



Is Jesus Real in Your Personal Life?

WELCOME to our brand-new series: *Come and See*.

To John, *Jesus is real*. He isn't just a historical figure. Jesus wants you to see Him in your life, hear His voice in your heart, and experience His Presence every day. Jesus is God and He loves you.

For the next ten weeks, we'll do a deep dive into the *Gospel of John*. And when I say deep, I mean reeeeeeaaally deep.

So, I need to ask a favor. *Lean in*. I want a two-way conversation-- not a one-way lecture. Be loud.

And if something moves you to worship, you can do so. You can applaud and break out into praise.

Friend, I've been reading the Bible for 40+ years, but after preparing for this series with our research team, I feel like I'm just reading the Scriptures for the first time. Man, the Bible is amazing.

Be very blessed in today's Feast!

May your dreams come true,

Bo Sanchez

WELCOME
to our brand-new
Feast Talk series:
COME and SEE
Talk 1:
Come and See

What's Your Number?

IF you're applying for a passport, or materials you need, usually, you have to go through a number of steps, starting with getting a number -- the number of your turn in the first line.

Rev. Fr. Albert Garong, in his Homily last Feast Sunday, asked: What if you have to get a number to get to Jesus? Answer starts on *page 3*.

Our founder, Bro. Bo Sanchez, says there's a sure way that you may *not* have to get a number to get to the Lord: *Come and See*. Details in today's brand-new Feast Talk which he introduces on *page 1*.

And Bro. Bo discussed how *not* to fall into the trap of needing a number to get to Jesus in last Feast Sunday's Talk. *Flashback* on *page 17*.



Bro. Audee Villaraza, welcoming us to last Sunday's Feast, pointed out the number we need... what we give to the Lord. With his family-- wife Kristel and kids Ethan and Ellie-- Bro. Audee shows us, *page 11*.

Yes, this issue of *The Feast Family* is about the number you need to know. Read on to know when it's already your turn.

All for God's Glory,

Randy Borromeo
Media Ministry
Executive Director





FLASHBACK!

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Holy Mass



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Homily

REV. FR. ALBERT GARONG
on the Gospel Mark 7:31-37



Excerpts:

Good Morning, Everyone!

The other month, I was blessed to have quite a long vacation with my family. We visited my mom in the United States. We had so much fun. My nieces and nephews were there. But that beautiful trip was marred by a little incident.

After touring around, we returned to our rented van, and we saw the van's back window was broken. We were so worried because we had lots of luggage at the back of the van-- we're a big family traveling around. But as the later report said, bystanders reacted when someone smashed the window, so the thieves got only one bag -- my bag.

Concelebrant:

REV. FR. BOB McCONAGHY

The FEAST FAMILY September 15, 2024 3

Impersonal God?

I'm the only single person in the family so I had a backpack. I travel light. All my things, like my laptop, were in that backpack. More important, my passport.

I said to myself, "Oh no, I can't go home."

But after a while, I said, "Wow, I can't go home. This is my chance to stay."

Obviously, I managed to get home. There was a process for that lost passport. But of course, when I got back here, I had to work on getting a new passport. I did that last week.

It's quite a long process but there's a system to it. There were several windows that I had to go to. But before you get to go to the window, the first thing you do is set an appointment, get your confirmation number, and then present the said confirmation number to the guard. When you get there, you get another number because that's how they know that you got in. They will call you to the window when it's already your turn. So, you wait.

After the first window, I get to another window, I get number after number to represent myself, to represent my case. Otherwise, I will not be noticed and called. I will not get what I came there for.

Also, once you get to the window, you're not supposed to chitchat. It was a very quick, down-to-business encounter with another person. They asked for my name, age, and fingerprint. The end. No dilly-dallying. It was very quick, efficient, very transactional, and yes, quite impersonal.

In the case of Jesus, there were so many people trying to come to Him, to touch Him, and be prayed by Him. I wonder what would happen if Jesus put a system into it.

Imagine Jesus saying, "All right, get your number here."

Then, Matthew being the tax collector, would collect the payment from people.



First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7

⁴ Thus says the Lord: Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense, he comes to save you. ⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; ⁶ then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing. Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the steppe.

⁷ The burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground, spring of water.



Personal Faith

Our Gospel today is perhaps the most powerful picture of a God, a Savior. He who is not about efficiency, who is not impersonal but is very personal. A God who is not transactional but very relational and intimate.

Jesus met the deaf-mute man in the crowds. We have many other Gospels where Jesus heals the person right then and there. But this time, before He does anything, He takes the person away from the crowd. He makes sure that they have a one-on-one moment.

Then Jesus does things that are, again, not present in other encounters. He spits, touches the man's ears, touches the man's tongue.

If we were in that situation, we would probably say, "Please don't invade my space."

Then Jesus looked up to Heaven. We don't know why-- but perhaps, it's simply the man in front of him was deaf and mute. Maybe, Jesus was communicating with him through gestures.

