



## *‘Huwag Ka Nang Umiyak’*

YOU know that the shortest verse in the Bible is in John 11:35. It says, “*Jesus wept*”.

It happened in one of the most spectacular miracles – or signs – of Jesus: the Raising of Lazarus from the dead. It was also the most crucial one because it made Jesus’ enemies more determined to put Him to death.

Jesus loved Lazarus so much that He was willing to sacrifice His own life for the life of His friend.

And that was what Jesus did for you – for all of us!

Yet, an interesting point is that *Jesus wept* for Lazarus even if He knew He would raise Him back to life.

Why? Because Jesus weeps with you when you weep – when you are sad and depressed, hurting and lost, grieving and in pain. He doesn’t skip this stage of human experience and reality.

In truth: *Your Deepest Grief Is Your Meeting Place with Jesus* because when you hit rock bottom, you meet The Rock: Jesus.

In Talk 7 of our life-shaking series, *COME and SEE*, and as we continue our deep dive into the Gospel of John, we shall see and experience *The God Who Grieves*.

Above all, we’ll rediscover that yes, Jesus meets you where you are – but He will bring you where you should be. He weeps with you – but will not leave you weeping. He will wipe away your tears – and raise you back from the dead!

**JESUS IS YOUR RESURRECTION!**

*“Kung wala ka ng maintindihan, Kung wala ka ng makapitan, If you understand nothing, if there’s nothing you can hold on*

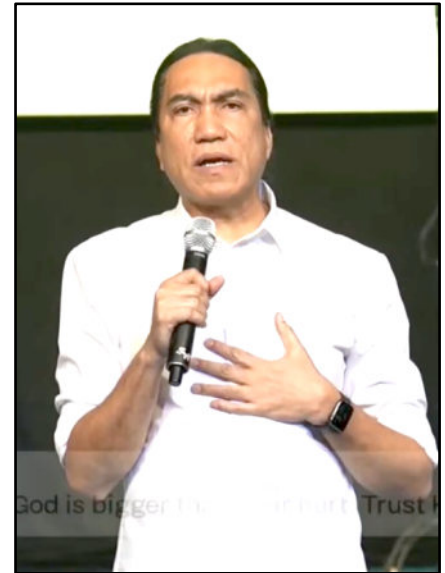
*Kapit ka sa Akin, Kumapit ka sa Akin,  
Hindi kita bibitawan... Hindi kita pababayaang...*

*Huwag ka nang umiyak*

Welcome to our GRAND FEAST, where *You are loved!*

*Mayroong Magandang Mangyayari Sa ‘Yo!’*

**Alvin Barcelona**



**WELCOME**  
to our ongoing  
Feast Talk Series:  
**COME and SEE**  
Talk 7:  
***The God Who Grieves***

## *And the Winner Is...*

LAST week we worked on the October 20, 2024, issue of *The FEAST FAMILY* amid deafening news of bombings -- Ukraine vs. Russia, Israel vs. Palestine.

Today, we close this issue of *The FEAST FAMILY* amid the noise of political campaigns -- presidential race in the United States just a few more days to the finish line this November, local government rumble in the Philippines, May 2025, and the battle for Malacañang, May 2028.

And the winners are... This issue isn't talking about global winning.



We share what Fr. Albert Garong said in his Homily about two apostles, James and John, hoping to win seats beside Jesus who they thought was out to win Israel's struggle against the Romans, as related in last Sunday's Gospel, *page 3*.

And the winner is... Bro. Bo Sanchez presented who wins and how to win-- even one is blind-- in Talk 6 of our Feast Series, *Come and See, page 11*.

And the winner is... If you stay and listen to the Feast Talk this

Sunday, you will see Jesus not fighting to win, but actually weeping to win.

Bro. Alvin Barcelona introduces Talk 7, *page 1*.

And the winner is... Sis. Tisha Caro, leading Feast Worship, demonstrated that you can win with an open palm...Because the one word about winning-- starts with the letter S-- as in *Surrender, page 15*.

Yes, there are many ways to win.

The best is through our Lord Jesus. Because for Him, the winner is... you!

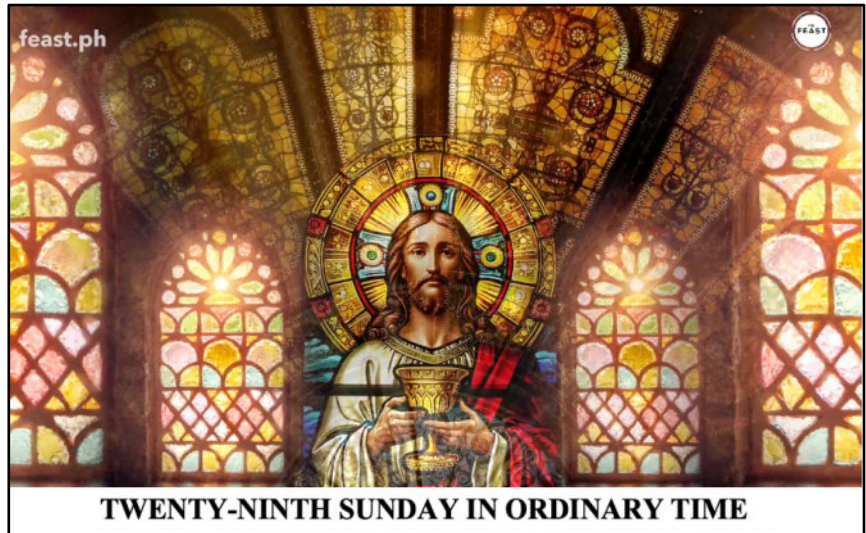


All for God's Glory,

**Randy Borromeo**  
Media Ministry  
Executive Director



## Holy Mass



## Homily

**REV.FR. ALBERT GARONG**  
on the Gospel Mark 10:35-45

Excerpts:

Good Morning, Everyone!

