



WE will end our soul-altering series, *Under One Roof*, with a strong declaration. Today, I want to preach the message:  
*Stop building your Tower,  
start building God's Throne.*  
What tower are we talking about?  
The Tower of Babylon.

***How To Get Rid  
of the Babylon in Us***

Warning: We'll go deep today. By the end of this Talk, you'll get better at discerning

the spirit of Babylon in your heart, your family, and your work—and through God's Power, silence that destructive voice in your life.

Pray with me: *"Father, I reject the arrogance and selfishness of Babylon; I build Your Throne in my Family and in our Family of Families, through the humility and selflessness of Jesus working through me. Amen."*

Have a family-enriching Feast today!

May your dreams come true,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bo Sanchez".

**Bo Sanchez**

**WELCOME  
to the last Talk  
of our series:  
*UNDER ONE ROOF*  
*Living in Blessed  
and Broken Family*  
Talk 6:  
*Man's Tower, God's Throne***



## *Difficult...Or Desirable?*

“I’m going to give you the most difficult penance that I can give you.”

Rev. Fr. Bob McConaghy said this to a woman who came to him for Confession.

What could be a sin that would warrant a difficult penance?

We learned from the Homily of Fr. Bob last Feast Sunday, *page*

Could the sin be the *Babylon* in us? What’s that?

Bro. Bo Sanchez explains in his introduction to Talk 6, the last of our Feast series *Under One Roof*, *page*

Could the sin ever be forgiven? We learned the answer also last Feast from the *Flashback* on Talk 5 by Bro. Audee Villaraza-- the answer spurred by a drawing of his son Ethan, *page*

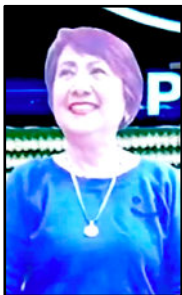
Speaking of answers, we get more in The Feast Conference 2024 with its apt theme, *Let There Be Light*, introduced by Bro. Audee and Bro. Nico Narvaez, *page*

Also last Sunday, they happily honored Sis. Chelle Crisanto, a pillar of our Community, starting with a standee

of her picture. We share with you our fun with the real Chelle, *page*

Yes, as you may have noted, this issue of *The Feast Family* has twin themes: what’s difficult and what’s desirable.

Like life.



All for God’s Glory,

**Randy Borromeo**  
Media Ministry  
Executive Director





# **FLASHBACK!**

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

## **Holy Mass**



**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## **Homily**

**REV. FR. BOB McCONAGHY**

on the Gospel Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Excerpts:

The Scribes and the Pharisees had it all figured out. People saw them as very holy, perfect men. Why? Because they knew the 10 Commandments as everyone did-- but they also knew 613 little commandments that covered every aspect of Jewish behavior. Very few knew those 613.

When the Pharisees would see anyone not practicing washing hands, like in the Gospel today, they could point to them and say, "God will smite you for that. You broke His law."

They presented an image of Jesus' Heavenly Father as arrogant, angry, and ready to get revenge. But Jesus always used these encounters with the Scribes and the Pharisees to teach something entirely new that never occurred to them.

The FEAST FAMILY September 8, 2024 **3**



## Three Reasons We Fear Confession

You see, back in Jesus' time, they didn't have a sense of what you and I would call "interior sins." The sins that nobody sees but that we know are there.

Maybe, that moved Charles Finn (American poet, author of *Please Here What I'm Not Saying* 1966) to write a beautiful essay in which he said: *'Don't be fooled by me. Don't be fooled by the face I wear for I wear a mask. I wear a thousand masks. Masks that I'm afraid to take off and none of them are me. Pretending is an art that is second nature to me but don't be fooled. For God's sake, don't be fooled. The me that nobody knows is the me that Jesus knows and loves.'*

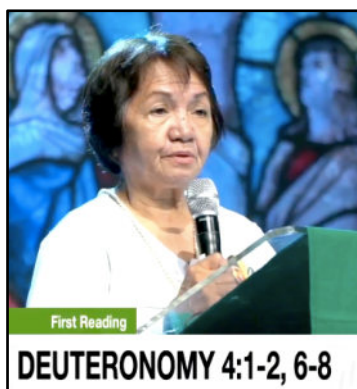


How Jesus presented to us His Church-- a way of receiving that mercy-- is what I call the Sacrament of Confession, the only Sacrament that we fear.

Why do we fear it? For three reasons:

**First Reason:** *"Father, I always commit the same sins all the time. And I go to Confession and I get absolution, but then I go right back to that habit."*

Yes, we call that a habit of sin. How do you deal with the sins you commit all the time? How do you deal with a habit of sin before you come to Confession?



### **First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8**

*I Moses said to the people: "Now, Israel, hear the statutes and decrees which I am teaching you to observe, that you may live, and may enter in and take possession of the land which the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you. 2 In your observance of the commandments of the Lord, your God, which I enjoin upon you, you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it. 6 Observe them carefully, for thus will you give evidence of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations,*

*who will hear of all these statutes and say, 'This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people.' 7 For what great nation is there that has gods so close to it as the Lord, our God, is to us whenever we call upon him? 8 Or what great nation has statutes and decrees that are as just as this whole law which I am setting before you today?*

## Getting Rid of H.A.B.I.T.

I remember Dr. Brouard. I remember him not only because he lost his leg in World War II but because of what he taught us.

Some 60 years ago, he said, “Fellas, there's going to be people who will come to confession to you and say, ‘I commit the same sins all the time.’”

He said we call that a habit of sin. He wrote the word “habit” on the whiteboard.

Then he said, “What they do is that they promised Jesus, ‘I firmly resolve. I'm going to stop that habit.’”

So, they work real hard in the first week and they get rid of the **H** of the **H.A.B.I.T.**

He said, “Now, what do they still have left?”

**A.B.I.T.** They still have *a bit*.

So, they redouble their efforts before they go to Confession again. And they get rid of the **A.B.**”

So, he erased the **A.B.** He said, “Now, what do they still have after all that work? They still have *it*.”

We can have that sense that God is very impatient with us and kind of says, “I'm going to wait until that person cleans up their act. When they approach me in Confession, they can confess it and they better not do that again.”

We have that sense sometimes. What does Jesus call us to?

Surrender your power over that sin. Whether it be lust, anger, dishonesty, or whatever it happens to be. You can't do it by yourself. You invite Jesus into the process of healing.

Brother Bo shared that with us many years ago at the retreat we gave him in Tagaytay. He said that he was only able to get rid of his habit of sin when he realized God's love was greater than his sins.

So, also with you. You only live one day at a time. You know your interior sin. If it's a habit, surrender it and ask for the grace to avoid it just that day with the help of His grace. If you've done well: “Lord, wow, I almost did that tonight, but I didn't. Thanks. I couldn't have done it without You.”