Can you imagine that? The God of the universe who deals with many concerns, sets a time intentionally for a person. He enters his world. He knows that the man is deaf and mute, so Jesus looks for a way to enter that person's world and communicate with him.

That is our faith in a nutshell. Our faith is personal. Yes, there are a lot of systems, traditions, and rituals. But make no mistake, those are in support and are supposed to foster a personal intimate encounter with our Savior.

Turn to the person beside you and say, "We take things here personally."

We don't like to get personal, right? Sometimes, we prefer to deal with the Lord on a transactional basis, just like getting a passport. You go through the motions.

In church, you sit. You do whatever is done. You stand when you're supposed to stand. You say the right words. After that, voila! You get the thing you are asking for, then you go on your way.

That's not how Jesus works. If you want Jesus to come into your life, you must be willing to be personal with Him. Get intimate with Him.

Again, God will meet you where you are. He will adjust to enter your world to get to you, to reach you, and to touch you.

Father, why does it have to be so personal?

The FEAST FAMILY September 15, 2024 5

‘Ephphatha!’

An interesting detail in the Gospel today is how Jesus heals the person, the words He says.

Most of the time, Jesus would command the healing.

For example, Jesus would say, "Lame person, rise and walk." "Leper, be clean."

As for the deaf-mute, he didn't say "hear and speak."

Jesus said to him, "Be open."

That is open to many interpretations but what I like is this: The command

“Ephphatha! Be Opened!” is not a command to the ear nor the mouth.

It was a command to somewhere much deeper -- the heart. Because the heart is where it all begins.

Do you remember the Gospel message from last Sunday? What defiles is not what is outside but what is inside the heart.

We are always bothered by what is quantifiable, measurable, and visible. We lose sleep over what is fair. You must be worried about all those things. But see what Jesus does?

He bypasses all the external problems and goes to the core-- the heart--as if to say, “I see all your problems. I see all the defects. I see all the things that worry you. I have a plan for that. I can take care of that. But what I cannot do for you is open your heart because that is yours and yours alone to do.”

That's why Jesus says, "Be open."

Be open because that is your decision to make. That is your commitment to Jesus. He, nor the people around you, cannot do that for you. You cannot be saved by association. When you reach the gates of Heaven, you can't tell St. Peter to let you in-- just because you belong to a prayerful family.

It's like a diet. You can't tell another person to become a vegetarian for you to heal your hypertension. You cannot tell another person to go to the gym on your behalf because you are busy.

If it was possible, I would have been so slim today. I can just tell all of you to do 10 counts of jumping jack for me before I say the Mass. I'll be the happiest 😊

But that's not how it works.



Church Is About Relations

Jesus needs your heart and no other. This is an intimate personal relationship. This will not work if that heart remains closed. Jesus will always knock on that.

But you might tell me, "Father, my heart is tired. There's nothing in me anymore. I have no hope to give."

To that, I point you to the Gospel again.

Who brought the deaf-mute person to Jesus? It was the community, the people around him.

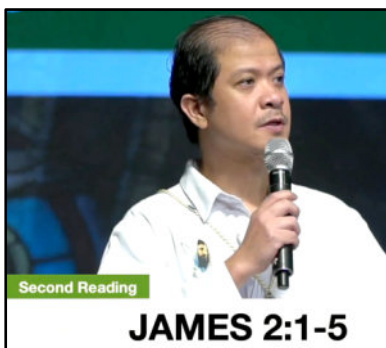
The logic of the world is this: If you can't help yourself, you're done and you're hopeless.

But not in church. In here, if you have nothing more to give, the people around you will save you. We carry each other here. We are helping each other here.

That's why our Second Reading is all about church relations. Don't judge each other. Don't be biased against each other. Look at each other from heart to heart. Love each other. Because the time will come when you have nothing but the people around you. Your church will be there for you.

Sometimes, your faith is not just for yourself. Your faith must be enough to carry two persons, four persons, your entire family, your entire office, your entire community.

That's why we have church. That's why we labor a lot at the church to create community. That's why before we started the Mass, there was an invitation for a retreat.



Second Reading: James 2:1-5

¹ My brothers and sisters, show no partiality as you adhere to the faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ. ² For if a man with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and a poor person in shabby clothes also comes in, ³ and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Sit here, please," while you say to the poor one, "Stand there," or "Sit at my feet," ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil

designs? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?

Welcome to Community!

We want you to be part of this Community that lifts each other to Jesus. We are not here as indifferent individuals just wanting to get whatever benefit we're asking from the Lord. No. We're here as persons opening our hearts to Jesus and to the people around us.

Tell the person beside you, "I got you."

Even if you don't know that person, you got him or her because you're in church.

We are church. That's what we do for each other.

So, welcome to this Community that is imperfect but is full of God's grace. Welcome to this Community that will strive and do its best to bring you to Jesus-- the One who can heal you and save you. Amen.



Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 146:7, 8-9, 9-10

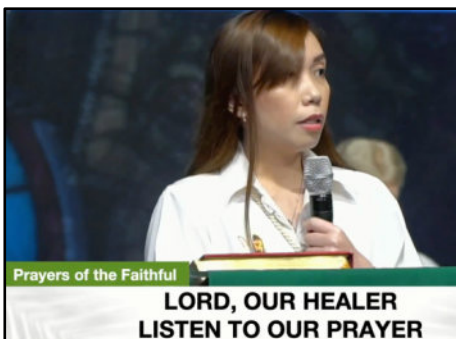
R: Praise the Lord, my soul

7 The God of Jacob keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives good to the hungry. The Lord sets captives free. (R)

8 The Lord gives sight to the blind. The Lord raises up those that were bowed down; the Lord loves the just;

*9 The Lord protects strangers. (R)
The fatherless and the widow the Lord sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts.*

10 The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations. Alleluia. (R)



Welcome!



BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:

Good Morning, FEAST!

May I ask you a favor? Can you look for one person that you do not know? And then introduce yourself to that person.

This is family, Everybody. So, we want to get to know as many persons as we can. Thank You.

How many of you are happy that you are here? Come on, lift your hands, and give a shout. Thank you.

Are there people joining us for the first time? If that's you, please stand. Let's clap our hands for our newcomers. Thank you so much for joining us today.

Tap them on the shoulder and say, "Welcome Home!"



From now on, I want you to know that this is your Spiritual Family and you belong here. So, please come every Sunday.

After The Feast, I'm going to invite you to come forward and I'm going to introduce our Feast and pray for you.

The FEAST FAMILY September 15, 2024 9

Parents' Responsibility

How many of you are blessed by our series, *Under One Roof*? This Family series. It's been amazing, right?

If you look around, you will notice that the people who have been coming here are mostly families now.

I believe that one of the greatest gifts that we can ever experience every week is that we have a Spiritual Family-- that we can be a part of a safe place where we can bring our loved ones.

I have a blessing today.
I'd love to invite
my family here onstage.

This is our little one:
Say "Hi," Ellie.
And this is Ethan.
And, of course,
my wife Kristel.



Since we started this series, *Under One Roof*, my wife and I realized that it was a good time to also teach our kids to pray the Rosary.

Let me just relate how we look when we are praying every night. My wife is the one leading the Rosary at around 8:00 p.m., following a YouTube Rosary app.

Not even within five minutes of our prayer, the girl starts kicking her brother. The brother complains. The two are already quarreling. And I try to intervene. Ten minutes later, Kristel is already in a corner praying alone.

Why are we sharing this? Very simple: As parents, it's our responsibility to teach our children how to pray. Is it easy? No. Parents know this. We're teaching our children how to pray, how to kneel, how to respect...

We want to talk to parents here. We know that you love bringing your family here at The Feast. We love families coming to The Feast. But we also want to encourage you to be responsible in teaching your children about God, and about being responsible to the people around them. Because you know people are coming here who want to experience solemn worship. And we love that we have ushers who remind you to see to it that your kids behave. But we parents know that's our responsibility.

So, The Feast is a family, my Friends. And as a family, we stretch our patience, we stretch our understanding toward one another.

We're blessed to be part of The Feast. Amen.

Love Offering

So, we'd love to pray over our Love Offering today.

Everybody, we pray together:

*Lord, Thank You for blessing our families.
Which we believe comes only from You.
And we pray that what we give today You will
use to build Your Kingdom here on Earth.
Bless us more. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*



Help the Feast Mercy Ministries. Help them all.

 Anastacia Lay Missionary Foundation, Inc.	 Grace to be Born Maternity Home and Nursery	 He Cares Foundation Street Children Caring Center	 Jeremiah 33:6-7 Foundation	 Pagasa ng Pamilya Scholarship Foundation
 LOJ Prison Ministry	 LOJ Pastoral Care Center	 HAIL Mary of Abra	 Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer	 Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation, Inc.

Receive Feast Magazine e-copy when you subscribe to monthly giving of Php 500.00. Visit us at the lobby!

WAYS TO GIVE

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.THEFEASTPICAM.COM/COMMIT

GCash QR Ph

maya **Pay** **Metrobank**

BPI **GrabPay** AND MORE

Give your Offering to the Lord. May the Lord bless each one of you.

Worship!

SIS. MHADZ PAMAONG:

Good Morning, Feast! It's a beautiful Sunday morning and praise God because it is only through His grace that we are alive and well today.

So, if you have breath, and if you have something to praise God for, I invite you to worship with us.



Face the person beside you and tell them: “Worship looks good on you.”

Now at this moment, Brothers and Sisters, I invite you to worship all the more in spirit and in truth.

