



## *Loving the Ingrates*



HAVE you ever experienced giving your love to the full? I'm sure you have, especially to your loved ones, or to those who love you too.

But have you experienced loving and giving your all to someone who doesn't love you back? Ouch! Or worse, have you served and saved someone whom you know will betray you – or will sell you out?

Sounds familiar? That's what Jesus did for His disciples, for His closest of friends – His apostles. He loved them to the end.

John says, "*He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.*" (John 13:1b NABre)

Another way of saying it is, "*he loved them to the fullest extent.*"

He even washed their feet on the night He was betrayed, and these friends of His would run and hide.

And guess who was there too when Jesus washed their feet? The one who betrayed Him – Judas! Not only did He wash Judas's feet too. He even gave him bread during His Last Supper: "*So, he dipped the morsel and [took it and] handed it to Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot.*" (John 13:26 NABre)

Jesus shows us how to love to the fullest extent. He calls us to imitate Divine Love --to be foot-washers, to be a servant to servants, to love until the end – even those who may not and do not love you back. And yes, even the ingrates.

Today, in *The Foot-Washer Who Got Betrayed*, Talk 8 of our deeply moving series, *COME and SEE, A Bible Study on the Gospel of John*, you'll learn and experience again that **JESUS LOVES YOU TO THE VERY END.**

Get ready for another life-changing FEAST!  
Welcome to The FEAST, where *You are Loved!*

*Mayroong Magandang Mangyayari Sa 'Yo!*

**Alvin Barcelona**

**WELCOME**  
**to our ongoing**  
**Feast Talk Series:**  
***COME and SEE***  
**Talk 8:**  
***The Foot-Washer***  
***Who Got Betrayed***

## *Eyes, Right!*

YES, that's a military command to turn the head to the right.

No, this issue of *The FEAST FAMILY* is not about the army. But it's about eyes.

Fr. Kevin Joshua Cosme shared about a strange eye ailment he suffered as he discussed last Feast Sunday Mass Gospel, about our Lord Jesus healing a blind man, Bartimaeus, *page*

Bro. Alvin Barcelona introduced today's Feast Talk 8 of our ongoing Feast Talk Series, *COME and SEE* about *The Foot-Washer Who Got Betrayed*, which sounds like a tearjerker, *page 1*.



Just like last Feast Sunday's Talk 7. Bro. Alvin actually made us teary-eyed when he presented a skit on the story of the death of Lazarus, who made Jesus weep, *page 16*.

Yes, God weeps. And Bro. Bene Sanchez pointed out what that really means to us, as he presented the major part of the Talk, *page 7*.

Yes, we had two preachers because last Sunday was our Grand Feast for the month of October. Yes, it's grand-- and how! You can say it's star-studded as all the Feast Bay Area Builders came in full force, leading major parts of The Feast. So, we gratefully participated in The Feast with tears of joy.

Also joyful last Sunday are the beneficiaries of our Mercy Ministries, particularly Anawim Home for Abandoned Elderly, Jeremiah Foundation for abused minor girls, and Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer. They received donations from Feast Timog led by Bro. Bimbo Leonardo, ably supported by his wife, Sis. Elsa, *page 36*.

Yes, we are an army eyeing, turning to the *right* path of love and mercy for those in need, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ, weeps.

So, we obey when He says, *Eyes, Right!*



All for God's Glory,

**Randy Borromeo**  
Media Ministry  
Executive Director





## Worship!

**BRO. AIO BARCELONA:**

Good Morning, FEAST!

"The LORD is close to the brokenhearted;  
He rescues those whose spirits are crushed."  
- Psalm 34:18



*The Lord is close to the broken-hearted.*

Do you believe that? Do you believe in that bold declaration? All believers make some noise!

This morning, this beautiful Sunday morning, thousand strong, that's not only what we're going to declare.

In Worship, as we open up, as we sing, as we lift our hands, as we dance, as we go crazy for the Lord, we're going to declare not only that statement.

Together, as one Family, with faith and confidence, we're going to declare that His victorious power triumphs over everything and anything in this world!

Together, we're going to declare that His love, His mercy, His grace, His forgiveness overpower sin, shame, anxiety, depression, and whatever that is deep inside our heart that we want to offer and lay down the Cross.

So, whatever it is you're seeking right now, whatever it is that you're bringing, in this Grand Feast, we draw with confidence, and we declare one Name and that Name is Jesus!

Everybody say, "Jesus! Every voice in this room shout, "Jesus!"

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

Every hand, place on your heart, or lift your hands, whatever is comfortable for you. We will come into Worship. We're going to declare the Name of Jesus.

Here we go...



**SIS. ISSA RODRIGUEZ:**

*Father, we place our full confidence and our trust in You. For you've shown us Your glory.*

*You've shown us Your unfailing and faithful love.*

*And so, today, as we continue to worship, we respond in obedience. We give You everything -- even if our everything means just lifting our hands high up in surrender.*

*Even if our hands are empty, Father, if this is all that we could give, we pray, Father, that You receive it. Because You deserve nothing less than all we have to give, nothing less.*