On those days, when you don't quite live up to the virtues like chastity: “I messed up again today, Lord. But tomorrow, with the help of Your grace, I'll do better. Oh, God of second chances and new beginnings. Here I am again.”



## Reasons We Fear Confession

**Second Reason:** You haven't been to Confession in 10-15 years.

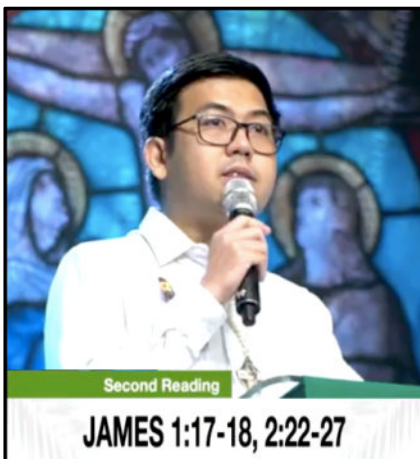
You ask: "How can I remember all my sins when I go to Confession?"

God does not require a photographic memory of your sins-- just that which is heavy on your heart.

When you go to Confession, you're bringing all the sins with you. Think about it: 10 years. Do you remember a sin that you committed a week ago? Probably not.

So, our Lord asks us to examine our conscience in those areas where we know we need to repent. How do we repent? By the help of God's grace.

If you've been away from Confession for many years, we, the priests, specialize in that. If you feel a sense today or next week that you want to go to Confession, but you've been away a long time, don't hesitate. Because that feeling is the grace of repentance, and our Lord knows that you want to have peace again and begin again.



### **Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27**

*17 Dearest brothers and sisters: All good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change. 18 He willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.*

*21 Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls. 22 Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves.*

*27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.*



## Reasons We Fear Confession

**Third Reason:** This may have happened to some of you: You had a really bad experience about confessing. I've met so many people who have had a bad experience in Confession that they've stayed away ever since.

I told the story some time ago about the night before I had open heart surgery.

The doctors came in and they said, "Tomorrow, we'll put you to sleep for about eight hours. We'll bypass the blocked arteries. But Father, unfortunately, something can go wrong..."

I said, "What can go wrong? Everybody told me it was going to go really well."

The doctors said, "Well, Father, sometimes when we go to bypass the artery, a piece of the blockage breaks off, goes through your carotid artery, and gets to your brain. You could have a stroke."

Oh, no, my God! Stroke? I won't be able to preach again! Now, they have me panicking.

They continued, "At the end of the surgery, we take the heart out of the sack. We put it back, but your heart has been taken over by a heart-lung machine. So, we must restart the heart with the paddles."

I said that I've seen that on television where they bring somebody back.

"Unfortunately, Father, sometimes when we go to start the heart, it doesn't start, and we can't know beforehand."

I said, "Okay then. What do you do?"

"Well, Father, in that case, if we can't start the heart, we usually call for someone like you... But don't worry. You're going to be fine."

They left. I'm in a panic. It's 1:00 a.m. and I was going to be operated at 6:00 a.m.

I never prayed like I did that night. I said, "Lord if you want me to continue to be a priest, I'll wake up. If not, forgive my sins. Take me home."

I had gone to Confession that day but that's not the point of the story. They had gotten a special nursing to take care of me because the surgeon had to cancel it the day before.



## A Nurse Confesses

So, I would be operated on a Sunday. The nurse came in about 20 minutes later and she had the solution to my panic in the form of a pill.

She said, “The doctor ordered this for you and it’ll calm your nerves.”

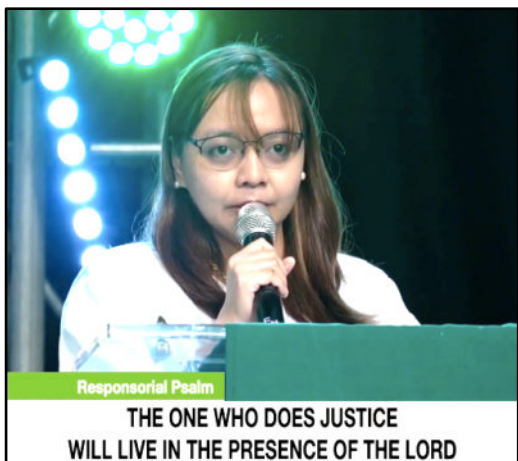
I said, “No. I’m okay now. I went to Confession today. I prayed I would be okay.”

Now this time, she looked at my chart a little more closely and she said, “You’re a priest.”

I said, “Yeah, a Catholic priest.”

She turned around to go out and I could hear her just loud enough when she said, “I used to be a Catholic.”

I said, “Wait. Come back here. My sister is a nurse. You cannot be a nurse unless you have compassion. You’re not in it for the money. How did we lose you?”



### Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 15:2-3, 3-4, 5

**R: The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.**

*<sup>2</sup> Whoever walks blamelessly and does justice; who thinks the truth in his heart <sup>3</sup> and slanders not with his tongue. (R)*

*Who harms not his fellow man, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor; <sup>4</sup> by whom the reprobate is despised, while he honors those who fear the Lord. (R) <sup>5</sup>*

*Who lends not his money at usury and accepts no bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things shall never be disturbed. (R)*



## A Second Chance

The nurse said, “Father, I’m a lesbian. I committed a very embarrassing sin. I had worked up the courage for a couple of months during Lent to go to Confession. I got in line. It wasn't face-to-face...

“I said, ‘Bless me, Father, for I have sinned...’

“I got that sin out first and he stopped me. He raised his voice. He told me how terrible that sin was. I was certain that everybody outside could hear him. I did not wait for a penance. I simply got up and walked out...

“That was 17 years ago and I haven't been back since.”

I said to her, “Would you give us a second chance? That priest must answer to God for you being away that long.”

She said, “I'll think about it.”

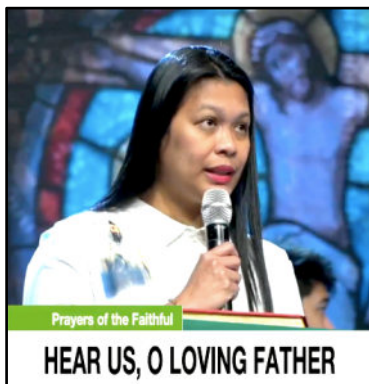
She went out. I was beginning to doze off when 20 minutes later, she tapped me on the shoulder.

And she said, “May I go to Confession to you?”

I said, “Sure.”

She made a beautiful Confession and I gave the penance that I always give when someone's been away a long time like that.