Our Gospel today comes out, guns a-blazing, with a very bold request, a very big prayer: James and John come to Jesus and ask a seat at His right and at His left, in His glory. Big prayer. Big request.

There's nothing wrong about that. If anything, maybe it's a good message to think about as well.

For a lot of people, we are too timid with our prayers. We are too fearful and too ashamed to ask God for big needs. We beg for small things.

But the Lord wants to provide for you-- and is ready and has amazing plans for your life.

Boldness in prayer is a sign that you trust and really believe that our God is bigger than whatever dreams you can imagine.



## But Here's the Problem...

When you couple boldness with entitlement and pride, it leads you to believe that you deserve the blessings.

You probably think: "Father, I'm a good person. Why aren't my prayers answered? I prayed the *Novena to God's Love* but still I didn't get my request. Maybe, next time I'll put more money in the Love Offering basket. I'll put more money in the offertory basket. Maybe then, God will answer my prayer."

My dear Brothers and Sisters, that's not what this is. There might be first-timers here or maybe seekers who are attending The Feast and you wonder what the Catholic Church is about.

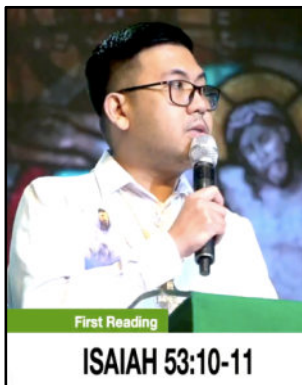
First, what I want to tell you is "Welcome!"

Friends, may we welcome our first-timers? Clap your hands for them.

First-timers, I promise you, this is the best decision you'll make in your life: to follow Jesus. It's going to be amazing. But I want to be clear about one point. Catholicism is not a hack to get more out of God. Because that is the promise of others. That's why their invite is so appealing. There are some Catholics who practice a different belief already.

When you go to someone's house, you see an image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and of The Immaculate Heart of Mary at the gate. But when you go to the entrance door, you see a *bagua* mirror (a Chinese religious motif) hanging on the door. In the living room, you'll notice that their sofa is positioned at 45-degree angle to North East-- because that's how good fortune flow -- according to the Chinese *feng shui* (meaning *way of wind and water* that one must go along with for good fortune). We like that, don't we? We give a lot of things to be able to hack good fortune and blessings.

That's not what this is. If anything, it's the opposite of it.



### First Reading: Isaiah 53:10-11

<sup>10</sup> *The Lord was pleased to crush him in infirmity. If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the Lord shall be accomplished through him.* <sup>11</sup> *Because of his affliction he shall see the light in fullness of days; through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear.*

## Who Wins?

This is a journey that will move you closer to the Lord-- but the closer you get to God, the more it will demand losing control, surrender, and trust in God's mercy, as we recited in the Responsorial Psalm.

James and John wanted to get close to God because they thought that it will mean more power and more prestige.

That's not what we're doing here.

Trust me, the closer you come to God, the more this position will require you to stretch, be broken, and embrace God's will.

The other day, I was reading a book by Rev. Fr. Ronald Roy Ronald Rolheiser, OMI (Canadian Catholic priest and theologian). Look him up. All his books are incredible.

There's a story there that I really love.

A man asks an old priest: "Monsignor, at your age, do you still wrestle with the Devil?"

The Monsignor says, "The Devil has grown old like me. He's also tired. We don't really struggle anymore."

The young man says, "So, you're living a very peaceful and serene interior life."

Monsignor says, "No. I don't wrestle with the Devil, but I still wrestle with God."

The young man asks, "Monsignor, do you hope to win?"

The Monsignor says, "I don't hope to win. I hope to lose."



### **Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22)**

**R: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

*4 Upright is the word of the Lord, and all his works are trustworthy. 5 He loves justice and right; of the kindness of the Lord the earth is full. (R)*

*18 See, the eyes of the Lord are upon those who fear him, upon those who hope for his kindness, 19 to deliver them from death and preserve them in spite of famine. (R)*

*20 Our soul waits for the Lord, who is our help and our shield. 22 May your kindness, O Lord, be upon us who have put our hope in you. (R)*

## Agony in the Garden

Asking God for great things is wonderful. Planning and having ambition for your life and for your family is all good-- but our hope should be that God wins. Because when God wins, we all win. But if you're the only one who wins, then you're all alone. A lot of people who kept winning at life without the Lord end up with empty hearts, shattered interior lives, and restlessness.

If you let God win, that is the most important victory that you will have in your life.

I know it's difficult, but I want you to remember the First and the Second Readings because they drive home a very important point:

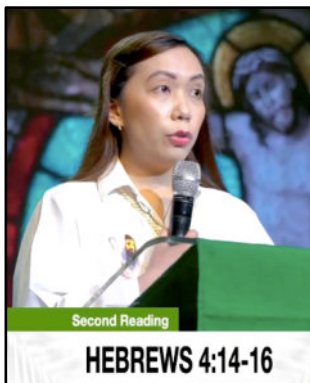
Our God is not a boss who is shouting out demands from afar. Our God is a true leader because He leads the way to whatever He is demanding of us. Our God will suffer and will die. He is a high priest that can sympathize because He knows what it feels like to be crushed by God's will.

