



TODAY, you'll meet four women mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus: Tamar, Bathsheba, Ruth, and Rahab.

Their biographies were spectacular for the wrong reasons: Tamar slept with her father-in-law; Rahab was a prostitute; Ruth was a Moabite widow, and Bathsheba became a part of a sordid Palace affair (reminds me of a Korean drama).

Meet 4 Controversial Girls

You could not have put together a more scandal-ridden list of women.

And what made this list even more spicy was that they were all foreigners (or considered foreigners). Jews saw themselves as God's favorites and everyone else was beneath them.

Here's my question: *Couldn't God have selected better, cleaner, holier, and 100% Jewish women to be in the bloodline of Jesus?*

If I were to choose Jesus' ancestors, I would select female Magsaysay awardees, a devoted schoolteacher, or a dedicated nurse serving in a leprosarium.

But the crazy thing is that God chose the controversial women. And out of all that dreadful family drama came Jesus. Out of all that sin came the Savior.

May God speak to you at The Feast!

May your dreams come true,

Bo Sanchez

WELCOME
to our ongoing
Feast Talk Series:
UNDER ONE ROOF
*Living in Blessed
and Broken Family*
Talk 5:
Small Family, Big Family

Head or Heart...Or Both?

“NOT a day passes that we make choices and decisions from simple to tough decisions related to family, relationships, crossroads, careers, life-changing decisions, related to our journey in faith. Whenever you decide, do you use your head, your heart, or both?”

Rev. Fr. Paolo Asprer asked us that question in his Homily last Feast Sunday. Before you answer, check out his message on how to make decisions, based on last Sunday’s Gospel, *page 3*.

Yes, this issue of *The FEAST FAMILY* is about decision-making. Bro. Bo Sanchez presents today’s Feast Talk about God’s mindboggling decision to choose controversial women to be Jesus’ great-grandmothers, *page 1*.



In Talk 4 of our ongoing Feast series, *Under One Roof*, Bro. Bo shares the decision his father Gene made to bring Bo close to God and ultimately serve Him-- a decision Bro. Bo in turn made to bring his sons, Bene and Francis, here

with him and their Mom Marowe, close to the Lord and decide to serve Him, *page 18*.

Bro. Audee Villaraza relates a funny, if not embarrassing incident when he was a new preacher. But still, he decided to continue serving God, *page 11*.

So, okay. Make that decision after you’ve read this issue.



All for God’s Glory,

Randy Borrromeo
Media Ministry
Executive Director





FLASHBACK!
AUGUST 25, 2024

Holy Mass



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Homily

REV. FR. PAOLO ASPRER
on the Gospel John 6:60-69

Excerpts:

Good Morning, Sisters and Brothers in Christ. Peace and blessings to everyone.

Not a day passes that we make choices and decisions from simple to tough decisions related to family, relationships, crossroads, careers, life-changing decisions, related to our journey in faith.

Whenever you decide, do you use your head, your heart, or both?

Sometimes, the head would say, "Move on."

The heart would say, "Hold on."

In a relationship, shall you walk away or choose to stay to try harder? Shall you choose what you want to be or what you ought to be? Shall you burn the bridge, or shall you cross the bridge?

Discipleship is all about decisions. We cannot be forever discerning. In our life of faith, we have to make tough and painful decisions. But in the end, these decisions are liberating.

Friendship and discipleship mean little if it is comfortable and convenient. Authentic discipleship at its heart has the Cross of Jesus.

Decision-making: ‘Pull the Plug?’

As a priest, I am frequently invited to Makati Medical Center since our seminary is close by.

Sometimes, the family of the patient would ask us, priests, "Father, we have exhausted all the means. We have no more money to pay the hospital. Shall we pull the plug on life support?"

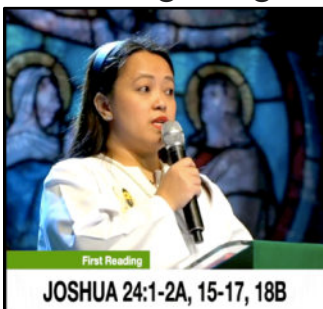
When you pull the life support, that's the beginning of the deterioration of the patient. Our role there is not to decide for the family but to journey with the family in making godly decisions.

My dear Friends in Christ, the theme of our Readings today is all about decision-making. In the First Reading, Joshua calls the Israelites in Shechem to a renewal of the covenant with Yahweh. If they choose Yahweh, that means Life. If they turn their back on Yahweh or God, it only means destruction, despair, and death.

In the Second Reading, St. Paul, in his Letter to the Ephesians, recognizes the beauty and the cross of marriage and family life. So, he calls us to constant discernment, dialogue, and devotion to family life.

As the cliché goes, "There is no such thing as a perfect marriage, only a healthy marriage. There is no such thing as a perfect family, only a fruitful family life."

When there is constant listening, dialogue, and prayer, the vision of God regarding marriage and family life is still possible and feasible



First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-17, 18

¹ Joshua gathered together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, summoning their elders, their leaders, their judges, and their officers. When they stood in ranks before God, ² Joshua addressed all the people: ¹⁵ "If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

¹⁶ But the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods. ¹⁷ For it was the Lord, our God, who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, out of a state of slavery. He performed those great miracles before our very eyes and protected us along our entire journey and among all the peoples through whom we passed. ¹⁸ Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

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How To Make Godly Decisions

In our Gospel Reading today, again, it's a moment of decision for the disciples. For the past Sundays, we have been hearing of the Bread of Life discourse from the Gospel of John. Jesus presented Himself as the True Bread from Heaven. He says, "Eat me so you will live."

The Jews could not fathom what He said: "How can God become food? That is ridiculous, scandalous, and blasphemous!"

But again, God can always do what is unthinkable. Love can always do what is unthinkable. God knows too well our deeper hunger and our thirst for eternity and for the fullness of life. That is why He becomes food for us in the Eucharist.