I said: “I'm going to give you the most difficult penance that I can give you. I deserve it. I want you to go to the comfort room. I want you to look in the mirror and see the woman that Jesus has entirely cleansed so that you're just as you were at your baptism. And then say to that woman in the mirror, ‘I forgive me too.’”





**BRO. NICO NARVAEZ:**  
 Merry Christmas, FEAST!  
 Come on, tell the person beside you,  
 “Merry Christmas!”

My soul sings: *Whenever I see boys and girls selling lanterns on the streets, I remember the child in the manger as He sleeps. Wherever there are people giving gifts, exchanging cards, I believe that Christmas is truly in their hearts.*

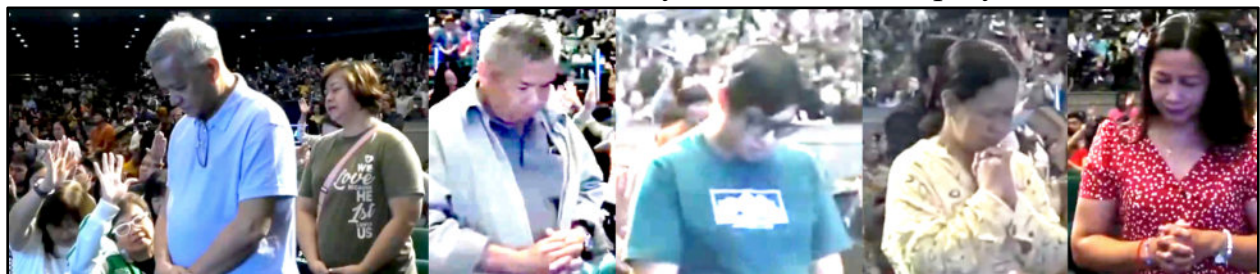
Come on, give a shout of praise!

September Birthday celebrators, stand up, make some noise!

So, let’s extend our hands to our Birthday Celebrators and pray:



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*Father, Thank You for this blessing. Thank You for this person who sheds light on and gives joy into our lives. We pray that this person will bless more people. We pray that You grant this person good health, joy, and rest. We pray, Lord, that You bless this person more so that this person could bless more people. In Jesus’ Mighty Name. Amen.*

Now, I call on our leader, Bro. Audee Villaraza! Come on, let’s give him a hand!

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## Special Celebration

### BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:

Thank you, Nico.

Good Morning, Everybody!

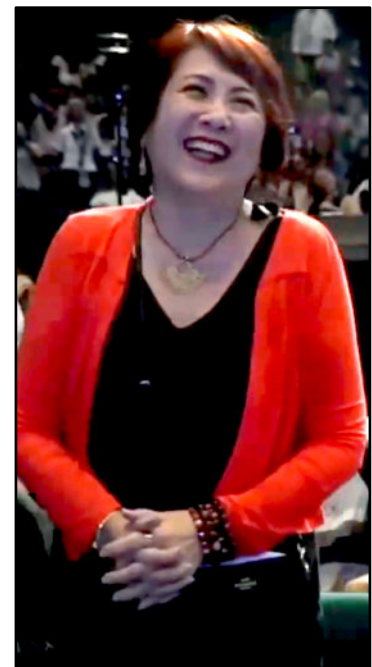
So, Nico and I brought a friend with us today. We call her Ate Chelle. It was her birthday yesterday, August 31. We're celebrating today!



Tita Chelle, not the standee (*above*), the real one (*right*), we want to honor you.

Let's applaud Tita Chelle. She is one of the pillars of our Spiritual Family, and we want to wish her *Happy Birthday!*

Thank you so much for what you do. God bless you.



Chelle Crisanto has been with the Light of Jesus Family since Day 1, at the establishment of our Community in 1980. She serves as executive assistant for external affairs, coordinating the events of Bro. Bo Sanchez and also as discipleship servant head of various Feasters.

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## Launching FEAST CONFERENCE 2024

Nico and I are here today simply because today is a special day-- not only because it's September. But hey, today, we are launching FEAST CONFERENCE 2024. Praise God, see, we were given free T-shirt. So, what do we have in store for FEAST CONFERENCE?

You know, this is a one-time event every year, only happens annually, and it's happening on November 22-25, 2024 -- four days. Today, you get to buy your tickets and today it's a special day because only for today, get this: If you buy a number of tickets-- ticket online, ticket for the youth, regular, premium.

What's the difference between Premium and Regular, Nico?

**BRO. NICO:** They will have both Jesus, but there's just a difference in the seating arrangement.

**BRO. AUDEE:** If it's Regular, it's regular, and if it's Premium. it's premium☺. Hah, I'm so smart. But if you buy a ticket today, you get a free T-shirt.

If you buy your ticket tomorrow (September 2) all the way to September 6, no more free T-shirts. But there's still a discount until September 6. So, grab your tickets at the lobby today.



## Impact of The FEAST CONFERENCE

**BRO. NICO:** The first time our family attended what was called then the Kerygma Conference in 2009, the theme was *I Have a Big God*.

Since then, our Conference-*High* has never ended. So, that became the starting point for us attending The Feast every single week.

So, FEASTCON really changed our lives. We grew closer to one another and also together, as a family, we grew closer to God.

**BRO. AUDEE:** Wow, praise God!. Thank you, Nico.

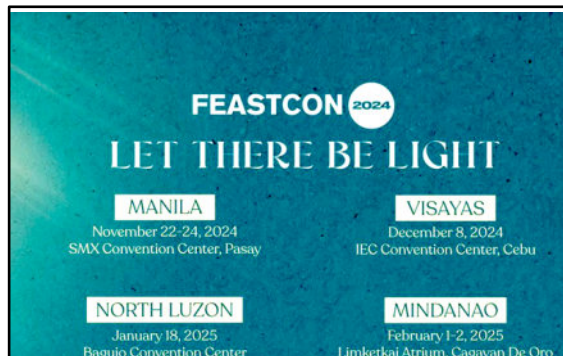
For me, what the FEASTCON has always blessed me is this: It's *ours*.

It's a Conference for Feasters. Of course, we welcome people who are not Feasters-- and it's a good time to welcome the unchurched. But it's a conference that's ours.

It surprises me every time because, you know, you have your regular Sunday face-to-face Feast. You come here and you're blessed by our session.

But then when you come to the FEAST CONFERENCE, you realize that our Community is huge.

We are more than just a community-- we're a movement. And then you see all of a sudden, God is moving in Cebu, and God is moving in Rizal. God is moving in Antipolo. God is moving in Bataan.



You see this massive movement of God in our Community. God is moving in big ways. But He is also moving in small ways. How? Through our families, through the singles and the youth, and even just one person who comes alone.

It's amazing. I pray if you have never experienced the FEAST CONFERENCE, this will be your first year to do that. Those of you who have experienced the FEASTCON year after year, perhaps the Lord will call you to buy a ticket for a friend and bless somebody at this Conference.