I don't know what season you're in right now. But I know some of us are still lost and need healing from the brokenness of this world.

But I pray that we may be encouraged for the Word of God says that He has the power to create anything from nothing. That He is the God who delivers.

When God speaks, miracles happen.

Church, this is the God we worship. This is the God we sing to.

So, I invite you to come as you are. We let go, and we let God.

God, expose our hearts in Your truth and in Your love.

We surrender our hearts with faith.





BRO. BO SANCHEZ:

That's our prayer. Hear the cry of our hearts. Not our glory but Yours. Not our agenda, not our plans. Because we know how dysfunctional that can be. And they come from the wrong motivations. We surrender and let go of all those imperfect and weak within us and we say:

“Jesus, come and take over. Take over our hearts, our minds. Take over, yes, our plans. Take over all our tomorrows. Every single tomorrow that we have left in our lives we dedicate to you. We consecrate our whole life to You

*Oh, yes, Lord. Every tick of the clock that remains in our life is Yours.
Let your glory come!*





NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

BRO. BO SANCHEZ:

Let's say our prayer as one big, beautiful family:



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.

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



From Tower to Throne

How many of you know that God knows you-- like every part of you, every idiosyncrasy, and every peculiar curve that you hide?

But how many of you know that God knows you and He forgives you?

That God knows you and He loves you? And that God knows you and He celebrates you?

Today is the 6th Talk of our entire series *Under One Roof*.

How many of you have been blessed by our series on Family?

Talks 1, 2, and 3 were about the biological family.

Talks 4, 5, and 6 kind of zooming out now to the Family of Families -- God's Family, Spiritual Community, and Church.

This Talk culminates everything. If the past five talks have blessed you, give the Lord a big hand. If you believe that God will speak to you today in this Talk, I want you to get ready because God has a gift for you today.



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

Talk



I want to preach the message:
Stop building your tower.
Start building God's Throne.

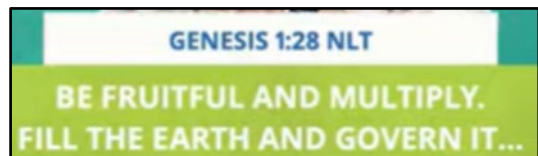


I want you to help me preach this message to that person beside you.

What tower are we talking about? I'm talking about the Tower of Babel-- if you know that story from *Genesis* Chapter 11. But just in case you don't know, we're going to backtrack to *Genesis*.

I need to backtrack. I cannot jump right away to the Tower of Babel story.

How many of you think that you've heard the Tower of Babel before?



In Genesis 1:28, God gives us this mission:

When we read that passage, we think it's almost like God is saying, "Have children."

But it's not only about having children. This is about you and I scattering and filling the Earth wherever we walk.

The earlier verse was about us being images of God. So, when God says, "Fill the Earth," He means that we fill the Earth with God's Presence.

Because you are a God-container. You are a God-bearer.

So, whenever you walk into your office, school, mall, and your home, you bring the Presence of God with you.

When you talk with someone, that person senses the Presence of God through your words. When people look at you, they will not only look at you, but they also need to see the God who lives in you.

The FEAST FAMILY September 15, 2024 17

Question: Did man obey that Word we just read today?

Not really.

GENESIS 6:11 NLT
NOW GOD SAW THAT THE EARTH HAD BECOME CORRUPT AND WAS FILLED WITH VIOLENCE.

Instead of filling the Earth with His Presence, we fill the Earth with evil-- which culminates in the Tower of Babel story.



GENESIS 11:4 NIV
THEN THEY SAID, "COME, LET US BUILD OURSELVES A CITY, WITH A TOWER THAT REACHES TO THE HEAVENS, SO THAT WE MAY MAKE A NAME FOR OURSELVES; OTHERWISE WE WILL BE SCATTERED OVER THE FACE OF THE WHOLE EARTH."

Now, for modern eyes reading this and modern ears listening, there's nothing wrong with that plan to build the city and the tower. Looks nice! The plan is good. But the reason we don't get this story is we're modern people. This was written 3,000 years ago.

When an ancient person hears the story, the reaction will be like, "Huh!"

I will give you the meaning of the story and I want you to react in that way.

Heaven was God's throne and man wanted to take over. This was a coup against God.

Now, react in 1, 2, and 3: "Huh!"

Now you understand the story. That's basically what I'm trying to say.

Now you might ask me, what's the problem with being scattered?

Wasn't that God's command in Genesis 1 -- to fill the Earth, multiply, scatter, bring the Presence of God to everyone?

With the Tower of Babel, the people would like to set themselves apart from others. They feel superior to everyone.

Now, this is the most important point I want to share with you about this story. We're going to go deep in this Talk. Whenever a talk is deep, I want you to go louder.

The reason I want you to be loud is this: If the talk is deep, you might just get lost.

You just miss one sentence, and you say, "What was that?"