It's been how many Sundays that Jesus has been walking in the Gospel of Mark towards Jerusalem?

Jesus Christ knew without a shadow of a doubt that once He got to Jerusalem, there's no escaping that He would be crucified and He would die. Did He change direction? No. Was it easy? No.

We know this for sure because at the very last moment, in the Agony in the Garden, we hear Jesus completely human asking His Father: "Take this cup away from me."

For a moment, we see without a shadow of a doubt that it was hard for Jesus to embrace His Cross. He didn't get any special favor. It was just as hard for Him.



### Second Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16

*14 Brothers and sisters: Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. 16 So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.*





### **Carrying the Cross**

My dear Brothers and Sisters, I know we're all wrestling with God. The young and the old, we're all struggling and fighting with Him.

This morning, I woke up to a text that said: "Father, please pray for us. Our newborn baby just died."

Imagine, from complete joy overnight to total sorrow. That's not even the first time that I heard news like that this week. It comes with the job. People come to me with their pains and their brokenness. What do I say to them?

I cannot explain that. No one can explain that.

The Pope cannot explain that.

What I know, for sure, with 1000% certainty-- because the Bible says this very clear-- not only does God see your pain but He embraces your pain. Whatever cross you're carrying, He is carrying it with you. You are not alone.

That is why when He came to us, the first gift He gave us is to be *Emmanuel* which means, "*God is with us.*"

That is his first promise. Whatever you are going through, trust that God is right there with you. He's carrying that with you. He's sharing the pain. He is sympathizing with you. He is there.

If you still want to wrestle, wrestle away. God welcomes that. Just remember that our hope here is for God to win because when God wins, we all win. Amen.

# Welcome!



## SIS. CATH TAN:

Hello, Good Morning, Everybody!

Welcome Home! Who are the first-timers here today? We welcome you to our Community, The FEAST.

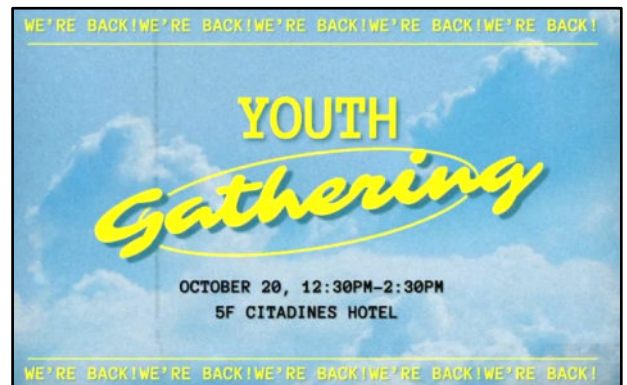
Welcome to a group from Australia. Welcome all those young people who are here with Bro. Roman and Sony.

Speaking of the youth, we invite you to our Youth Gathering>

We also invite you to our Youth Home every last Saturday of the month. This month we're going to have it on October 26 and it's in Acceler8 by Unionspace, Legazpi, Makati, opens at 3 p.m.

I'm one of the ates (elder sister) in the Youth Ministry. I'm a Youth missionary here in The Feast Bay Area, and also a Campus missionary in De La Salle University.

Students in De La Salle, we invite you to our Youth Missions. We have small groups called Light Groups and we do Bible Studies--because it's better to study when you're in a group.



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# Love Offering



I would like to thank our donors because we cannot do all our programs without your help. We're just part of this big family.

In our *Feast Bulletin*, you will see our Mercy Ministries you get to support.

I just want to share a little story.

Last week, we just started our Bible Study with servants in the Youth Ministry. We've been spending time together to share how the Lord has been changing each one's life for the better. We journey together as we get to know Jesus and explore the path the Lord has for us.

Six years ago, when I was still in college, a Youth missionary ministered to my group, treated us to a family meal-- fed us not just physically but spiritually. That's why I am standing here in front of you today.

I accepted the call of the Lord to be a missionary, to minister to the young people today. Because I believe the young people today are the future of our church.

So, we just want to thank you for your generous heart. Because of your giving, we get to do the ministry. You make us believe that what we are doing is making a change-- blessing many other people. But most of all, you are blessing us too. Because we get to be inspired and we get to appreciate that the Lord called us to serve here and at the same time change our lives as well.

Thank you very much.

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

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

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With that, may I just pray for your Love Offering:

*Dear God, we praise You. We glorify You. We adore You. And we give You thanks for all the blessings that you've been giving us.*

*Lord, whatever is in this envelope is the fruit of our labor. We worked hard for it... Use it Lord so that we can bless more people-- generations and generations to come.*

*We also want to lift the prayer intentions written on these envelopes,*

*as well as our unwritten petitions. You know our hearts and we pray that You continue to bless us more and more. All these we ask through the intercession of our Mother Mary. and in Jesus' Name. Amen.*





# Worship!

**SIS. TISHA CARO:**

Good Morning, Church!

Let's set our eyes on Jesus  
this morning. Are you ready?

We're going to sing a new song.  
We can sing it with our whole heart.

Because our God is faithful.  
He carefully plans when the sun  
is going to rise and when it's going  
to set. He carefully keeps our ground  
together. Keeps it steady and safe.  
He cares about all these things  
in the world.

