to-face), or online chat, or audio call.

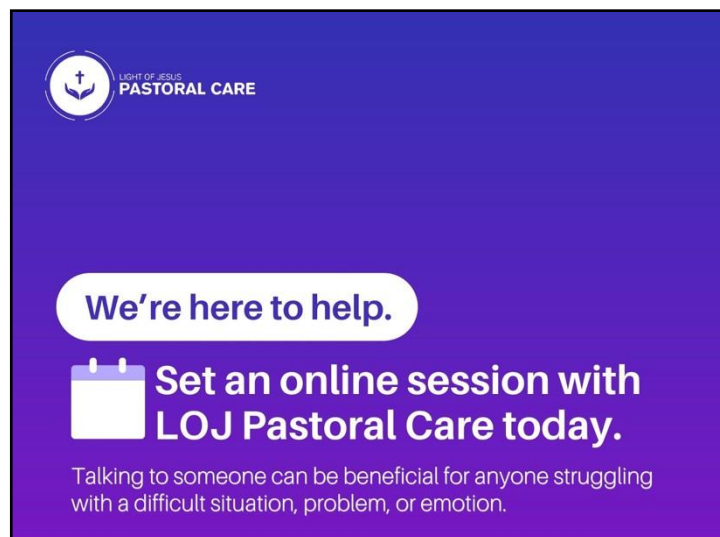
### Need to Talk?

Here are the steps on how to set an online caring session with the LOJ Pastoral Care Center.

[#LOJPastoralCare](#)

[#FeastMercyMinistries](#)

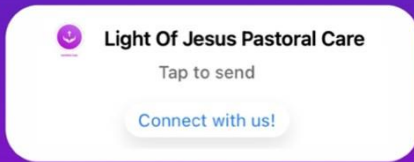
[#OnlineCareSession](#)



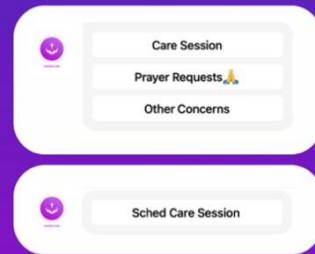


## Step 1: Message us on Facebook Messenger

Visit [m.me/lojpastoralcare](https://m.me/lojpastoralcare) and click "Connect with us!"



## Step 2: Click Care Session button and then click Sched Care Session.



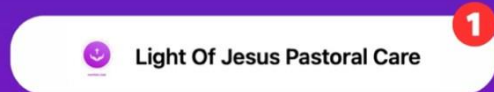
## Step 3: Fill out the schedule form.

Sending back the form below means you agree and confirm to our terms for this service.

SCHEDULE FORM  
Name:  
Location:  
Mobile No.:  
Facebook Account name/URL:  
Age and Gender:  
Work/Occupation:



## Step 4: Wait for a reply confirmation from one of our carers.





**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.

### **FOR EXISTING DONORS:**

Thank you for the Love. Your monthly donation helps us 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](mailto:jocelyn@kerygmfamily.com)

Website: <https://kerygmfamily.com> Telephone Numbers: 8725-9999/

Fax 725-1230

# 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](http://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 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 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:

Account name: Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation

BPI: Savings Account no: 0123-4849-67 Cubao Aurora Branch

Banco de Oro Savings Account no: 3970019804 General Araneta, Cubao Branch

Banco de Oro - Savings Account no. 160506123 SM Cubao Branch

PNB - Current Account no. 371157500015 SSS branch

Metrobank-Savings Account no. 265-3-26509112-2 e Rodriguez Branch

Allied Bank Savings Account no. 3160-12345-1 E Rodriguez Branch

Union Bank Savings Account no. 00-206-000940-1 Tektite Branch

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](mailto: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 editorial services by the Light of Jesus Family Library Ministry.**

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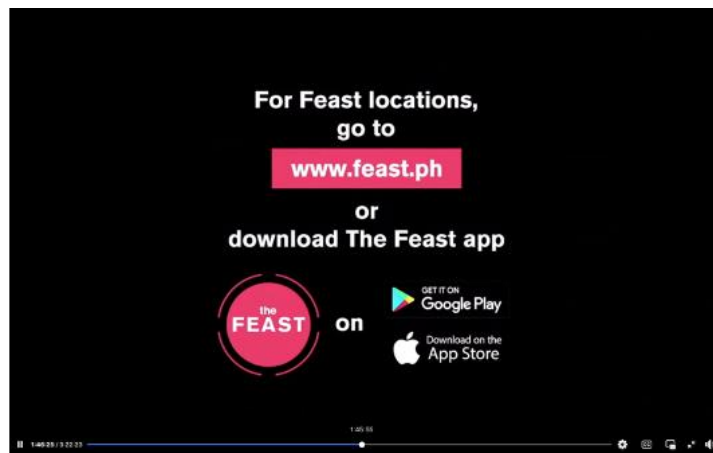
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***Go and make disciples of all men.***

— Matthew 28:19