My dear Friends, how can we make godly decisions?

Here are three recommendations from Spiritual writers:



1. Pray for openness to God's will.

God is not a killjoy. God is there not to stifle our dreams and desires. God is there to direct or redirect these passions and ambitions to their ultimate object-- or end-- which is love or deeper love.

In our decisions, we discern not just what's simply right or wrong. It goes beyond rightness or wrongness.

When we decide, we ask ourselves: Are we moving closer to God and our loved ones? Or are we moving far away from God?

In our decisions, sometimes, there is doubt.

Our Readings today assure us that God honors sincere seekers as well as sincere doubters. God honors sincere wrestlers. Our questions, our doubts matter to God. He wants us to engage in an honest dialogue with Him. Our complaints and tears matter to Him.

2. Trust the process.

Deciding may take some seconds. But living out the consequences of such a decision may take a lifetime.

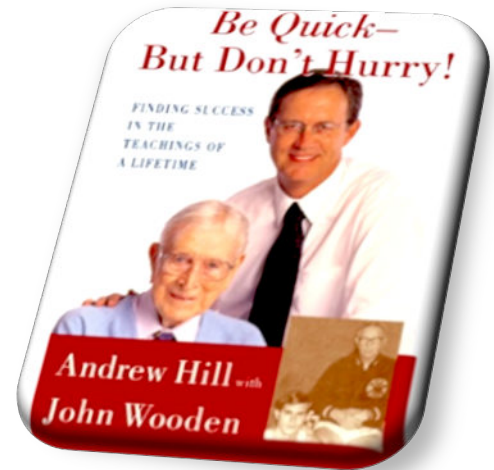
That is why we need to beg the Lord for the gift of wisdom, discernment, patience, and humility to seek help.

Love and haste cannot go together. Love has its rhythms.

There is wisdom in this viral quote:

"Be quick but hurry."

--By Basketball Coach John Wooden from the book *Be Quick-- But Don't Hurry* by Andy Hill (Goodreads).



Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21

R: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

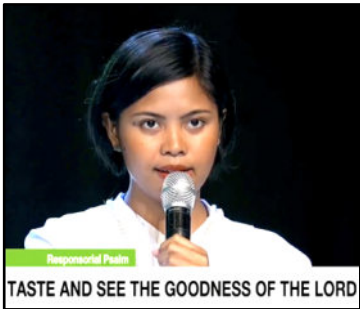
2 I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. 3 Let my soul glory in the Lord; the lowly will hear me and be glad. ®

16 The Lord has eyes for the just, and ears for their cry. 17 The Lord confronts

the evildoers, to destroy remembrance of them from the earth. (R)

18 When the just cry out, the Lord hears them, and from all their distress he rescues them. 19 The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; and those who are crushed in spirit he saves. (R)

20 Many are the troubles of the just one, but out of them all the Lord delivers him; 21 he watches over all his bones; not one of them shall be broken. (R)



3. Use not only your head but also your heart.

Where is your heart? The heart is slightly on the left side of your body. Why? Because it is not always *right* 😊

There is this French mathematician philosopher who said, "The heart has its reasons that reason itself does not know."

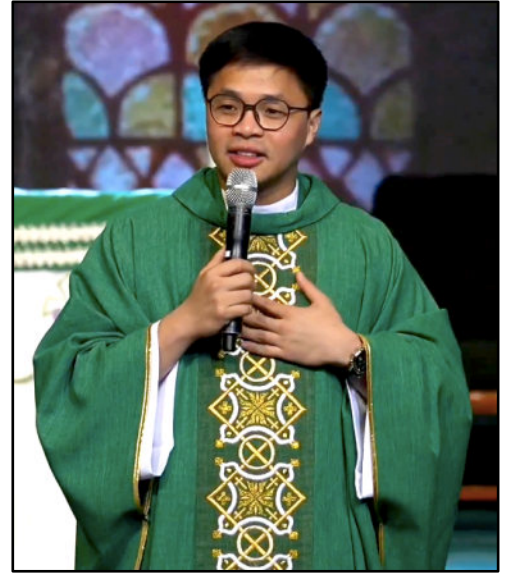
There are truths and realities that only the heart can comprehend. Logic reasoning won't suffice.

Does the head and the heart have to go against each other?

The head is the gateway to a person's heart. But we know deeply that the journey from the head to the heart is long and complicated.

How much more from the heart to the hands? It's even more complicated.

With that, we need Jesus. We need the Holy Spirit to journey with us in our discernment and decision-making.



Second Reading:

Ephesians 5:21-32 (or Ephesians 5:2, 25-32)

21 Brothers and sisters: Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22 Wives should be subordinate to their husbands as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of the church, he himself the savior of the body. 24 As the church is subordinate to Christ, so wives should be subordinate to their husbands in everything. 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church and handed himself over for her 26 to sanctify her, cleansing her by the bath of water with the word, 27 that he might present to himself the church in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. 28 So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it, even as Christ does the church, 30 because we are members of his body. 31 For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the church.

Decision: The Grace of Discernment

In our life, perhaps we did not always make the right decisions. Until now, there may be people who are still upset with us.

But we cannot please everyone-- please all or please none. The best thing to do is to do right thing-- the godly thing.

The worst thing is to do nothing.

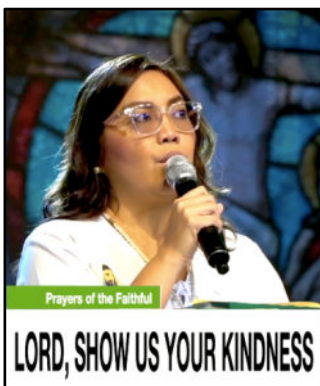
My dear Friends, we continue to beg the Lord for that grace of discernment-- real, authentic faith. We continue to journey with life's questions and struggles because we know deeply that we haven't fully arrived at our destination.