Again, today is Super-Sale Day. If you buy your ticket now, you get a free T-shirt and you get blessed as well.

Are you excited for the FEAST CONFERENCE?

**FEASTERS:** Yes!!!

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# Love Offering

**BRO. AUDEE:** I know you're also excited to give your Offering to the Lord this month. It's the first day of the month and we have so many dreams and so many plans I believe that the Lord is going to bless.

Nico will lead us into our prayer.

**BRO. NICO:** *Thank You, Lord, for giving us this blessing. And for the opportunity for us to share this blessing also with Your Church and You, God. Lord, we just pray that you bless us more, bless our work, bless our business, bless our career, so that we can give more and we can bless more with this giving. In Jesus' Mighty Name. Amen.*



**FEAST** Help the Feast Mercy Ministries. Help them all.

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# Worship!

## **BRO. JHONN JAVIER:**

Welcome to The Feast! It's a beautiful morning to praise and worship our God.

So, come on, we're going to praise and glorify our God.

Say one beautiful thing you see about the person beside you.

Say: "You look awesome." "I like your hair."

"I like your clothes." "You look amazing."

Hallelujah! We're all created in the image and likeness of God.

So, if you are grateful and you are happy to be part of God's Family, why don't we sing together and enjoy this moment of worship? Enjoy this moment of praise.



## **SIS. LUAN FEDERIGAN:**

Hallelujah! Friends, the Bible constantly reminds us of God's greatness. And we are placed here on Earth to be blown away by the glory of God. And you know what? There's no other way but to pass on that picture of the awesomeness of God to the next generation and the next one, and the next one, and the next. Because God is good and God is great.

It is said in Psalms 45: *Great is the Lord. And greatly to be praised. His greatness is unsearchable. And one generation shall know Your works to another and shall declare Your mighty acts. And the glorious splendor of Your majesty and on Your wondrous works I will meditate. And the might of Your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed and I will declare Your greatness and they shall celebrate the fame of Your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud Your righteousness.*

So, Brothers and Sisters, I now invite you to just worship God because He deserves all the praise and all the glory we could ever give. I invite you to be in a position of receiving God right now in this place because God is here. So if you are ready, say His Name: Jesus, Jesus. You are worthy, oh God!





**WORTHY IS YOUR NAME**



**GOD ONLY YOU  
DESERVE ALL PRAISE**



**WORTHY IS YOUR NAME**



**YOU LEFT THE GLORY OF YOUR THRONE  
AND CHOSE TO MAKE A HOME**



**HERE IN THE MESS  
SO YOU COULD WALK WITH THE UNWORTHY**



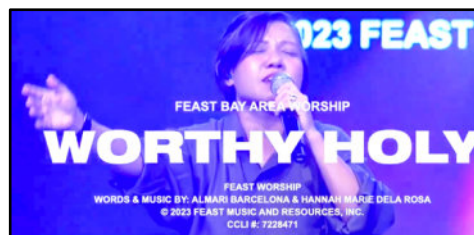
**ALMIGHTY SON OF MAN  
YOU CHOSE A CROWN OF THORNS**



**SO BY YOUR BLOOD WE ARE REDEEMED  
AND BE MADE WORTHY**



**WORTHY IS YOUR NAME**



**2023 FEAST**

FEAST BAY AREA WORSHIP

**WORTHY HOLY**

FEAST WORSHIP  
WORDS & MUSIC BY: ALMARI BARCELONA & HANNAH MARIE DELA ROSA  
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COLI #: 7228471



**BRO. AUDIE VILLARAZA:**

You know, one thing that I love so much when we come to worship God is you can come into His Presence and bring your problems.

How many of you are bringing a problem before the Lord today? Raise your hands.

You can bring a big problem before God. And you feel that your problems are so big.

But then when you start singing about the greatness, goodness, and holiness of God, you begin to realize that your problems might

be big, but your God will always be bigger.

Sometimes, it feels like your problems are way over your head. Only to realize that they're just under God's feet.

God is worthy. He is worthy to be praised. He is worthy to be worshipped.

Let's worship the Lord one more time! And sing about His goodness.

Come on church, sing it out!





# NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

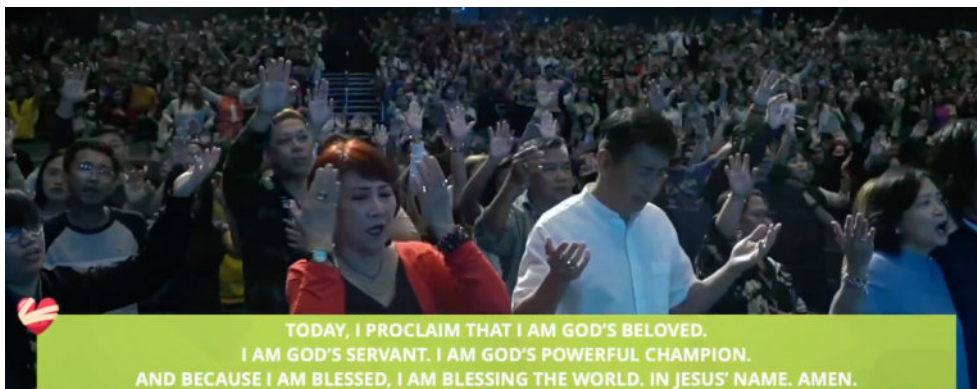
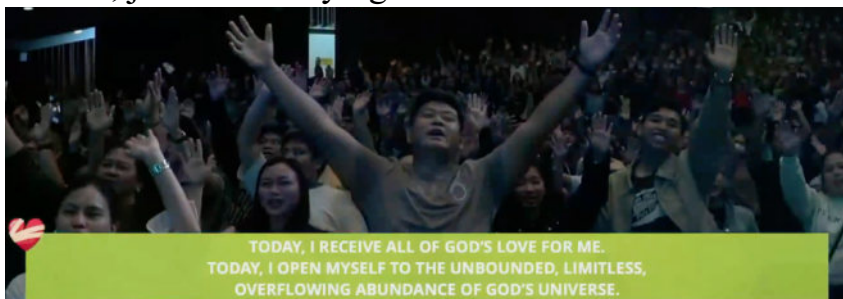
## **BRO. AUDIE VILLARAZA:**

Welcome to the happiest place on Earth! Would you shake three persons beside you and say, "Welcome home."

Thank you for doing church with us. It's a beautiful Sunday and I pray that you came here hungry for the Word of God.

Are you ready to be blessed? Amen. If that's true, I want you to lift your hands all across this place. Look at you. You look so beautiful.

Come on, join me in saying:



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

# Talk



## INTRODUCTION

### **BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:**

A fair warning. I need you to stand up for this, all right? We're about to read one of the most boring passages you will ever encounter in the Bible.