I want you to lean in the Talk. I want your full attention. I don't want you to miss anything. I want you to be loud when you respond, okay?

This is a dialogue. I'm not going to be one guy talking.

If you agree with something, say, "Yeah or Amen."

You clap your hands. You stand up.

Babel Is Babylon

I encourage you that from now on, you will read *Tower of Babel* as *Tower of Babylon*.

Why? Because in the original Hebrew language, *Babel* and *Babylon* are the same word.

I want you to use the word *Babylon* because when the biblical authors wrote *Genesis* and they wrote the story of the Tower of Babel, they were pointing to an actual Empire.

During the time that *Genesis* was being edited and compiled, there was an empire called Babylon. In the year 487, Babylon conquered Israel. Babylon besieged its capital, Jerusalem-- destroyed it, burned the Temple to ruins. Deported Israelites 2,000 miles to Babylon. Cruel nation! Massacred, pillaged, robbed, and raped.

So, when *Genesis* was being compiled and edited, guess which was the Tower of Babel? It was really the Tower of Babylon.

**THE TOWER OF BABYLON IN GENESIS POINTS TO THE BABYLONIAN EMPIRE,
BUT IT ALSO POINTS TO THE SPIRIT OF BABYLON IN ALL OF US—
THE UGLY DESIRE TO DOMINATE AND TRAMPLE ON OTHERS FOR OUR OWN SELFISH WANTS.**

Look at somebody beside you and tell that person, "Beware of the spirit of Babylon."

The Tower of Babylon can be captured in two words:

1. God-Rebellion
2. Self-absorption

The Tower of Babylon is God-Rebellion: *"We don't want You anymore. We don't need You anymore. We want to raise our own name without Your help. And guess what: God, I'm going to define what is good and bad in my terms, not according to Your terms. I do not need You. I'm building the tower, my throne."*

We create Babylon in our lives. What does that mean?

Babylon is something that you create in your own life, in your own attitudes, in your own perspectives. Babylon is created in governments. It's created in companies and businesses. It's created in your own habits. It's created in your own family. Oh gosh, we need help.



What's *Babylon*

The Empire of Babylon is long dead and gone. Persia conquered it in 439 BC. A bully never lasts. There's always a bigger bully that comes along, right?

The kingdom of Babylon is gone but Babylon is alive and kicking in us. Do you agree?

The world is in a mess because we've allowed Babylon to take over our world. What we need to do as God-followers is to reject Babylon. Let's renounce Babylon. Let's start building the Throne of God.

Put your hands over your chest and say: *"Father, come help me to discern when I'm following the spirit of Babylon. I want to follow You and build Your throne in my life every day. I want to be a real God-container that's so transparent, that when people see me, they see You. When people hear me, people hear You. When people experience me, they will experience You. In Jesus' Name. Amen."*

Have you ever heard of a company that makes bad products that are harmful to their customers-- but they do it because it earns them money? That's Babylon.

One politician friend of mine came up to me and said, "Bro. Bo, some of the politicians don't want the citizens to get better financially. They don't want to get them out of poverty."

I asked why.

He said, "If they get out of poverty, the politicians cannot buy their votes anymore in the next election."

That's sick. That's Babylon. There's so much Babylon in our society. There's so much evil and we need to renounce that.

But do you know that Babylon starts in our families?

We're all Filipinos. Our families are Filipinos, but some families are Filipino Babylonians.

Babylon can be any government, or political group, or business, or even a church.

Yes, even a church. When a church says, "Holy people only," it's Babylon. When a church says, "We're better than others," that's Babylon.



Babylonian Family

Babylon can even be the wrong family. Even a family that unites for the wrong reason.

I thank God I'm Filipino. You know what's beautiful about Filipinos? We love family. We're very family-oriented.

But how many of you understand that if you love and follow God, loving your family is not enough?

Warning: Your love for your family can be selfish. It can be Babylonian.

If you say, "As long as I can feed my family and as long as I can send my kids to the best school that money can buy, I'll be happy..." That statement seems normal but that's Babylonian.

Hello! You're a God-follower. You cannot think about just your family. Filipinos are family first. We have a family-first culture and that's supposed to be good. Many Filipinos don't have a family-first culture. We have a family-*only* culture. That is evil. You cannot think about just your kids



**WE NEED STRONG FAMILIES
OR THE WORLD COLLAPSES.
BUT TO FOLLOW GOD,
LOVING OUR FAMILY
IS NOT ENOUGH.**

**SOME DON'T HAVE A FAMILY-FIRST PARADIGM,
THEY HAVE A FAMILY-ONLY PARADIGM. WHICH IS EVIL.**

I just came from our Wealth Conference in the Truly Rich Club. It was a two-day Conference-- yesterday and today. It's still going on.