Hands of God and Adam
from the painting
of Michelangelo Buonarroti

We continue to love and to serve because we know that we haven't given our all. We continue to ask questions because we know deeply that we cannot fully grasp or understand everything in this life.

It is only when we meet God face to face that there is full light, revelation, healing, and new beginnings. Amen.



Commissioning Rites for Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion

REV. FR. PAOLO ASPRER:

My Brothers, helpers in the service, you have been called and are now to be commissioned as liturgical ministers. I urge you to be models of Catholic living in the manner you worship and in the way you live. Strive to be holy through a true love of the Liturgy the Sacrament of Love and Unity.



Dear Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion, keep in mind that you are the disciples of the Sacrament of an immeasurable love of our Lord Jesus Christ who gave Himself as a sacrifice of His Precious Body. He gave His disciples the great commandment of love: *Love one another as I have loved you.*

May your service in the Sacrament of the Eucharist be a true reflection of your personal effort to love God and your fellowmen as Christ loves in the same way.

This Sacrament unites you even now with God for Christ. May your faithful service reward you with life everlasting in the company of our Father.

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Commitment

Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion, please answer the following questions truthfully:

Are you resolved to undertake the office of Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion -- the duty and responsibility of giving the Holy Communion in the Holy Eucharist celebrated at the Feast Bay Area and in the big events of the Light of Jesus Family

Ministers: Yes, Father, I am.

Are you resolved to perform the duty of giving the Body of our Lord Jesus to your brothers and sisters, and to serve for the benefit of our Holy Mother, the Church?

Ministers: Yes, Father, I am.

Are you ready to serve the Holy Communion with utmost care and reverence?

Ministers: Yes, Father, I am.



My Friends, let us pray with confidence to the Father. Let us ask Him to send His grace to our Brothers who have been commissioned as Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion:

Merciful Father, You are the Creator and Guide of Your people. Bless these Brothers who have offered themselves to serve Your Church and Your people. May they faithfully bring You, the Bread of Life, to Your people. May the power of this Sacrament be their strength to reach Heavenly Feast. We ask this in the Name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Dear Friends, we give them a round of applause.

The FEAST FAMILY September 1, 2024 **9**

Welcome!

BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:

Thank You, Jesus!

Everybody, say, Thank you, Fr. Pao.

What a blessing!

Are you blessed that you're here?

Hi-Five as many as you can and say, "I'm here you are here."

Welcome to The Feast, Everybody!

I am Audee Villaraza. I am your leader servant for this session in the Morning.

Do we have people who have come here for the first time? If that's you, Welcome Home! Thank you for joining us today. After the session, I invite you to come forward. I'd like to meet you and pray for you.



Those who came from out of town or out of the country, we want to recognize you. Thank you, for bridging the gap between us and where you came from.

I honor everybody for being here despite the long weekend. I know you had a chance to go on a break with your family, yet you're here. I know you came because you wanted to receive wisdom from God.

This is our Sunday habit and one of the things that deeply encourages me as your leader is your relentless effort not to allow anything or anyone to prevent you from coming to God.



Love Offering

I remember something that happened here many years ago. I was doing the same thing -- encouraging people to give to the Lord.

It was my second year as a preacher. So, I wasn't comfortable yet speaking before a big audience. And you know, when you're here onstage, you forget what to say.

You know what happened? During Offertory time, I forgot to invite the people to give to the Lord. So, when I was already leaving the stage, the people in the first row did not allow me to leave.

They were saying, "Bro. Audee, we haven't given our Offering!"

And they frantically waved their Love Offering envelopes!

You know, that deeply blessed me because that gesture says, "Nothing will prevent me from giving to God. Nothing can stop me from praising God. Nothing can't stop me from loving God."

And I believe that's the kind of community that we are: That nothing can stop you today from giving your best to God, from worshipping Him today.

Even if some of you are tired, you're still here. Why? Because you love Him so much. We give with joy, with love, and with hope.

Lift your Love Offering envelope. Be proud of that. God blessed you this week, didn't He? He blessed you this month. And I believe that He will replenish your pocket. He will replenish that jar of oil. Pray this with me:

Lord, this is my Offering. And today, I give it to You as a portion of what You've already given me. Bless me more so that I can give more. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

A graphic titled "WAYS TO GIVE" with a blue and green background. On the left, there is a photo of a large crowd of people in a church. The main content includes:

- FEAST** logo
- BDO** Light of Jesus Family Mega Manila Inc. 039-7014-3807
- UnionBank** The Builder of the Light of Jesus Family Mega Manila Inc. 000-4000-24846. For online & check giving: Feast Bay Area
- VISA** Debit and credit card giving. WWW.THEFEASTPICCAM.COM/COMMIT
- GCash QR Ph** QR code
- maya**, **Pay**, **Metrobank**, **BPI**, **GrabPay** AND MORE

Worship!

SIS. CHESKA FLORES:

Good Morning, Feast!

It says in God's Word, Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. And give thanks in *all* circumstances. Not *some*, but *all*. And so, I invite you whether you're here or online to come to Worship...

I invite everyone to come into prayer:

Heavenly Father, what a joy it is ... It's such a privilege to be known, to be loved, and be seen by You. There's no other name that I would sing for but ... May this sweet, sweet song in Your... In Jesus' Name.

Church, I invite you to bring to God whatever is in your life that seems barren, that seems lost, whatever in your life that seems dead.

Our God who we call our Father, is in the business of making all things new. You believe that?

And so, He will turn our barrenness into fruitfulness, our brokenness into life. So, come on, the Lord calls. In all that He's done and all that He will continuously do, He remains victorious, and sovereign over our lives-- no sin, no brokenness, not even death can separate us from the love of Christ. And so, with confidence and as loud as we can, we sing:



BRO. BO SANCHEZ:

You are a faithful God. You're like the sun that You created. Without fail You rise in the morning no matter what happens -- whether there are clouds in the sky, or whether there are no clouds, You just rise in the morning.