How many of you have sleeping problems? You don't need melatonin. All you need to do is read what we're about to read and I promise you, if you're alone reading this, you'll be gone in 60 seconds. I'm just humoring☺

I'm talking about the first chapter of the *Book of Matthew* 1:1-17,15-16 NLT:

*This is a record of the ancestors of Jesus the Messiah, a descendant of David and of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac. Isaac was the father of Jacob. Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah (whose mother was Tamar). Perez was the father of Hezron. Hezron was the father of Ram. Ram was the father of Amminadab. Amminadab was the father of Nahshon. Nahshon was the father of Salmon. Salmon was the father of Boaz (whose mother was Rahab). Boaz was the father of Obed (whose mother was Ruth). Obed was the father of Jesse. Jesse was the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon (whose mother was Bathsheba, the widow of Uriah). Solomon was the father of Rehoboam. Rehoboam was the father of Abijah. Abijah was the father of Asa. Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat was the father of Jehoram. Jehoram was the father of Uzziah. Uzziah was the father of Jotham. Jotham was the father of Ahaz. Ahaz was the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh. Manasseh was the father of Amon. Amon was the father of Josiah. Josiah was the father of Jehoiachin and his brothers (born at the time of the exile to Babylon). After the Babylonian exile: Jehoiachin was the father of Shealtiel. Shealtiel was the father of Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel was the father of Abiud. Abiud was the father of Eliakim. Eliakim was the father of Azor. Azor was the father of Zadok. Zadok was the father of Akim. Akim was the father of Eliud. Eliud was the father of Eleazar. Eleazar was the father of Matthan. Matthan was the father of Jacob. Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Mary gave birth to Jesus, who is called the Messiah.*

## The Value of a Woman

I wanted to make sure you were standing. Otherwise, you might have dozed off while reading that.

Honestly, the Word is supposed to be alive and active but the reason that verse sounds so boring is it's just filled with names that we don't know even how to pronounce.

Did you notice something when I was reading the text of the types of names that were included there? Did anybody notice that they were mostly men? Right?

I mean there were a few exceptions. There were five women mentioned. But it was an almost male cast. It's not an accident. During the time of Jesus, most ancient genealogy, which is like a family tree, did not include women.

**ANCIENT GENEALOGIES IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD DIDN'T INCLUDE WOMEN.**

In the *Book of Luke*, there is another version of the genealogy of Jesus, and still, the list is all male.

Back in the day, women were considered possessions. It's so crazy because they treated women so poorly that some men prayed every day like this: "Lord, I thank you that I am not a Gentile. I am not a slave, and I am not a woman."

Before, the value of a woman was slightly higher than or lower than a man, but it was higher than a cow. So, somewhere in between a man and a cow--that's the value of a woman.

So, think about the ways how they would complement a woman.

They would say, "Wow, you're so beautiful today. You are worth three cows."

Does that sound flattering to the women? No, right? That's why this is so important to know: That Matthew included five women in the genealogy of Jesus. Five women I want to preach about today.

But first, let's pray. Put your hand over your heart and say this after me:

*"Lord, I need your wisdom. I need your Word. I pray that as I hear this, it will transform me and it will change me. In Jesus' Name. Amen."*

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







Our big message is this:

*God is bringing your family into His family.*

**GOD IS BRINGING YOUR FAMILY INTO HIS FAMILY.**

According to Matthew, there were five women in the genealogy of Jesus. They were Tamar, Bathsheba, Ruth, Rahab, and Mama Mary. Except for Mama Mary, the author talked about the women in such a way that kind of makes you think of them as questionable. Why? Because each had a very questionable past. You could say that most of them, if not the four of them, had a dirty past.

Let me give you some examples:

1. **Tamar.** She was impregnated by her father-in-law, Judah.
2. **Bathsheba.** She was an adulteress. She was impregnated by King David.
3. **Rahab.** She was a harlot – a friendly term for prostitute.
4. **Ruth.** She was a Gentile. To the Jews, Gentiles were foreigners who did not belong in God's family



If you're a Jew and you're reading this genealogy, you would probably think, "Didn't Matthew have a PR team to tell him not to put them in the list of Jesus?"

But I wonder why he did that.

## Ludicrous Story

Just to give you a friendly analogy of how ludicrous and ridiculous this seemed to the people reading Matthew's Gospel at that time, I'll tell you a story.

Many years ago, my family and I ate in a 100% pure Italian restaurant. They had amazing Italian food ☺.

The co-owner of that restaurant was our friend. So, we were sitting down and then our friend was telling us that a few nights before, they had a customer they had to throw out of the restaurant.

In my mind, I was thinking why? Did he say something mean about the food? Did he complain? Was there a scandal?

As if reading my mind, our friend said, "No. He just ordered pizza and then he asked for a ketchup."

You need to know this if you're going to eat in a really 100% pure Italian restaurant. You never put ketchup on pizza. But the problem is that Filipinos love ketchup, right? We put ketchup on everything-- spaghetti, spam, hotdogs, and eggs. It becomes a problem when you go to an Italian restaurant and you put ketchup on the spaghetti and pizza-- you might get thrown out. It's like those people who like their pizza with pineapple. It doesn't make sense. At least to me-- but don't get me started on that.

When the Jews were reading the genealogy of Jesus according to Matthew, they must have felt the way people felt when they saw this guy putting ketchup on his pizza.

You've got Jesus-- the Messiah, the Anointed One from the line of David-- and you're going to put these questionable women in His genealogy?



### 3 Lessons from the Genealogy of Jesus



The genealogy wasn't an accident. God deliberately chose these women to be placed along the lineage of Jesus. God put them in that place.

So, if you can look at that for a moment--that there were very sinful women in the lineage of this Savior-- I'll give you three lessons about how this is going to affect your life:

1.

**GOD'S FAMILY  
WELCOMES EVERYONE**

Think of Tamar. She was the first woman I mentioned.

First of all, she was a widow. If you were living at the time of Jesus and you were a widow, you were considered not just poor --but ultra-poor. You could not own anything.

Tamar wasn't just a widow once. She was a widow twice. To top things off, Tamar was childless. Do you know how she was able to bear a child?

She pretended that she was a prostitute so her father-in-law, Judah, could sleep with her. How messed up is that?

But then, she gave birth to twins. After all that happened, you know what God did? God still chose her to be the great great great great great great great great great great great grandmother of Jesus.

So, what does that tell us? That if God can welcome somebody as messy as Tamar into His family, how much more you and I God would welcome?

God will welcome our family into His family. That's amazing news for a lot of us





2.

## GOD CAN HEAL THE MESSIEST FAMILIES

I'm thinking right now of Bathsheba. A lot of people might say, "Ah, Bathsheba, she seduced David."