And He cares about your life.  
He cares about your schedule, and your yearend plans. He cares about your work.  
He cares about all things you care about.

So, whatever it is that you're holding on tightly, you can open your palm,  
do it with me right now, and we can surrender because God cares about you  
the most.

Let's sing this together:







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**BRO. BO SANCHEZ:**

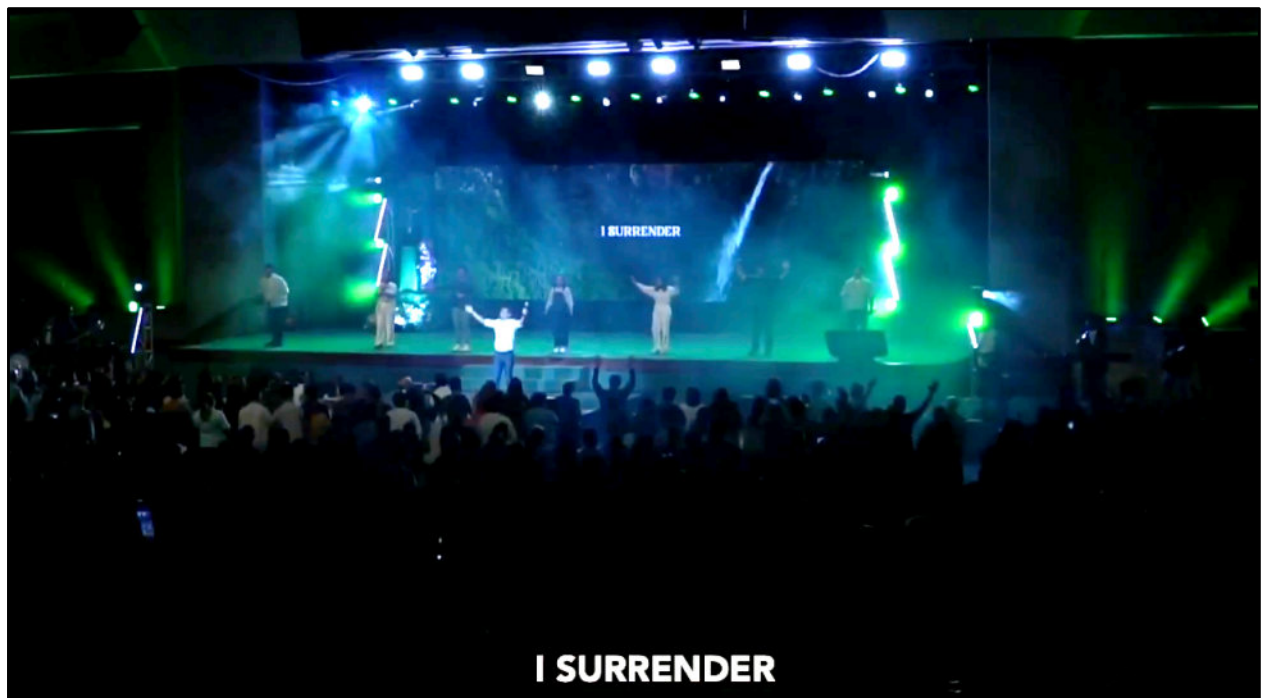
*Heavenly Father, we declare to you our heart waiting. Oh, God, just to be honest with You, it's so difficult to wait. We've come from some place and we're going to another place. We're caught in this in-between season-- waiting, not knowing what's happening, not knowing what we're doing, not knowing what You're doing.*

*And today, we make this choice: that while we're waiting, and not understanding, we surrender. We surrender to You, and Your Will, and Your plan for our life that we do not yet see and we do not understand.*

*We surrender because we declare that You have been faithful to us from time immemorial and to time eternal, You will be faithful.*

My dear Friends, from every side of this hall, from the left to the right, from the back to the front, I want every heart to make this choice-- there is no other choice: Surrender in your time of waiting. Surrender in your time of struggle. Surrender in your time of confusion. Surrender in your time of failure. Surrender in your time of sorrow.


Every heart, say: "I surrender, Jesus!"





# NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

Let us pray our favorite prayer together as a 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.**

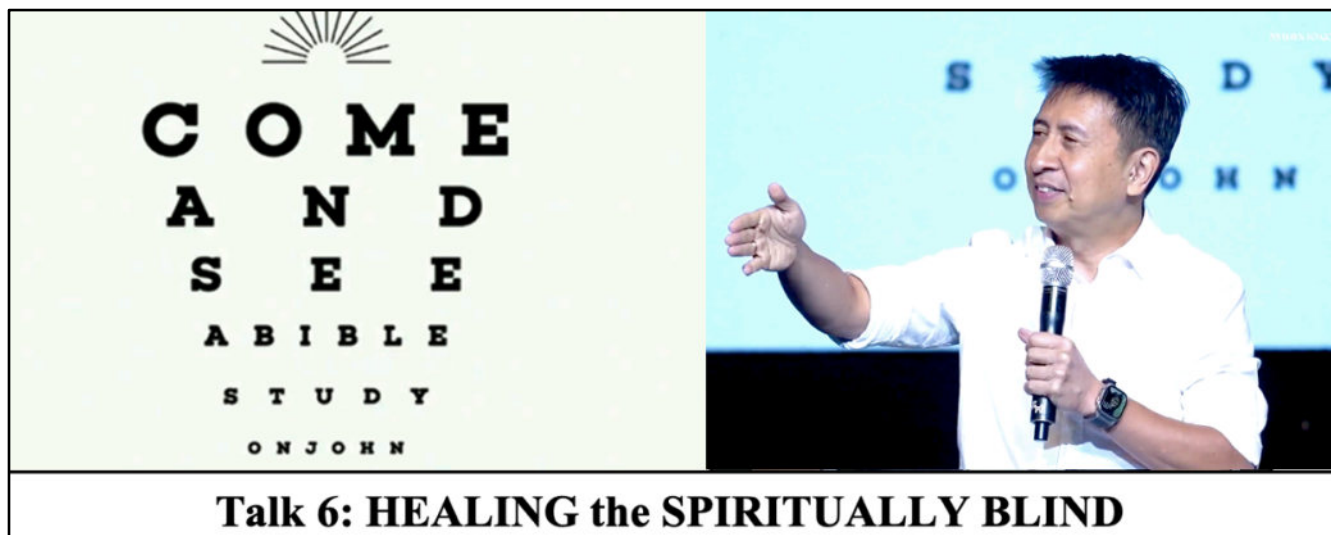
Let's reverence  
the Word of God  
together:

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





# Talk



## **BRO. BO SANCHEZ:**

We're reading The Gospel of John. And I want to preach this Word for you: I want you to see Jesus -- that He is healing you.

**SEE JESUS —  
HE IS  
HEALING YOU!**

How many of you need physical healing? How many of you need relationship healing? How many of you need financial healing? Most of all, how many of you need spiritual healing?

I want you to know that Jesus is here. Jesus is in your life. He really wants you to see Him.

In the Gospel of John, there are seven miracles and we've been going through them Sunday after Sunday after Sunday. John did not call them miracles.

He called them *signs* because signs are important-- but they point to something more important.

We've been talking about five signs already:

1. Turning water into wine at Cana
2. Healing of the official's son in Cana
3. Healing of the paralyzed man in Bethesda
4. Feeding of the 5,000 in Galilee
5. Healing of the blind man

Today, we're going to talk about the healing of the blind man.

This is one of the most fascinating stories.

They're all *signs*. A sign is important--but it points to something even more important.

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## The Sign

What John was saying is that sometimes, we're so caught up in miracles.

What Fr. Albert Garong was talking about is that we're so caught up with the answer to our prayer that we forget about something. It's just a sign and it points to something more.

Way back, 29 years ago, we built Anawim Home for Abandoned Elderly. Way back, 29 years ago, there was no running water there. There was no electricity there. It was all in the boondocks.

It was surrounded by nothing else but grass.

And people were having a hard time going there. So, what we did was we put signboards that showed directions on how to go to Anawim.

Now, I want you to humor me for a while and I want you to imagine the preposterous-- that you're driving to Anawim during that time, 29 years ago... As you're driving there, you see something peculiar. You see a bunch of people beneath a signboard, sitting around it, having a picnic, sipping their coffee, roasting their marshmallows.

You stop by, you go down the car, and you ask them, "What are you doing?"

Then, somebody says, "Oh, we were going to Anawim, but then, we love the signs so much that we decided to linger and stay here."

You tell them, "No, this is just a sign going there!"

Then they say, "Yeah, but we love it here."

It was like John saying, "This is a sign. It's a great sign. It's a great miracle."

How many of you like it when God answers your prayer? We love it, right? How many of you love it when there's a miracle that happens in your life? You love it, right?

But what John, the Gospel writer, was saying is to not get caught up with that and to not stick around it-- because the sign points to the One whose name is Jesus, the Miracle Worker, who will bless you. He is not just wanting to answer your prayer. He just not wants to give you a miracle. He wants to give you Himself, the Miracle Worker, to be the center of your life-- where you give your whole life to Jesus, and you live for Him for all eternity.





## Why We Suffer

So, this is what I want to do: I'm going to be reading just a bit of the Gospel:

John 9:1-2 NABRE

**"AS HE PASSED BY HE SAW A MAN BLIND FROM BIRTH. HIS DISCIPLES ASKED HIM, 'RABBI, WHO SINNED, THIS MAN OR HIS PARENTS, THAT HE WAS BORN BLIND?'"**

This is a very important question. When we suffer, when we go through problems, we ask that question.

A lot of people come up to me and say:

*"Brother Bo, why did I lose my job? Is God punishing me? Why is my wife going through cancer? Maybe, I sinned against God and He's angry at me. Why did my house catch fire? Why did this catastrophe happen? Why did the disaster happen? Is God angry at me?"*

This Gospel story is something like that. Why is this man blind from birth? It's very important why it's stated "from birth". Did He commit a sin that he deserved to be blind? The answer is no. He was born blind. Maybe, his parents sinned against God and so he deserved to be blind.

People believed that all suffering was caused by sin. That was their belief at that time-- and even until today.

Yes, it happens. Sometimes, we suffer the consequences of our actions.

For example, I met a man who would drink two liters of Coke every day. He was doing it for decades. No joke. He was not in a very good place when I met him. He was sick.

I guess partly some of our suffering come from our own sin, or from our own mistakes, or from our own failures-- but not all of them.

In the Old Testament, we have the *Book of Proverbs* which represents that paradigm.

It's very black and white: "You reap what you sow."

You harvest what you plant. Whatever you do in your 20s, you will probably harvest it in your 40s.

But then, there is another book in the Old Testament, the *Book of Job*. We also have the *Book of Ecclesiastes*. These books give you the other paradigm-- that not all suffering come from the sins that you commit. There are some incidents that happen-- and they're not your consequences.