Lord, You are faithful. And so, this day we celebrate Your faithfulness in the midst of our own unfaithfulness and our erratic behavior, and our mood swings, and the way we're moved by our emotions-- we turn right and we turn left...

Oh, Father God, we are so fickle-minded. You are faithful and we celebrate that today. And we Thank You that You are faithful. We Thank You that You have a fixed gaze upon us and Your love continues.

And so, we receive that love today.

Everybody, Everybody in this room, whether you are young ,whether you are old, whether you are here at the right or the left, at the front or at the back, from every place in this house, Everybody say, "I receive Your love."

Everybody say, "I receive Your love."

Everybody say, "I receive Your love."





We Are Not Alone

BRO. BO SANCHEZ:

Give Him praise, Hallelujah.

Glory, Glory, He is here. He is faithful. He is faithful.

Amen. Amen.

Let's give a big hand to our Worship Team. You guys are amazing. You're the best. They're just so good.

I want you to embrace somebody beside you. Just tell that person, "I'm happy you're here."

I want you to know that we're not the only Feast in the entire galaxy. We've got many, many Feasts all over the world.



And I just came from one last night. So, I arrived this morning from Legaspi, Bicol. You know, Mayon Volcano...

Once upon a time, we had no Feasts in this entire Bicol region. And then there were small Feasts that popped up-- Feast Lights that gathered in homes, little places, cafes.

And I did visit one there.

Last night, we had a huge gathering because The Feast from Naga and The Feast from all over Bicol and even from Feast Masbate gathered. And it was just amazing.

By the way, I have a dear friend with me. Her name is Sister Priscilla. She's a missionary from Algeria. Oh, so beautiful. Love her.

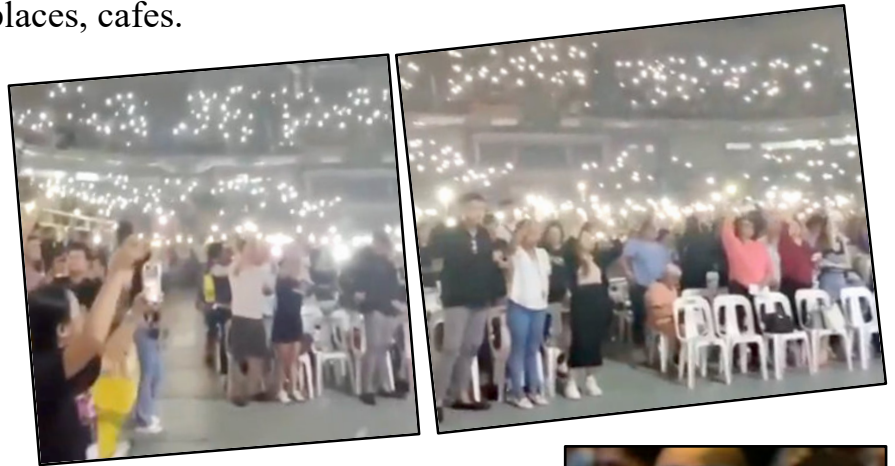
So, tell somebody beside you, "We're not alone."

We're moving relentlessly bringing God's Light -- you know, we're called Light of Jesus-- and we want to just bring His Light.

The reason I shared that with you is we're *under one roof*-- whatever Feast you belong to and whatever Feast you serve.


We're imperfect. We've got so many warts and weaknesses.

We're only here because of Jesus. He is really the one who brought us here.



NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

Our Feast Talk is so apt. We have one Father, and we are His many children. So, with your brother and with your sister beside you, let us pray:



👉

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 EVERY DAY.

👈

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.

Reverence the Word:



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

God Is Father

One of the beautiful traits of Jesus is that He always described God as *Father*. And that is not new. In the Bible, in the Old Testament, there are sporadic verses that describe and liken God as *Father*.

But what was unique about Jesus was He almost always called God *Father*. When His disciples asked Him, "Lord Jesus, can you teach us to pray," He gave a Prayer Workshop 101. And Lesson Number 1 was *God Is Father*.

And so, I want to preach to you this Word... Today, in this beautiful, sacred place... This is no accident. This did not happen by chance. This is a Divine Appointment. You are here for a reason. It was an invitation. And this is what God wants you to do: He wants you to "Receive the Father's Love."

I want you to hold somebody's hand -- if that's your wife, if that's your friend, your brother, if that's your son, your daughter, or she's just a stranger-- I want you to tell that person: "Receive the Father's Love."

Our Gospel Reading comes from Luke 11:1-2, and that's exactly what happened:

And you know what happened after that.

Put your hands on your chest and say: *"Jesus, teach me to pray to the Father. Jesus, show the face of the Father to me now. Heal me through the Father's Love. All the wounds that are in my life, heal me. In Jesus' Name. Amen"*



**RECEIVE THE
FATHER'S LOVE.**

LUKE 11:1-2 NIV

"ONE DAY JESUS WAS PRAYING IN A CERTAIN PLACE. WHEN HE FINISHED, ONE OF HIS DISCIPLES SAID TO HIM, "LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY, JUST AS JOHN TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES." HE SAID TO THEM, "WHEN YOU PRAY, SAY: "FATHER, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME..."



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



BRO. BO SANCHEZ:

We're going to talk about *Fatherhood*.

Fathers, you're going to be blessed. Mothers, you're going to be blessed. Children, you're going to be blessed.

I remember when I was growing up and then being in the Lord, and serving God, some parents would ask my parents: "What did you do for your son? What's your secret, that made your son this way? Did you have special prayers for your son?"

My Mom would say, "I don't know. He just turned out like that."

In hindsight, my parents did something right. The reason they weren't aware of it was that's just who they were. What were the right ways they did?

1. They loved me.
2. They spent time with me.
3. They taught me about God.

They brought me into their faith. We prayed the Rosary every night. We went to Mass every Sunday.