People think it's all about money that I teach. In this Conference, I pointed out, and I'm sharing this with you: I want you to be the best version of who you are -- the best mom, the best dad, the best husband, the best wife, the best son, the best artist, the best engineer, the best accountant, the best singer, the best dancer. You've got to elevate your skills to be the best that you can ever become.

Because you are not doing this for yourself. You're not even doing it just for your own family. You are doing it for God's Family of Families.



Family First

I'll repeat that innocuous normal statement:
"As long as I can feed my children, I'll be happy."

It should be: "As long as I can feed my kids.
I'll be 'partially' happy because every single day, there are 95 children who die in this country because of hunger."

Do you understand that today, 95% of kids here died yesterday? Yes, 95 kids died on Friday. Another 90 tomorrow.

Another 95 kids die. And then, we're happy that our children are fed.

That's Babylonian.



We should be *Family-first* -- not *Family-only*.

In the Philippines, 13% of Filipino children are malnourished. Can you imagine how many millions those are? Do you know that when children are malnourished from ages one to five, their brains are permanently underdeveloped? When they grow up, they cannot handle jobs that require high thinking.

My gosh. And we condemn them to poverty.

We need to do something.

But you might say, "Bro. Bo, how? I'm a small person. I'm just a BPO agent. I'm just a nurse."
"I'm just a sales lady." "I can't even feed my own family."

That's why I made a Wealth Conference. That's why I have the Truly Rich Club. That's why I encourage you to be better because it's not about you anymore.

We're so used to being small: hide, don't create waves, don't stand out.

No. You owe it to those kids who will be dying if you don't be the best version of who you are. Earn as much as you can because you want to be a better gift to the people around you.

In our company, our Logistics guy started as a messenger. Then he became part of the Logistics -- the guy in the stock room.

He shared yesterday at the Wealth Conference: "I thank Bro. Bo that I have learned how to invest. Before, I didn't own a house. Now, I have two houses."

I was just at the back. I was listening to him. I said to myself, "Wow, he has two houses? I have only one."

But I love his testimony.

Tell the person beside you:

"It's not about you."

Be a superstar. Be the best. God calls us to love more than our family.

**GOD CALLS US TO LOVE MORE THAN
JUST OUR OWN FAMILY.**



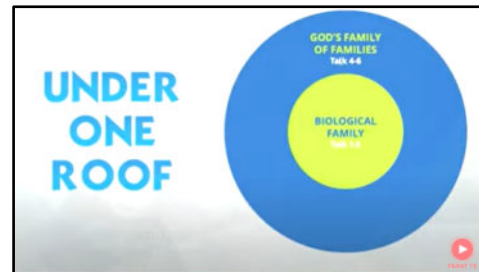
The Antidote

Jesus came to free us from Babylon.

This is the antidote: Whatever you're attending right now is God's Family of Families. This is God's antidote because here, you are surrounded by people who are of different backgrounds and different bloodlines. Why are you sitting beside each other? Why do we come here every Sunday? Why do we love and serve each other?

Because this is God's antidote.

Under One Roof Talks 1, 2, and 3 are about your biological family. Then we moved out and we had Talks 4, 5, and 6-- about God's Family of Families.



Now, this is what Jesus did when He came into this world. He formed a family with his disciples. He started building His family.

Think about this: Do you know how crazy the disciples were? Absolutely wild.

At right, the one on the upper right is Chuza, one of Jesus' disciples. You don't know him much. He's a VIP. He's a steward of King Herod's palace. He followed Jesus. But with him are uneducated fishermen. The one on the *lower extreme right* is Zacchaeus, a corrupt tax collector like Matthew who decided to repent and change. The woman here had problems with seven demons.



Think of all these people Jesus formed into a family. Very different people. Isn't that amazing? God's antidote is a Family of Families.

Let's care for each other even if we're not related by blood.

Jesus was not content with this. This was just Phase 1. These were all Jews.

God-Bearers

If you may recall, in the Talk last week, Jesus moved into Phase 2. He went to the Gentiles. He talked with a Samaritan woman, not a Jew, sitting by Jacob's Well.

Because of that one conversation, the entire Samaritan village came to know Jesus.

Then, He went to the Gadarenes and met demon-possessed people. *



Do you know why I know they were not Jews but Gentiles?

The demons went to the pigs. If a territory has pigs, no Jew would go there because Jews don't like pigs. They don't eat pigs.

How many of you understand this? When Jesus multiplied bread-- the miracle of bread multiplication-- how many people did He feed?

How many people did Jesus feed during the Multiplication of the Loaves? Not only men. He fed 5,000 including women and children.

Please understand this. He did that miracle twice.

First time, 5,000 men-- all Jews. Then, there was a second miracle. Jesus fed how many in the second miracle? 4,000. Where did it happen? Decapolis, the 10 cities for Gentiles-- 4,000 Gentiles.

Two miracles on the multiplication of loaves -- because Jesus was now reaching out to Jews and to Gentiles.