**PEOPLE BELIEVED  
THAT ALL SUFFERING  
WAS CAUSED BY SIN.**



## Punishment... Or Purpose?

Here's my point: Sometimes, good things come because you did some good things. It's true.

As Julie Andrews sings (in the movie *Sound of Music*): *I must have done something good...*

Yet it's not true.

Did the sun shine this morning because you were good? No! It rose and you had nothing to do with it.

In the same way, some bad things happened, and you had nothing to do with them, either.

The *Book of Job* and the *Book of Ecclesiastes* express that:

ECCLESIASTES AND JOB EXPRESS LIFE'S COMPLEXITY.  
THAT LIFE IS UNFAIR EVEN FOR  
THOSE WHO ARE FAITHFUL TO GOD.

THERE'S SOME TRUTH TO THIS PARADIGM.  
THIS IS IN THE BIBLE,  
AND THE BOOK OF PROVERBS REPRESENTS THIS BELIEF.

### John 9: 1-3 NABRE

"NEITHER HE NOR HIS PARENTS SINDED;  
IT IS SO THAT THE WORKS OF GOD  
MIGHT BE MADE **VISIBLE** THROUGH HIM."

SOMETIMES,  
SUFFERING IS NOT ABOUT  
PUNISHMENT BUT PURPOSE.

T R U S T   T H A T  
G O D   W I L L   U S E   Y O U R   P R O B L E M  
T O   R E V E A L   H I S   P O W E R .

Are you going through some suffering, challenge, struggle, problem, crisis right now? If you are, I want you to believe there is a purpose behind that.

Put your hand over your chest. Everybody say:

*"Jesus, come. Empower me. Bless me. Speak to me. I am here not by accident, not by any chance. This is a divine appointment. You want me to be here because You want to speak to me. Change what needs to be changed. Heal what needs to be healed. I want to see You more. In Jesus' Name. Amen."*

This whole idea that when bad things happen it is for *punishment*, is not always true. It's very possible that the bad situation is for a *purpose*.



## Corny Story, Good Lesson

May I be corny here? May I actually gross you out? Is that okay? I shouldn't be talking about these gross things on stage and in front of thousands of people. But I don't care about myself so I might as well embarrass myself.

I'm going to talk about my teeth here -- so it's gross. Many years ago, there was this space between my molar three and molar four, upper right hand of my mouth. It was a perfect space for food particles just to squeeze in. They loved that space. Every time I ate, food particles went there. They would crowd there. It was almost like there was this secret Airbnb (Air Bed and Breakfast) website of spaces between teeth.

The past food particles that entered that space left glowing reviews--like five-star reviews. So, all the food, they liked it there and they stayed there for good. No toothpick would make me dislodge that place. It was that kind of space.

I was so frustrated. I was so irritated. So, I went to my dentist.

But the dentist said, "No. I don't want to touch that. You just have to get a floss."

So, every day, after every meal, I would just use floss. I have a specimen right here. I always put floss in my pocket.

My wife Marowe and I spent some time in Europe visiting our Feasts there. They're enormous. They're amazing. They're beautiful. I'll talk more about them later.

Before I left for Europe, I went to the dentist. I was lying down. This was a new dentist.

The dentist said, "No cavities. It's great! Are you flossing every day?"

I said, "No. I floss after every meal. I have no choice."

As I was going home, I realized my irritation turned out to be a blessing. I've got good teeth. I know it's a micro example and that's crazy to talk about among thousands of people here.

But I really believe that sometimes, the problem that we have, if we just have a good attitude towards it, it turns out to be a benefit.



## A Recreation Story

But let me go serious about it... Like, when you go to the most difficult problems of our lives... Why is it that my wife and I experienced three miscarriages? How can you explain that?

I've served the Lord all my life, ever since I was a teenager-- and this is how God repays us? That we experience three deaths. Even now, I cannot explain that to you. Preachers have no answers.

But what we can do is say: "Lord, I surrender. I'm going to trust you. I'm going to believe that there is a purpose behind this."

Hold someone's hand and tell that person: "Trust in the purpose."

And then the fascinating part in the story is in John 9:6-7:



### John 9:6-7 NABRE

"WHEN HE HAD SAID THIS, HE SPAT ON THE GROUND AND MADE CLAY WITH THE SALIVA, AND SMEARED THE CLAY ON HIS EYES, AND SAID TO HIM, "GO WASH IN THE POOL OF SILOAM" (WHICH MEANS SENT). SO HE WENT AND WASHED, AND CAME BACK ABLE TO SEE."

This is weird. When Jesus heals people, He would just usually say, "Be healed" or "Walk."

Why the theatrical moves? Why the spitting on the ground and making of the clay with His saliva?

Because John was a Bible nerd. He loved the *Book of Genesis*. He was pointing to something that happened in Creation. Let me read it to you:

### Genesis 2:7 NABRE

"THEN THE LORD GOD FORMED THE MAN OUT OF THE DUST OF THE GROUND AND BLEW INTO HIS NOSTRILS THE BREATH OF LIFE, AND THE MAN BECAME A LIVING BEING."

The Bible is deeper than we think it is. I'm telling you: That one moment when Jesus healed this blind man, John was saying that God created the world.

Guess what? God is still recreating you. You are not a finished product. God is still working in your life. This isn't just a healing story. This is a recreation story.

THIS ISN'T JUST  
A HEALING STORY;  
THIS IS A RECREATION STORY.