The Dad I Can Trust

I love sharing this story. You've heard this before.

When my Dad came home from work, he looked for me and he would say, "Bo, let's jog."

He was not a great jogger. We had a car parked in our garage. Both of us would jog around the car for a few minutes. At a certain point, he would stop and sit, and I would sit on his lap.

He often read the newspaper. But because I was with him, he did not read the front page, only the comic section-- *Tarzan*, *Beetle Bailey*, and *Dennis the Menace*.

Later, I would go down and that's when he would read the front page. That's it. Those were the few moments every night being with my Dad.

Growing up, I had very few toys. I had 10. I counted them. I knew the number.

Today, I have two sons. When they were small, they had a department store of toys in their room. Blame that on our wonderful friends who spoiled them to death. I had 10. I didn't complain. Why?

Every Saturday, my father would say, "Let's walk."

It was our father and son time. We usually went to Cubao. Not ride a jeepney or a car. We walked. On the sidewalk, he would buy me a hotdog on a stick. I ate but he would not. He just watched me eating.

After that, he would bring brought me to the toy section of a department store.

He'd tell me, "Bo, play."

I owned all the toys in the world. I sat on the floor, and I played. The saleslady watched me, while tapping her foot.

After some time, my Dad would say, "Let's go home."

Again, I did not feel bad not bringing a toy. We did not buy a thing. I did not complain. My hands were not empty. I went home holding the hand of my Dad. I knew somewhere, somehow that right there, he loved me.

I have five elder sisters I called evil sisters back then. I was the youngest and the only son.

My father had his peculiarities. Whenever my siblings and I greeted him, "Hi, Dad," he just nodded, saying, "Hmmm."

That was his favorite word. He wasn't expressive. But even if he was like that, I loved him. I knew that I could trust him.

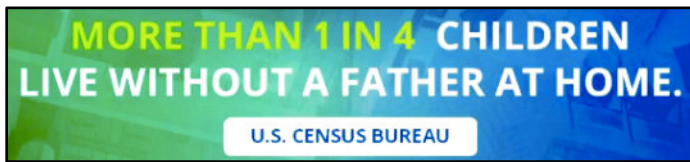
That's the greatest tragedy of this world today: When fathers are not trustworthy.



ONE OF THE GREATEST TRAGEDIES IN THE WORLD:
WHEN FATHERS ARE NOT TRUSTWORTHY.

The Surveys Say...

According to statistics:



They've been abandoned.

They've been left. This is a United States record.

In the Philippines today, you'd think it's much better. No, it's not.

According to the University of the Philippines Population Institute:



Add: 18% plus 7% = 25%
-- one quarter, or 1/4 of 100--
the same number as the U. S.

The problems about fathers are the problems of the world.

Let me read to you more statistics:

- **10x more likely to abuse chemical substances**
- **4x likely to be raised in poverty**
- **2x more likely to commit suicide**
- **9x more likely to drop out of high school**
- **9x more likely to be sexually assaulted at home**
- **11x more likely to engage in violent behavior**
- **20x more likely to be incarcerated at some point**
- **70% of accused rapists come from fatherless homes**
- **60% of teenage pregnancies come from fatherless homes**

Very bleak numbers.
And I know it's scary.
The record is about
the general public.

The survey did not include
people, families, and children
who turned their lives over
to Jesus.

Something happens when you start following Jesus in your life.
I know it is a father-wound.

But let me read to you this passage: *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."*

I pray you believe the Word: You *are* a new creation.

The Bible Says...

I can tell you one friend after another friend who came from a broken home and whose father abandoned them-- but look at them today: They're wonderful parents, successful entrepreneurs, and great missionaries. You know some of them because they serve, lead, and preach to you at The Feast.



God can heal your father-wounds to transform you, to empower you to be a blessing to the world.

I also want you to know that bad fathers are not a new problem. You find them in the Bible. Some of the heroes in the Bible were bad fathers. Just to tell you that that's the situation, that's reality:

Abraham left his son, Ishmael, to die in the desert.



King David was a great king, but he complicated his own family life. He had eight wives. We know of King Solomon-- you know, 700 wives, 300 concubines. That's all we know. But the situation stems from the father of King Solomon-- King David. In the law of Moses, that was not allowed. I was against the law of God. But here's King David having eight wives, and concubines-- their number not mentioned.

When I meet a man and I find out that he's having an affair-- he has a second woman-- I have a temptation to go up to him and tell him, "Bro, I have one woman and it's very complicated already. I don't get it that you want another one. I am married to the most amazing, the best wife you can ever think of -- but it's still complicated."



Here is King David with eight wives. His family was a disaster-- if you read the Bible. His eldest son, Amon, raped his half-sister, Tamar. David's other son, Absalom, killed his brother, Amon. Absalom and another brother, Adonijah, carried out a coup d'état on separate occasions, wanting to grab the throne of their father, King David. Horrible family!



Good Guys ... Bad Guys

Abraham and King David-- those are the good guys. Wait until you hear about the bad guys in the Bible and how horrible they were as fathers.

I'll give you two examples: King Manasseh and King Ahaz. They worshipped idols. They worshiped this god, Molech. They would get their children to throw them in a fiery furnace as a sacrifice to their god. They killed the children and burned them to a crisp.

Why? Because they were asking requests from their idol, hoping that their idol would listen to their prayer as they sacrificed their children.

In an eerie parallel, it still happens today-- except that parents are no longer sacrificing their children to an idol like Molech. But to the idol of success.

For the sake of grabbing their dreams, they're giving up their kids

David Blankenhorn wrote a book: *Fatherless America (Confronting Our Most Urgent Social Problem)*.

This is what he says:



When somebody has a problem dealing with any authority-- such as the boss in the office, the leader in a prayer group, the teacher in school, or the president of the Homeowners Association -- most likely, he has a toxic relationship with his own father.