Guess what? Jews and Gentiles started following Jesus even if they hated each other. This is the opposite of the Tower of Babel.

Jesus is teaching us how to live with other images of God-- whether we like them or not.

Do you like that person beside you? Do you like that person behind you?

Jesus is saying those persons are still God-containers and God-bearers.

*In the New Testament, Gadarenes refers to some location on the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee. (Matthew 8:28-34)

‘Explosive’ Story



Can you tell me what Parable this depicts?

The Parable of *The Good Samaritan*

This story is not a bedtime story. This is explosive. Jews hated Samaritans to their core and vice versa. Three reasons Jews hated Samaritans:

1. Political: Some 1,000 years before Jesus was born, there was a civil war in Israel. Northern Kingdom versus Southern Kingdom. Northern Kingdom, the capital was in Samaria. Southern Kingdom, the capital was Jerusalem.

2. Racial: In the year 500 BC, Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom with Samaria as capital. Intermarried with the locals, and their offspring became the Samaritans. So, the Jews looked at the Samaritans as half-breed Jews.

3. Religious: The Samaritans believed in Yahweh. Prayed to Yahweh-- but they did it in their own way. They did not go to Jerusalem to worship. They did not like the Temple of Jerusalem, so, they built their own temple in Mount Gerizim.

I want you to know that in the year 190 AD, the high priest of Jerusalem sent soldiers to Mount Gerizim to destroy their temple.

Can you just imagine how they hated each other?

So, Jews and Samaritans hated each other so much-- and then Jesus comes along and says, "May I tell you a story?"

In reply, Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Another Story

The *Parable of the Good Samaritan* does not appeal to me. Because we're not in that culture. We're not in that context. May I make you feel what the first listeners of this story felt?

I'm going to end with this:

I want you to imagine a person in your life, that when you look at him: cringeworthy, repulsive, repugnant.



When he walks into the room, your eyes roll upwards to the ceiling. When he enters the room, you're looking for the exit. Why? Maybe because he's a loud mouth or maybe because he curses and you don't like cursing. Maybe you don't like the way he dresses. Maybe he smells. Various reasons.

You know what sealed the deal? Last election, he voted for the wrong person. He voted for the person that you hate. He didn't just vote for that person. He campaigned for that person. From that time on, you never liked him. In your mind and in your heart, prejudice built up. You basically called him Mr. Bobo. When you're with your friends, you laugh at him and ridicule him.

One fateful day, you're walking on the road, minding your own business. Then, you feel a very painful whack at the back of your head. Boom! You're sprawled on the road, lying in your pool of blood. You're in a daze.

Then, you saw two guys wearing masks, hoodies, carrying baseball bats. So... that's what hit you.

The guys bent over, got your wallet, got your phone, and walked away laughing. You're going in and out of consciousness.

Then you saw a guy walk by. You wanted to raise your hand to ask for help but you could not. Your body was in shock. The man looked at you and then walked away as if he did not see you.

After a while, you saw another man walk by. You wanted to shout. You wanted to cry out for help but no sound came out of your throat.

He saw you. You saw him see you but he did not only walk away, he ran away.

Tears began to roll down your cheeks and you're wondering, "This is the day am I going to die?"

When what appeared as though it was like forever, you heard the rush of footsteps and there was this person who bent down. You could not see his face but he took off his shirt and he put it over your head wound to stop the bleeding.

Then, you felt being carried to a car and then you lost consciousness again.

When you woke up, you were in an emergency room. You had doctors and nurses there.

The Same Story

The next morning, you woke up and the doctor said, "You're one lucky guy. Do you know that if that person did not bring you here in the nick of time, 10 minutes late, we would not have this conversation. You would be in the morgue."

Three days later, you were discharged from the hospital and you went to the Billings office to pay for your hospital bill-- only to find out to your shock... The cashier said that the guy who brought you to the hospital left his credit card and said he was going to pay for everything.

The cashier added, "So, this morning I charged him."

You asked the cashier who brought you to the hospital.

The cashier said, "He said he's your friend. Here's the receipt. "

You read the name and every fiber of your body trembles. It's the person that you disliked. It's the person who ridiculed you. It's the person you ridiculed. It's the person you called Mr. Bobo.

That is the *Parable of the Good Samaritan*.

Jesus, the Brilliant Storyteller, was shaking our prejudices.

He's saying, "You might be wrong... All of you are my children."

God is not asking us to be best friends with everybody.

God is not asking us to be naive and not to have boundaries.

What God is asking us is to let go of our anger and our need to get even with people who hurt us.

This is the only way to become a Family of Families.

I invite you to worship the Lord, the real Good Samaritan. Babylon has beaten us. Let's face it. We act selfish. We rebel against God. We insist on our own way of defining what's good and bad for ourselves. Babylon has beaten us. We're now sprawled on the road, lying in our own pool of blood.

Then, Jesus comes with His own wounds. He bandages our wounds and then He pays for the bill on the Cross.