T O D A Y ,  
J E S U S   W A N T S  
T O   R E C R E A T E   Y O U .

Y O U ' R E   A   H O L Y   W O R K   I N   P R O G R E S S .  
G O D   I S   N O T   F I N I S H E D   W I T H   Y O U  
Y E T .   B E   P A T I E N T   W I T H   Y O U R S E L F .



## Redefining the Sabbath

Parents, how many of you sometimes shout at your kids? How many of you have said to yourself that you won't do it because it's bad for you-- and then you do it, and you're frustrated at yourself.

My message to you is that God is still in your life recreating you.

He's not finished with you yet.

Tell somebody beside you: "Don't be too hard on yourself."

God is doing something powerful in your life.

John 9:8-11 says:



### John 9: 8-11 NABRE

"HIS NEIGHBORS AND THOSE WHO HAD SEEN HIM EARLIER AS A BEGGAR SAID, "ISN'T THIS THE ONE WHO USED TO SIT AND BEG?" SOME SAID, "IT IS," BUT OTHERS SAID, "NO, HE JUST LOOKS LIKE HIM." HE SAID, "I AM." SO THEY SAID TO HIM, "[SO] HOW WERE YOUR EYES OPENED?"

HE REPLIED, "THE MAN CALLED JESUS MADE CLAY AND ANOINTED MY EYES AND TOLD ME, 'GO TO SILOAM AND WASH.' SO I WENT THERE AND WASHED AND WAS ABLE TO SEE." AND THEY SAID TO HIM, "WHERE IS HE?" HE SAID, "I DON'T KNOW."

This is very important. Put your thumb here as we move on...

"THEY BROUGHT THE ONE WHO WAS ONCE BLIND TO THE PHARISEES. NOW JESUS HAD MADE CLAY AND OPENED HIS EYES ON A **SABBATH...**"

We talked about this a while ago. The reason Jesus healed on a Sabbath-- even if "it was not allowed by the leaders"-- was He was trying to redefine *Sabbath*.

"SO THEN THE PHARISEES ALSO ASKED HIM HOW HE WAS ABLE TO SEE. HE SAID TO THEM, "HE PUT CLAY ON MY EYES, AND I WASHED, AND NOW I CAN SEE." SO SOME OF THE PHARISEES SAID, "THIS MAN IS NOT FROM GOD, BECAUSE HE DOES NOT KEEP THE SABBATH."

[BUT] OTHERS SAID, "HOW CAN A SINFUL MAN DO SUCH SIGNS?" AND THERE WAS A DIVISION AMONG THEM. SO THEY SAID TO THE BLIND MAN AGAIN, "WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY ABOUT HIM, SINCE HE OPENED YOUR EYES?" HE SAID, "**HE IS A PROPHET.**"

## Progression of the Man's Replies

The man's first reply was: "I don't know."

The second was: "He's a prophet."

Do you see a progression?

FROM "I DON'T KNOW"  
TO "HE IS A PROPHET."  
HE IS STARTING TO SEE JESUS MORE CLEARLY.

We go on...

John 9:26 NABRE  
"SO THEY SAID TO HIM, "WHAT DID HE DO TO YOU?  
HOW DID HE OPEN YOUR EYES?"

And the man replied:

John 9:27 NABRE  
"I TOLD YOU ALREADY AND YOU DID NOT LISTEN.  
WHY DO YOU WANT TO HEAR IT AGAIN?  
DO YOU WANT TO BECOME HIS DISCIPLES, TOO?"



This is the comedy part of the story.  
He asked the Pharisees, "Do you want to become His disciples too?"

I really believe that when God heals your spiritual eyesight, you start to see the wisdom of God, but you also see the foolishness of the enemy. You see the beauty of God's ways and the ugliness of evil.

The Pharisees said, "You were born totally in sin! Are you trying to teach us? Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him, He found him.

This is one of those healing stories where Jesus had to meet him twice. Usually, the healing is just once. In this story, Jesus met him a second time. Jesus looked for him because in the next chapter, Jesus is the Good Shepherd-- and that's what good shepherds do.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, He found him and said, "*Do you believe in the son of man?*"

He answered, "*Who is he, Sir, that I may believe in him?*"

Jesus said to him, "*You have seen Him. The one speaking with you is He.*"

He said, "*I do believe, Lord.*"

From "I don't know" to "He is a prophet" to "I do believe, Lord."

And what did he do? He worshiped.

## The Three Stages of Spiritual Healing

### Stage 1: 'I Don't Know'

All growth start from the womb of humility.

The man said, "I don't know."

The Pharisees said, "We know this guy. He's fake news. This Jesus dude, He heals on the Sabbath. He's a lawbreaker."

Saying "I don't know" is a good place because you cannot pour liquid into an already full cup.



### Stage 2: 'He is a Prophet'

Do you know that the neighbors of this blind man probably thought that Jesus a prophet too? But then the story does not talk about their conversion or they're following Jesus.

There are people today who admire Jesus, but they do not obey Him. For many people, God is a vendo machine. You go to God because you want a miracle. You go to God because you want a blessing. You go to God because you want an answered prayer.

But will you obey Him? Will you follow Him all the days of your life?

For many people, they just stay in Stage 2.

### Stage 3: 'I Do Believe, Lord'

The word *Lord* is *Kurios* in Greek. It is used for the master of a slave and for the emperor of Rome.

So, calling Jesus "Lord" means that you are to be totally submitted to Jesus.