And get this: Sometimes, it translates into his relationship with his God.

THE HEART OF EVERY CHILD CRIES OUT,
"PAPA, CAN I TRUST YOU?"

If a father is not trustworthy, that child growing up will have a difficult time. Why? Because parents are the first picture of God that your children will have. But this also includes uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, teachers, and leaders.

Tragically, some kids have a difficult time getting to know God because they have a distorted picture of who God is. I know this is bad news but let me share with you that there is a path to healing your father-wounds.

Do you agree that generally, there is a problem with fathers in this world? Right? This is not just a problem of fatherhood-- but this is the foundation of the many problems of the world.

The reason we've got so many problems in the world-- as much as why there is a problem with politics, with wars, and with corrupt people in business, and so on-- is the problem of fatherhood. Fathers are not acting as good fathers. But I'm telling you that there is a solution to this problem, and it's called *reparenting*.

**THE PATH TO HEALING
REPARMENTING**

There are two ways of reparenting:

**1
BE REPARMENTED BY
OTHER HUMANS WHO CAN BE GOD'S LOVE**

This is the high call of all friendships. If you have a friend, the high call is to mirror God's love for that person.

This is the high call of all spiritual families-- like The Feast. It's not just an event. It's not just worship, songs, and talk-- and go home.

The Feast is the reason I am who I am. For 40+ years, I was involved in The Feast where I had friendships that healed me.

As wonderful as they are, my parents were imperfect. I grew up with this wound and that wound -- but I was healed because there were other humans...

The Feast is very imperfect, times one million imperfect. And yet, there are enough humans in The Feast who somehow struggle to show God's love to the people in The Feast. There are enough. I'm telling you, we are healing the world. We are healing people. If you have been attending The Feast, get into our small groups and find out who these humans are.



2
**BE REPAIRED BY
THE FATHER HIMSELF**

Go to the Father Himself and tell Him, "Father, I've got some father-wounds from my human father. As my Heavenly Father, can you reparent me?"

You have to go to Jesus because as the perfect image of the Father, He'll introduce to you who the Father is.

Because Jesus said in John 14:7

JOHN 14:7 NIV

**"IF YOU REALLY KNOW ME,
YOU WILL KNOW MY FATHER AS WELL."**



I have been reading the Bible for 40 + years. There is one part of that Scripture where Jesus describes His Father --which I

believe is the best way. It is through the Story of the Prodigal Son.

We'll unpack that today as we bring this message at half-point.

When I mentioned the Story of the Prodigal Son, some of you zoned out. Maybe because you've read it a hundred times.

The Bible was designed to be read a hundred, thousand, and a million times because it is medication literature. Each time you read the Bible, you don't just learn something new-- but you love someone old. It is a love affair.

In Luke 15: 11-13, Jesus says:

LUKE 15:11-13 NLT

**"THERE WAS A MAN WHO HAD TWO SONS.
THE YOUNGER ONE SAID TO HIS FATHER,
'FATHER, GIVE ME MY SHARE OF THE ESTATE.'
SO HE DIVIDED HIS PROPERTY BETWEEN THEM.
"NOT LONG AFTER THAT, THE YOUNGER SON
GOT TOGETHER ALL HE HAD, SET OFF FOR
A DISTANT COUNTRY AND THERE SQUANDERED
HIS WEALTH IN WILD LIVING.**

Because:

**IN THEIR CULTURE, IF A SON ASKS FOR
HIS INHERITANCE WHILE HIS FATHER
WAS STILL ALIVE, HE WAS SAYING,
"FATHER, YOU'RE ALREADY DEAD TO ME.
I VALUE YOUR PROPERTY MORE THAN
I VALUE YOU."**

My Friends, modern people like you and me, when we read that passage, we'll say, "Hmmm. Yeah."

If you were in the room when Jesus said the story, you would be appalled to death. You would feel the plot so offensive.



THREE MESSAGES FROM THE PRODIGAL SON STORY

MESSAGE 1 YOU CHOOSE YOUR FATE.

The father in the Prodigal Son story is very strange.

Here is the youngest son saying to his father, "Hey, Dad, can you give me my inheritance now?"

I was really waiting for the father to act like Dolphy in *John and Marsha*. I just lost 90% of the audience 😊 (*John and Marsha* was a television sitcom in the 1970s when, yes, half of Bro. Bo's audience now were still kids or were not yet born.)

Really, I was half-expecting the father to get his slippers and hit the son with it. But the father in the story says, "Yes."

He gives to his son what he asks for.

I find this scary. Because that's exactly what God is doing to us. This is the terrifying truth of free will. We have the ability to follow God at every moment but at that moment, we also have the ability to reject God. Isn't that terrifying?

Right now, you can be the most amazing saint, or you can be a Hitler. It's your choice. God gives it to you.

Friends, be careful with what you wish for. Even if you're asking for the wrong thing, because you think it's the right thing, you'll receive it.

The Prodigal Son story is the Genesis Story 2.0. Jesus' mind is marinated in Genesis 1, 2, and 3 that it leaked into stories.

And the story of the Prodigal Son asking for his inheritance-- excluding the father -- was Adam and Eve asking for godlikeness without God. The prodigal son taking that inheritance away from the father's house was Adam and Eve walking away from the Garden of Eden.

At any single moment, you can choose to follow God or follow your spiritual arrogance in every decision.

At every single moment, God says, "You choose your fate."

It is scary. He will allow the bad consequences of your bad decisions to happen to you.

So, my dear Friends, at every single moment, cry out to God: "God, I want to follow You. I want to do Your will. I will be careful in asking what I want because You might just give it."

MESSAGE 2
SIN MAKES US ACT LIKE ANIMALS.