But the truth is that she was not a seductress. All she was doing was taking a bath. That's why she's called Bathsheba 😊

David saw her from his balcony and he knew he wanted her. He seduced her.

He even put the husband of Bathsheba on the frontlines of a battle so that he could be killed.

So, we can call Bathsheba not a seductress but an adulteress-- because it takes two to tango, right? She gave her consent to David, and she bore a baby.

But even though she had such a messy background, God healed Bathsheba and He used her to be in the lineage of Jesus. That's how amazing God is.

I don't know what kind of mess you have in your family right now. But I promise you that if you surrender that to God and if you allow Him, He will heal your family. Whatever brokenness that you suffer, God is good.

3.

## GOD CAN USE ANYONE WHO SAYS YES

I'm thinking right now of Rahab, the harlot or the prostitute.

One day, the Israelites needed to get into the Promised Land through the city of Jericho-- but it had fortified walls. They needed help.

So, God sent two spies from Shittim (The site east of the Jordan, and northeast of the Dead Sea, the last encampment of the Israelites before crossing the Jordan River into Canaan, the Promised Land.)

Do you know what Rahab did? She opened her doors to the two spies, and she allowed God into her life.

Rahab could have easily said, "Why me, Lord? Choose my neighbor, Lisa, instead. She doesn't wear ultra-super mini shorts like me. She sings worship songs. She goes to church every Sunday. She hasn't slept with 3,000 men like I have."

But Rahab did not say that.

Rahab said, "Yes, come in. I want to be used by you."

God simply chose Rahab for one reason and one reason alone.

Because she said *Yes*.

## Jesus Is for All

It doesn't take much for God to use you. All He needs is just for you to say *Yes*.

You don't have to come to church and wait for God to clean you up before you start serving.

My friend, you cannot clean up your act on your own. You need God's help. So, the first thing that you do is to go to church --because this is the place where God is.

These controversial women have a special place in the genealogy of Jesus. Think about it: What if Matthew, for some reason, did not put intentionally these women? During those times, women were minorities. They were treated as possessions. Imagine if there were just pure, elite, and aristocratic people in the lineage of Jesus...

How did they choose kings during monarchies? You can only be part of leadership if you are part of the royal family. You cannot be a prince, a duchess, or a duke if you don't have royal blood. They check the documents for you to prove that you're part of the Royal Family.

Here's how amazing Jesus is:

How many of you believe that Jesus is Royalty? He really is. He's the only King.

Check this out: Since Jesus is the King, when you are associated with Jesus, when you have life with Him, you are automatically royalty.

Jesus is good. So, if Matthew never included those women, I'm going to think that people who belong to Jesus are only those who are rich, prayerful, and righteous.

But the very fact that questionable women like Tamar, Ruth, Bathsheba, and Rahab were there in the first place, tells me that Jesus is for everybody.

Jesus is for you. Jesus identifies with sinners like you and me.

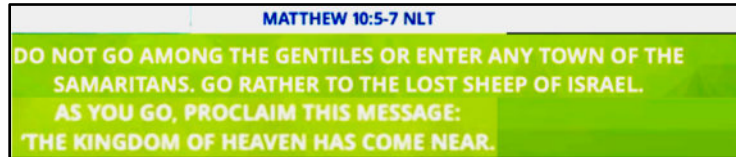
Isn't that so good? I've got somebody who I can look up to, who will understand my suffering, who will understand my tiredness, who will understand that sometimes I'm not in a mood... Because Jesus is the People's Champion.

Thank You, Jesus, for being our God.

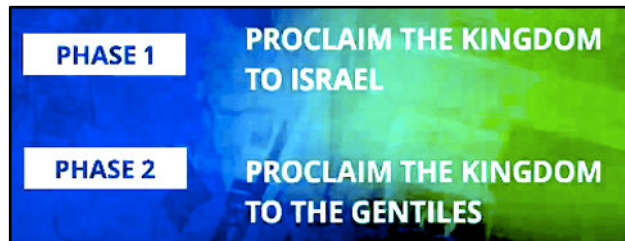


## Understanding Opposing Passages

You'll come across various passages in the Bible that might sound otherwise that Jesus is "for all." There is this portion where Jesus instructs the disciples that makes you think that Jesus seems to be a racist:



It sounds discriminating. But to understand this passage, you need to know that there are two stages in the mission of Jesus:



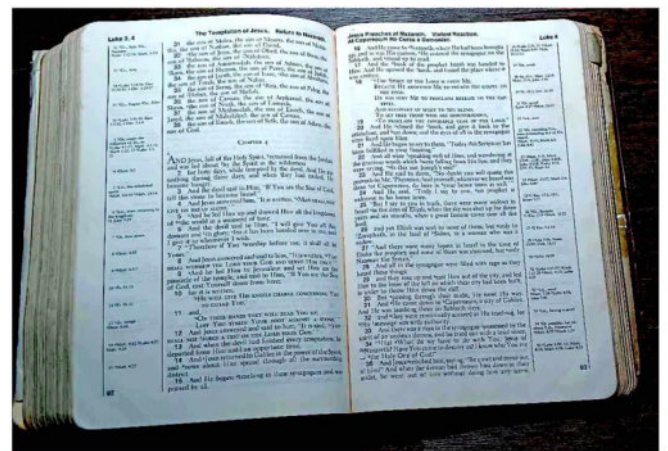
Now, how do we apply this to our own life?

Before God sends you into the world, the first thing God will do is to send you into your family. That's why we call the family our first ministry.

I know it's hard to speak to your family members because, correct me if I'm wrong, the people who are closest to you are also the most judgmental. Why?

Because they know you, your history, and your story. They know how you cheated when you were in grade school. They know how you stole that key chain when you were nine years old. When they look at you now, how in the world can they believe that God can use you?

But even if it's true that the prophet is never accepted in his own town (Luke 4:24) and that you are never appreciated even in your own family, please don't quit in evangelizing your family. Your first mission is to go into your family and then tell them about Jesus.



*24 But I tell you the truth, no prophet is accepted in his own hometown.*  
--Luke 4:24 NLT



## Mission Stage 1

# GOD WILL SEND YOU TO YOUR FAMILY

Bro. Bo Sanchez and I were having dinner with some of our leaders in Feast Butuan last week. We were surprised because there were three priests at that dinner. I was shocked to know that they were all exorcist priests. They told stories of deliverance with families. Father Darwin, one of the priests, told us the truth.

He said, "Brothers, there is real evil happening in the world today. The enemy is real, and the enemy wants to destroy families."

That's true. You see that biblically. God's design is that He would use a family to bless the world. So, how will the enemy attack God? By destroying that very thing that God wants to bless. God wants to use the family and bless the family. The enemy, on the other hand, will destroy the family.