L O R D = K Y R I O S = M A S T E R O F S L A V E = R O M A N E M P E R O R

I speak God's Word to you.

Stage 1: "I don't know.

Please help me know about Him."

Stage 2: "I admire Him. I think I know Him now."

That's a great place to be but please I want you to cry out and say, "Father, help me move to Stage 3-- where I'm going to obey Him. I'm going to follow Him and I'm going to worship Him."

This is where you need to see Jesus.

W H E R E A R E Y O U  
I N T H E S E  
T H R E E S T A G E S ?





## The Journey

While I was in the Grand Feast in Europe, there were beautiful bunch of people.

And there was this one woman who approached me. She told me her story and it was amazing. Her work was cleaning houses. I think she was working in Spain.

She said, "Brother Bo, do you know that nine years ago, I was desperate? I had a loan of P4,000,000. I wanted to give up on life. What I did was I would watch your video on the phone, and it would give me hope. I would pray with you every day."

That was nine years ago. Today, she's one of our leaders at The Feast.

She said, "Brother Bo, I'm debt-free. I apply your financial teachings. It was a struggle. It was a back-and-forth thing. It took a long time, but I was able to finally pay my debt.

Can everybody say this: "I'm on a journey. I haven't reached my destination yet. This is still unfinished work."

Maybe you are like that woman. You are in debt and it's like sometimes you're moving forward and sometimes you're moving backward. Maybe your struggle is your relationship with your son or with your daughter and you think it's improving one day and then after a while, it's back to struggling.

We are in this journey. We are in this state of in-between. When we are waiting for finally being able to be in Stage 3. When the debt is paid or when the relationship is so much better. But we're not yet there and it is so frustrating.

But here is my message to you: I want you to be where you are and believe that God is in that place. To see Jesus. This is what it is.

John was writing this about a man who's physically blind-- but he was telling everybody that we're all spiritually blind. Many times, we do not see Jesus in the journey because we're complaining that we're here and not there.

The life that you are complaining about is that stage in your life where Jesus is beside you, but you do not see Him. The life that you are complaining about is a life that may not be perfect, but it has so much of God's grace and blessing.

You do not see it. You are not grateful. You do not see Jesus in that stage because you just want to go somewhere else.

You *will* go there. You really will. Jesus will bring you there. But right now, you're here. You've got to accept that at this season in your life, you must be here. If you really begin to think about it, the life that you're complaining about is just really the dream of many people. They want to go to where you are now-- the very place that you're complaining about. You're already there and all you see are the bad things.



## Surrender

What I'm here trying to tell you is that Jesus is where you are right now. He's healing you. He's molding you. If you can only see the Jesus that's working in your life.

*Father in Heaven, we are reporting for duty. Forgive us for not seeing You. Please open our eyes. We want to see you.*

*Father, show me that You're working through my struggles. Show me that You're working through my frustrations. Show me that You are here. You're Present. I believe that in this journey, You will never leave me. You will never abandon me. You will always be present. In Jesus' Name.*

You cannot do it on your own. If you're in Stage 1 or in Stage 2. You cannot move to Stage 3 on your own.

Maybe you feel like you already know Jesus. You studied in a Catholic school. You pray every day.

But you wonder, "Will I really obey Him for the rest of my life? I don't know if I can. I'm confused right now."

Hey, it's okay if you're in that place.

All you must do is say: *"Lord on my own, I cannot do it. But I'm going to surrender to You. You're going to do it for me. I cannot open my own eyes, but You can. I cannot heal whatever is wrong in me spiritually, but You are the Healer. You can heal what needs to be healed in me.*

*Come, Holy Spirit. Come do Your thing. Do what You do best. I'm opening myself to You."*

My dear friends, I invite you to say it boldly. For all of us who need to renew our decision to follow Jesus, even if we know we cannot do it on our own, we're going to say it boldly.

Everybody say: *"Jesus, I can't do this on my own. I can't heal myself. You're the Healer. I'm weak but You're strong. Jesus, Thank You that You will heal me on this day. By Your power, I surrender my whole life to You -- past, present, and future. Do your work in me. Heal me. Change me. Bless me. Empower me. I Surrender.*

*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)

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

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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.

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# **FAMILY ONLINE NEWSMAGAZINE**

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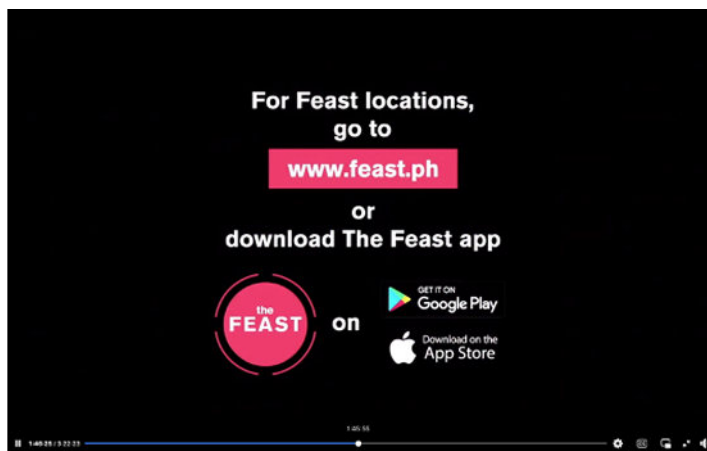




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***Go and make disciples of all men.***

— Matthew 28:19