Luke 15 continues:



LUKE 15:14-16 NLT
AFTER HE HAD SPENT EVERYTHING, THERE WAS A SEVERE FAMINE IN THAT WHOLE COUNTRY, AND HE BEGAN TO BE IN NEED. SO HE WENT AND HIRED HIMSELF OUT TO A CITIZEN OF THAT COUNTRY, WHO SENT HIM TO HIS FIELDS TO FEED PIGS. HE LONGED TO FILL HIS STOMACH WITH THE PODS THAT THE PIGS WERE EATING, BUT NO ONE GAVE HIM ANYTHING.

The Prodigal Son was a Jew (according to their law, Jews were not allowed to eat pigs). What the Prodigal Son could do was eat the food of the pigs. So, in a sense, he became a pig.

This is the Parable telling us: That when you sin against God, when you rebel against God, you begin to act like animals.

We do disgusting things with our life, with our family, with the world. The reason there are all sorts of atrocities is we act in rebellion against God.

WHEN WE'RE RULED BY SELFISHNESS AND GREED AND LUST AND PRIDE, WE DO DISGUSTING THINGS.

Luke continues:

LUKE 15:17-19 NLT
"WHEN HE CAME TO HIS SENSES, HE SAID, 'HOW MANY OF MY FATHER'S HIRED SERVANTS HAVE FOOD TO SPARE, AND HERE I AM STARVING TO DEATH! I WILL SET OUT AND GO BACK TO MY FATHER AND SAY TO HIM: FATHER, I HAVE SINNED AGAINST HEAVEN AND AGAINST YOU. I AM NO LONGER WORTHY TO BE CALLED YOUR SON; MAKE ME LIKE ONE OF YOUR HIRED SERVANTS.'"

LUKE 15:20 NLT
"SO HE GOT UP AND WENT TO HIS FATHER. BUT WHILE HE WAS STILL A LONG WAY OFF, HIS FATHER SAW HIM AND WAS FILLED WITH COMPASSION FOR HIM; HE RAN TO HIS SON, THREW HIS ARMS AROUND HIM AND KISSED HIM."



MESSAGE 3

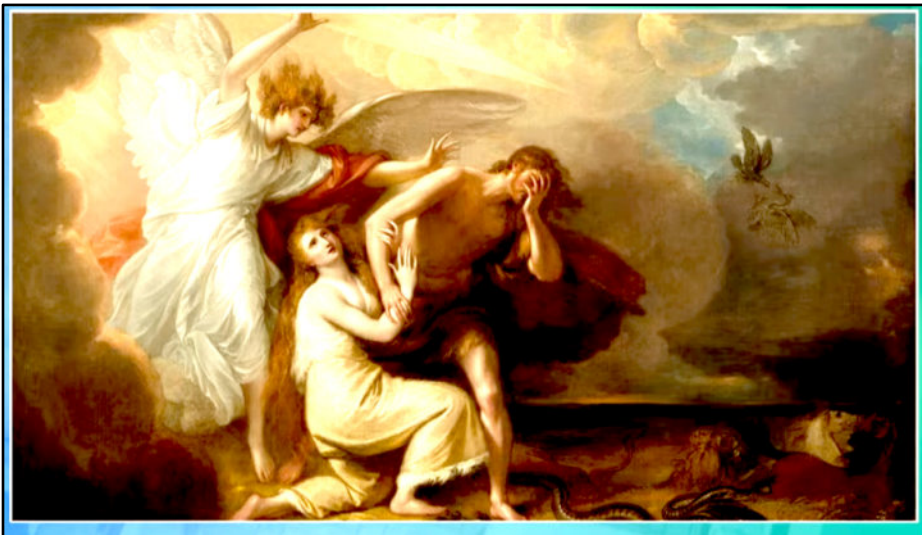
RECEIVE THE FATHER'S LOVE.

The Prodigal Son went back to his father's house. Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden. Yes.

Question: Were they able to come back to the Garden of Eden? Were they able to go back to the Father, to God? The answer is *No*.

But in this Parable, Jesus is saying that Adam and Eve could have come back, and they should have come back-- if they only acted like the Prodigal Son who admitted that he made a mistake and that he would go back to his father and ask for forgiveness.

The Prodigal Son went back to his father's house. Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve weren't able to come back to the Garden of Eden.

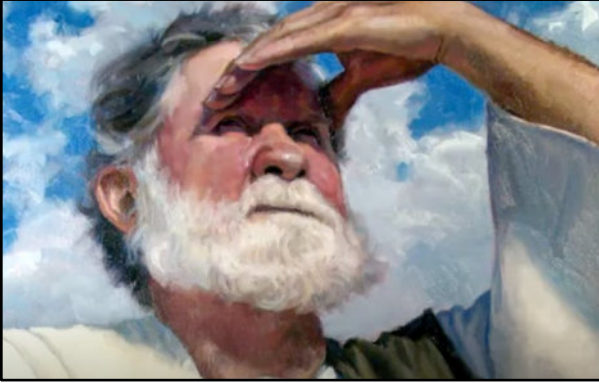


Jesus was like saying that Adam and Eve wasted their chance.

I'm speaking to everybody here who feels like they're that younger son.

Maybe you have made a few mistakes and you're wondering if you're not worthy anymore. I'm telling you: Just come back. Let God take care of you.

Let His mercy bring you back.



Waiting...

This is a vision of how the father was looking out of the window every day waiting for his son to return.

In this story, Jesus was introducing his Dad.

He's saying: "This is your Dad. This is your God. This is your Father."

He's looking out the window and asking, "When is my son coming back?"
He's waiting for *you*.

He doesn't just wait. He runs to his son.

In their culture, an adult man does not run. Why? Men at the time wore those funny clothes. For a father to run, he has to lift his tunic to run. If he doesn't lift his tunic, he will trip. But if he lifts his tunic, the father would bare his legs. In their culture, you don't bare your legs. If you're an adult man, that was shameful. But this father didn't mind that because he was running to his son.



Today, I invite you to stand and say: "I will receive the Father's love today."