Pray with me. Lift your hands if you can. Just be grateful for your Rescuer. Be grateful for your Savior. Say:

"Jesus Thank You for loving me and for saving me from Babylon. I want to belong to You. I want to represent You in this world. Thank You for making me a God-container. Lord, help me that wherever I go, I'm bringing Your Presence and Your Love to the people around me. In Jesus' Mighty Name.

Let the glory of the Lord and the love of God come.



**GOD ASKS US
TO LET GO OF OUR ANGER
AND OUR NEED TO GET EVEN
WITH PEOPLE WHO HURT US.**





Thank You!

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

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

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

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

FOR EXISTING DONORS:

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

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

Email Address: jocelyn@kerygmfamily.com

Website: <https://kerygmfamily.com>

Our Partner Beneficiaries

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



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



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

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



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

The Light of Jesus Pastoral Care Center
ministers to those who are emotionally and spiritually wounded.



H.A.I.L. MARY is acronym for Healthcare Assistance for Indigents and Lepers of Mary, adopting the Blessed Mother as the patroness of its mission to eradicate leprosy in Abra within 8–10 years.



The Light of Jesus Disaster Recovery Ministry
provides evacuation assistance, relief goods, financial aid, and other needs of calamity victims.

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



Anawim Lay Missions Foundation provides a home for poor elderly who have been abandoned by their family and have nowhere else to go.

CHOOSE HOW YOU WANT TO GIVE

1. Donate ONLINE (through credit card) Go to www.kerygmfamily.com and click 'DONATE' box Paypal I US Donations.

2. Pick Up from Your House or Office (Metro Manila Only) Cash or Checks Address Checks to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. and call Joy at (+632) 725 -9999 loc 112 or text (+63) 922-828-9890 and we'll pick them up from your home or office.

3. Mail 12 Post-Dated Checks to Our Office for US and CANADA: Address Checks to Kerygma Family, 848 Rainbow Blvd # 1937, Las Vegas, NV 89107. For Other Countries/Philippines: Address Check to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc. and mail (registered mail) to Shepherd's Voice, 60 Chicago St., Cubao, Quezon City, Philippines 1109.

4. Directly Deposit to Our Bank Accounts. Deposit to Shepherd's Voice Account in any branch of these banks:
Account name: Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation Inc.
BPI: Savings Account no: 0123-4849-67 Cubao Aurora Branch
Banco de Oro Savings Account no: 003970019804 General Araneta, Cubao Branch
Banco de Oro - Savings Account no. 000160506123 SM Cubao Branch
PNB - Current Account no. 108410089566 SSS branch
Metrobank-Savings Account no. 265-3-26509112-2 e Rodriguez Branch
Allied Bank Savings Account no. 3160-12345-1 E Rodriguez Branch
Union Bank Savings Account no. 00-206-000940-1 Tektite Branch

Note: Text, Fax, or email us your name, date and amount of deposit, and the branch of the bank where you deposited your donation, or fax the deposit slip to us. Email us at support@kerygmfamily.com or text us at (63) 922-828-9890/ (63) 998-968-4416 or Fax to (+632) 725-1230.



FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE

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

Founder: Bo Sanchez

Mercy Ministries Chairman
Hermie Morelos

Editor-in-Chief
Cynthia U. Santiago

Chief Photographer
Edmundo L. Santiago

**Feast International
Region Head**
Vic Español

Editorial Assistant
Laarni A. Uy

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

Media Ministries Head
Randy Borromeo

Contributors
The Feast Builders

Finance Officer
Rowena Cequeña

Publication Consultant
Chelle S. Crisanto

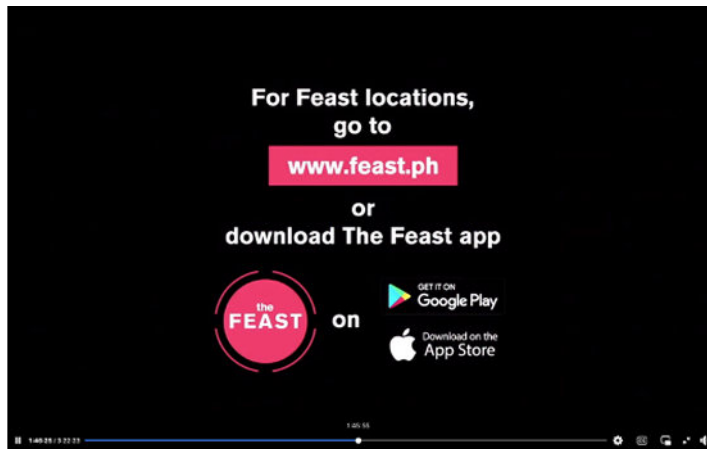
Human Resources Manager
Erika Ventura



Shepherd's Voice
Radio and TV Foundation Inc.



Multimedia Assistance Ministry



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

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