Sometimes, we like to blame people in our family: *"Daddy gambled our money. Mommy cheated on Daddy. My elder brother was so disobedient. My sister was so lazy."*

We blame families and our ancestors only to realize that since the beginning of time, there has been an enemy that's coming against us.

The Devil has been trying to ruin your family. That's why you realize that sometimes it's hard to let go of addictions. Why is it that infidelity has been running in my family for generations? Why is it that we have a gambling problem in our family for generations and generations?

Because there is an enemy that's attacking you.

Fr. Darwin said this beautifully that it ministered to me.

He said, "Did you know that there is power in one person in a family deciding to say *Yes* to God?"

Because even out of that one family that says *Yes* to God, 1,000 people out of that generation can be blessed.

It's that powerful: When you renounce the work of Satan and when you say *Yes* to God. You might be that person that will change your family. I believe that you are that person today who will say *Yes* to God and say *No* to Satan and his ways. But before God will send you out into the world, He'll send you first into the frontline of your family.





## Mission Stage 2

### GOD WILL SEND YOU TO A BIGGER FAMILY

Here's the second stage. After God sends you to your family, God will send you to a bigger family. He'll send you out because that's the mission. We are called to be disciples and Jesus said that in the *Book of Matthew*:

MATTHEW 28:18-20 NLT

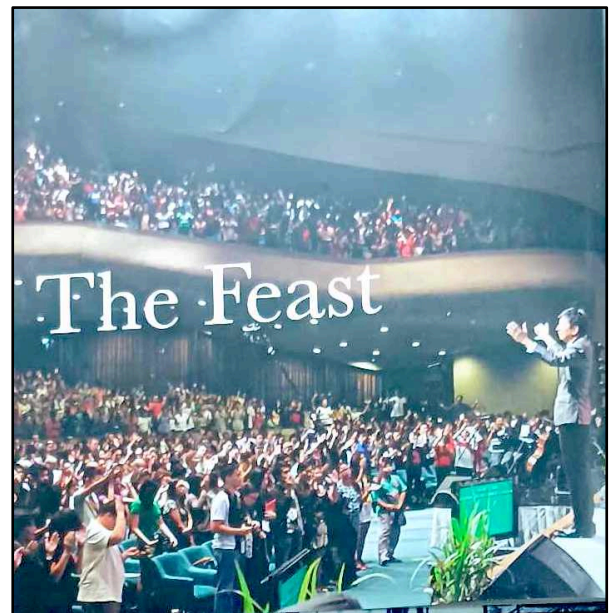
I HAVE BEEN GIVEN ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH. THEREFORE, GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS.

My dear friends, you cannot call yourself a Christian if you are not producing disciples. There is no such thing as a barren disciple. If you're going to be a disciple, you need to produce fruit.

That's what God wants. God will send you into His family, your family and then He will expand that family.

That's why here at The Feast, we encourage you to join our Light Groups.

Join our Pastoral programs so that your family will be enlarged in the process.





## Destination: A House with Many Rooms

God is bringing your family into His family. Jesus said something in the New Testament that ministered to me so much this week in line with the message that I've been preaching to you:

JOHN 14:2-3 NIV

"MY FATHER'S HOUSE HAS MANY ROOMS; IF THAT WERE NOT SO, WOULD I HAVE TOLD YOU THAT I AM GOING TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU?"

Jesus says this and the way that He communicated this to me was through my son Ethan.

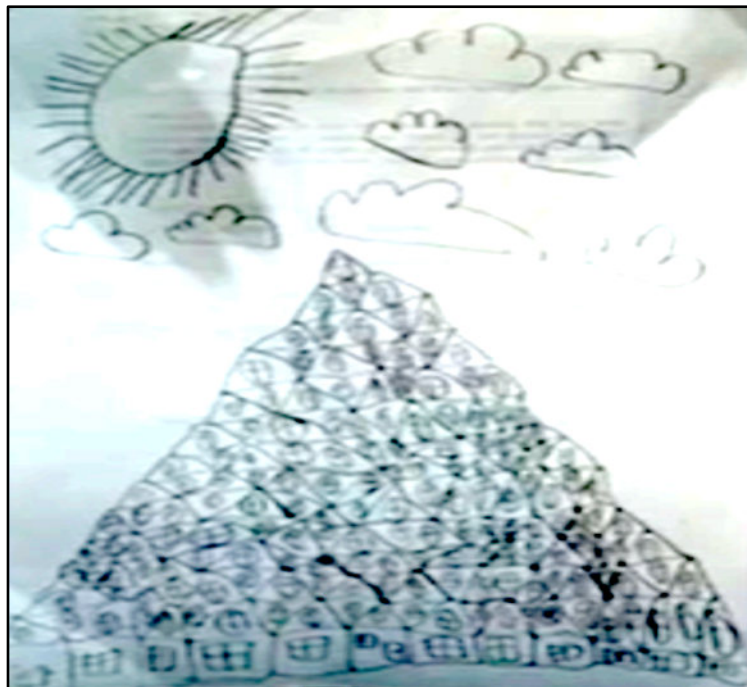
He's six years old. He loves drawing.

One day, Ethan comes up to me and he shows me a drawing.

He says: "Dad, look! A house. Dad, look. It's Heaven."

I'm like, why is that Heaven? My version of Heaven is different.

And then he points out that it has so many rooms...







## **My Turning Point**

The turning point of my conversion or my transformation to who I am today happened many, many years ago but it happened at a time when I was first new in Ministry. When you're new in serving the Lord and you get to be introduced into this wild family, you get so busy with Ministry. You sign up for all the activities. You sign up for all the programs.

I was single back then. Eventually, I got married and we had kids.

One of my good friends, his name is Manny, we were just having a conversation. I was telling him how busy I was and how amazing what Ministry was doing for me. He just said something that really ministered to me at that time.

He said, "I'm happy for you, Brother, that you're serving the Lord and you're coming to know Him as a personal Savior and as a Friend. But I want you to listen to this: While it's good that you're serving in church and in community, Heaven is already such a wonderful place because God is there, the Saints are there, and everybody who is holy is there. But wouldn't Heaven be so much more amazing if you knew that your loved ones are also going there?"

Heaven is not a place just for you or just for me. Heaven should be a place where we can bring our family and our loved ones with us. Heaven would be so amazing if you knew that your friend, your loved one, your wife, your husband, and your children would also go to that place.

I know that it's not up to you to save them. Salvation is a personal relationship with Jesus. It's not up to you to do the saving-- but here, just maybe, your responsibility and your challenge is you can be the one to introduce them to the One who will do the saving. Introduce them to Jesus because what God wants is to bring your family into His family. Are you ready to respond to this message today? Let's lift our hands.