Jesus taught His disciples to pray like this:
"Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, On earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

This moment is not just an event. This is a healing moment. This is not just

a gathering-- but a reparenting time. Will you allow the Father to reparent you and heal your father-wounds, heal your mother-wounds, heal your lola, grandmother heal the wounds of your heart caused by your ancestors?

Friends, whether you have a good or bad relationship with your parents, this is the advice of Jesus to you:

"As we worship today, cry out, "Father!"

You've got wounds? "Cry out Father!"

Spend time with Him so you get to know the real Father-- as a provider, forgiver, and defender.



Receive Your Daily Bread

Jesus said: "If you go to my Father, this is what's going to happen: He will give you Daily Bread. He will forgive you for all your sins. He will defend you."

Let the Father surprise you today.

When you get healed by the Father, you will become a better father and a better mother. Maybe your marriage is non-existent anymore. If you have separated already, still father your children. Be a presence of love in their lives. Speak to them that even if you made mistakes many times, tell them that you are following God and you're asking God to make you a better father or a mother.

Today, see the Father running towards you. See the Father's tears of joy. Feel Him embrace you today.

Are you like that Prodigal Son walking back to the Father right this moment? Receive the Father's love.



RECEIVE THE FATHER'S LOVE.

Audie Villaraza, who is head of this house, will lead us into a prayer that I want all parents to pray for seven days. We start today and then on your own, pray it until next week. This is a Prayer of Exorcism. When you're the father or the mother, you are the head of the household. You have the authority over your house. You'll pray this prayer with conviction

I'm not the head of this house. It's this guy who will lead us into this prayer. Then, you lead it in your own house. We will drive out the work of the enemy that wants to destroy your house.

We will ask Jesus to come and reign over your family.



The FEAST FAMILY September 1, 2024 29

Prayer of Exorcism

BRO. AUDIE VILLARAZA:

There are two ways to pray this prayer. If you're a parent and you have children who are minors, you have the authority to pray over your body, your spouse, and your children.

If your children are already adults, you are invoking your authority and passing it on to the Lord as the sovereign God so that He will drive out whatever demonic forces have latched on to your family today.

If you are beside your family members and if you are the father of the house, if you're the mother, lay over your hands on your children.

If you're an adult, I want you to put your hand on your chest.

Pray this prayer with me:



Heavenly Father, I invoke the full authority you have given me as a spouse and a parent and I lift any curses, spells, seals, hexes, vexes, consecrations, voodoo, or any occult action or any evil affecting me or my spouse or my children who are minors.
In Jesus' name, I cast out all evil spirits that are harming us.
In Jesus' name, I reject them, I rebuke them, I renounce them, and I cast them out!

For my adult children, I beg you, Heavenly Father to hear a parent's plea and free them from any of these occult actions or any evil, and cast out all evil spirits.
Father, I beseech you to send a spirit of unity and peace to my family.
Heal the divisions in our family; may those family members who are estranged from each other be reconciled in forgiveness and love.
May we live together in your peace.

May we live together in your peace.
I pray for special healing graces for each one of us. Heal the wounds that plague us- heal any depression, anxiety, fears, compulsions, addictions, angers, resentments, and any and all mental and physical illnesses.
Restore us to full health.
I especially ask for the following specific grace for my family, if it be your holy will
(here mention the specific intention silently or out loud).

Most of all, may you infuse into our hearts the gift of faith, always trusting in you.
Bring back any of us who have wandered from the faith.
May we be fully protected from all harm and evil by the Shield of Faith and the Sword of Truth.
I make this parent's prayer in the holy name of Jesus begging the powerful intercession of the Holy Family with the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph, and all the saints.
Amen.
— From catholicexorcism.org

Receive God's love today. Receive His grace flowing in this place.
Let's worship the Lord, Everybody.



Thank You!

The Feast Family, now organized as the Feast Mercy Ministries, is a spin-off ministry of the Light of Jesus Family founded by Bro. Bo Sanchez. Earlier named as Kerygma Family, The Feast Family is a unique online, non-physical, borderless, international community of friends who support each other's personal growth.

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

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

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

FOR EXISTING DONORS:

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

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

Email Address: jocelyn@kerygmfamily.com

Website: <https://kerygmfamily.com>

Our Partner Beneficiaries

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



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



He Cares Mission
provides shelter
and pastoral care
for street children.

Pag-asa ng Pamilya Foundation
grants scholarships
to indigent students.



Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer
provides financial assistance and pastoral care
for indigent cancer patients.

The Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center
ministers to those who are emotionally
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H.A.I.L. MARY is acronym for Healthcare Assistance for
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The Light of Jesus Disaster Recovery Ministry
provides evacuation assistance,
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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.

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FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE

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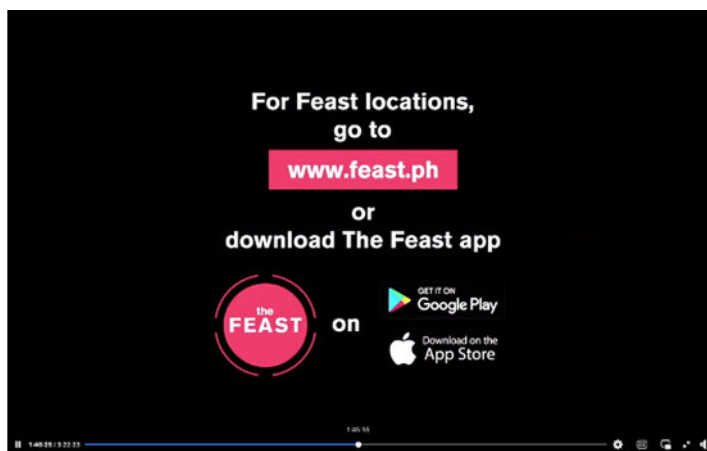
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Go and make disciples of all men.
— Matthew 28:19