*Heavenly Father, we Thank You for this wisdom and for Your Word that gave us life this morning. By the power of your Word, I pray for transformation to happen to each person here today. That change would emanate from the inside out. I pray that whatever baggage and obstacles they have, You would replace those. We pray for brokenness that the world has given to us. We pray that You would complete us and make us whole. Father, we want to pray a very specific prayer that You would heal our families. That you would heal the generations that would come after us.*

Everybody, I'm going to lead you into a special prayer right now which I believe God is going to use to heal the lineage of your family.

So, your *Yes* today will bless thousands of people who will be in your succeeding generation. I want you to do this together with me as one family.

Lift your hands. If you haven't done so yet, let's say this together in one voice:



### HEALING OUR FAMILY TREE PRAYER

HEAVENLY FATHER, I COME BEFORE YOU  
AS YOUR CHILD, IN GREAT NEED OF YOUR HELP.  
I HAVE PHYSICAL HEALTH NEEDS, EMOTIONAL NEEDS,  
SPIRITUAL NEEDS, AND INTERPERSONAL NEEDS.  
MANY OF MY PROBLEMS HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY  
OWN FAILURES, NEGLECTS, AND SINFULNESS  
FOR WHICH I HUMBLY BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS.

BUT I ALSO ASK YOU TO FORGIVE THE SINS  
OF MY ANCESTORS WHOSE FAILURES HAVE LEFT  
THEIR EFFECTS ON ME IN THE FORM OF UNWANTED  
TENDENCIES, BEHAVIOR PATTERNS, AND DEFECTS  
IN BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT. HEAL ME, LORD  
OF ALL THESE DISORDERS.



WITH YOUR HELP I SINCERELY FORGIVE EVERYONE,  
ESPECIALLY LIVING OR DEAD MEMBERS OF  
MY FAMILY TREE WHO HAVE DIRECTLY OFFENDED ME  
OR MY LOVED ONES IN ANY WAY OR THOSE  
WHOSE SINS HAVE RESULTED IN OUR PRESENT  
SUFFERINGS AND DISORDERS.

IN THE NAME OF YOUR DIVINE SON JESUS AND  
IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,  
I ASK YOU, FATHER, TO DELIVER ME AND MY ENTIRE  
FAMILY TREE FROM THE INFLUENCE OF THE EVIL ONE.

FREE ALL LIVING AND DEAD MEMBERS OF  
MY FAMILY TREE, INCLUDING THOSE  
IN ADOPTIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND THOSE  
IN EXTENDED FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS,  
FROM EVERY CONTAMINATING FORM OF BONDAGE.

BY YOUR LOVING CONCERN FOR US,  
HEAVENLY FATHER, AND BY THE SHED BLOOD  
OF YOUR PRECIOUS SON, JESUS, I BEG YOU  
TO EXTEND YOUR BLESSINGS TO ME AND TO ALL  
MY LIVING AND DECEASED RELATIVES.



**HEAL EVERY NEGATIVE EFFECT TRANSMITTED  
THROUGH ALL PAST GENERATIONS,  
AND PREVENT SUCH NEGATIVE EFFECTS  
IN FUTURE GENERATIONS OF MY FAMILY TREE.**

**I SYMBOLICALLY PLACE THE CROSS OF JESUS  
OVER THE HEAD OF EACH PERSON IN MY FAMILY TREE  
AND BETWEEN EVERY GENERATION.**

**I ASK YOU TO LET THE CLEANSING BLOOD OF JESUS  
PURIFY THE BLOODLINES IN MY FAMILY LINEAGE.**

**SET YOUR PROTECTIVE ANGELS TO ENCAMP  
AROUND US, AND PERMIT ARCHANGEL RAPHAEL,  
THE PATRON OF HEALING, TO ADMINISTER  
YOUR DIVINE HEALING POWER TO ALL OF US,  
EVEN IN THE AREA OF GENETIC DISABILITY.**

**GIVE SPECIAL POWER TO OUR FAMILY MEMBERS'  
GUARDIAN ANGELS TO HEAL, PROTECT, GUIDE  
AND ENCOURAGE EACH OF US IN ALL OUR NEEDS.**

**LET YOUR HEALING POWER BE RELEASED  
AT THIS VERY MOMENT AND LET IT CONTINUE  
AS LONG AS YOUR SOVEREIGNTY PERMITS.**

**IN OUR FAMILY TREE, LORD, REPLACE ALL BONDAGE  
WITH A HOLY BONDING IN FAMILY LOVE.  
AND LET THERE BE AN EVER-DEEPER BONDING  
WITH YOU, LORD, BY THE HOLY SPIRIT  
TO YOUR SON, JESUS.**

**LET THE FAMILY OF THE HOLY TRINITY PERVADE  
OUR FAMILY WITH ITS TENDER, WARM, LOVING  
PRESENCE, SO THAT OUR FAMILY MAY RECOGNIZE  
AND MANIFEST THAT LOVE IN ALL  
OUR RELATIONSHIPS. ALL OF OUR UNKNOWN NEEDS  
WE INCLUDE WITH THIS PETITION THAT WE PRAY  
IN JESUS' PRECIOUS NAME. AMEN.**

**MARY, IMMACULATE MOTHER, PRAY FOR US.  
ST. JOSEPH, PATRON OF FAMILY LIFE, PRAY FOR US.**

**AMEN.**

Let's worship the Lord and believe that His blessing is upon you, your family, your children, your children's children, and their children's children.

Lift your hands and receive this blessing today. Amen.



## **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](mailto:jocelyn@kerygmfamily.com)

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## 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.

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**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**  
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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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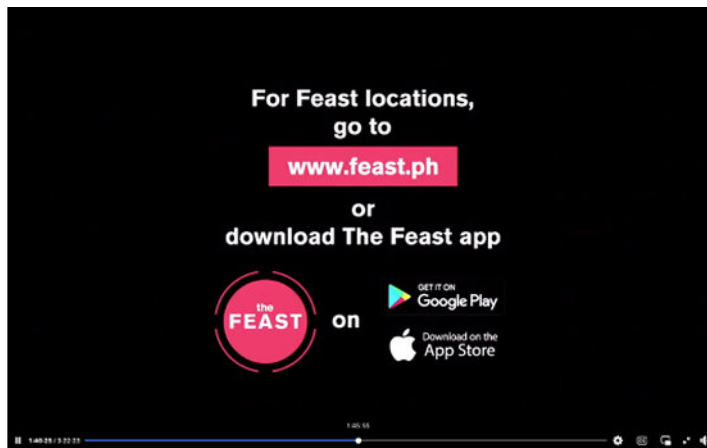




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***Go and make disciples of all men.***  
— Matthew 28:19