*We pray, Almighty Father...*





# NOVENA TO GOD'S LOVE DECLARATION OF ABUNDANCE

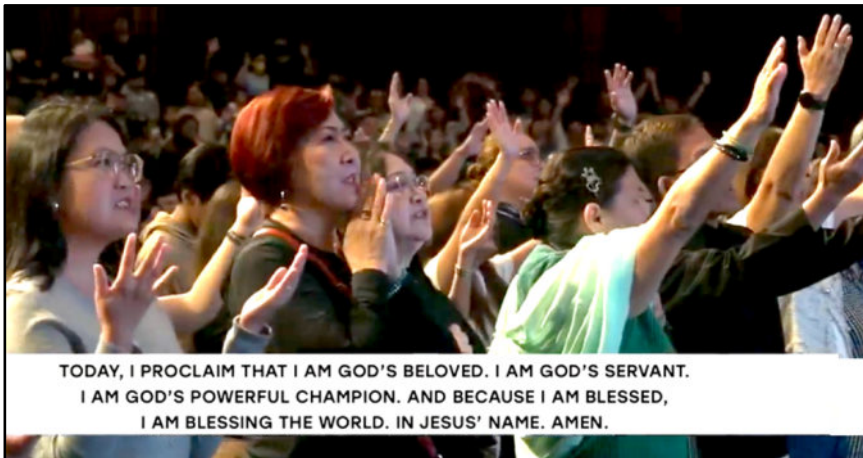
## **BRO. BENE SANCHEZ:**

Come on, let's pray together:

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



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 give a big hand to Jesus!  
He's the Light that shines in the darkness.  
Let's also thank the Worship Team. Thank you, Everyone!

# Talk



## BRO. BENE SANCHEZ:

Good Morning!

May I tell you a secret? Actually, I really don't like preaching. Growing up, I was always compared with my Dad (Bro. Bo Sanchez). So, there's this, I don't know... I just don't like doing it. So, here I am... I do like talking, though. So, be ready, I'm going to talk a lot.

Today, we're going to be talking about Lazarus...\*

Here, the person in the middle is Martha. She's preparing a feast for the Lord.

Then you have Mary who's listening to Jesus (*right side of Martha*).>

Where's Lazarus? We have no idea what he's doing, leaving everything to Mary and Martha.

But today, we're going to be talking about Lazarus.



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\*For those who have not followed our Feast Talk series, here's a background:

Talk 7, *The God Who Grieves*, is part of our series, *Come and See*, about the Gospel of John, presenting the seven miracles, called *signs*, of our Lord Jesus. From Talk 1 to Talk 6, we already went through the six signs-- which are all pointing to the seventh sign—the greatest miracle: The Resurrection of Jesus.

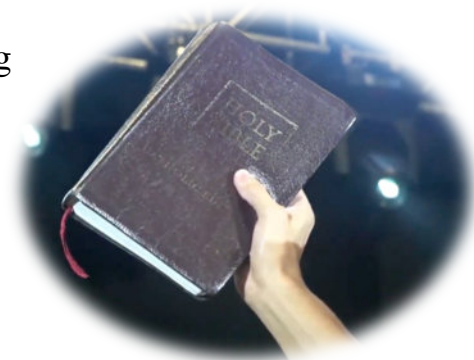
Talk 7 recounts the death of Lazarus, Jesus weeping over losing this friend, but at the same time comforting his sisters, Martha and Mary. -- Editor

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Let's sing together the song  
that we always sing before  
we read the Word:

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



Let's give God a big hand.

I think this is what my Dad says after the song. 😊

So, we're going to be reading from John 11:1:

#### JOHN 11:1-3 NABRE

"NOW A MAN WAS ILL, LAZARUS FROM BETHANY, THE VILLAGE OF MARY AND HER SISTER MARTHA. <sup>2</sup>  
MARY WAS THE ONE WHO HAD ANOINTED THE LORD WITH PERFUMED OIL AND DRIED HIS FEET WITH  
HER HAIR; IT WAS HER BROTHER LAZARUS WHO WAS ILL.  
<sup>3</sup> SO THE SISTERS SENT WORD TO HIM, SAYING, 'MASTER,  
THE ONE YOU LOVE IS ILL.'"

This is one of the most heartfelt stories in the whole Gospel of John.

I want to highlight that line: ***"The one you love."***

Maybe, for some people here, we can feel unloved. We can feel like we're always wondering where God is: *"My life right now is a mess. It's dark. It's crazy."*

But what John reminds us is that Jesus' kind of love was a personal kind of love. It was a kind of love that made Jesus weep over his friend's illness. The way that Jesus loved his friends was a personal, emotional, and a heartfelt kind of love.

The way that Lazarus was loved by Jesus is the same way that Jesus loves you and me. That's a truth that we want to meditate on today. Pray with me:

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

*Jesus, we want to open ourselves to that love. Help us see that despite our situation and despite whatever we may be going through, Your love is the constant faithful assurance that we can lean on and hope on. Help us experience Your love today. In Jesus' Name.*

*In the Name of the Father, and of the son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*





## Symmetrical Story

Let's give God a big hand because He deserves it. He's good.

I don't like preaching, but I really love the Gospel of John. I think it's worth talking about. So, let's do it.

I want to show you this chart:

A	Lazarus dies and Jesus delays in going to Bethany (11:1-19)
B	Martha comes out to Jesus (11:20-22)
C	Jesus talks with Martha about the resurrection (11:23-27)
B	Mary comes out to Jesus (11:28-32)
A	Lazarus is raised from the dead (11:37-46)

The way that the Gospel of John organized this section of the story of Lazarus is in a beautiful symmetrical design.

I don't know if you were here when we discussed the First Talk on the Gospel of John. We kind of talked about how John loves symmetry and how he loves putting items in order.

This story is ordered in a symmetrical way.

The first part of the story of Lazarus is about how Jesus received the news that His friend Lazarus was very sick-- and he died. Jesus was going to go to Bethany, the village where Lazarus and his sisters lived.

The second part, in the middle of the story, is about when Martha, one of the two sisters, welcomed Jesus. We have Jesus talking with Martha about the Resurrection which is super cool.

Then, we have Mary coming out, asking Jesus a very painful question: "Where were You, Jesus?"

Is there anybody here who asked that question before?

"Where were you Jesus when I needed You? When I was going through this crisis? When I was praying and praying that you would do something, but I just didn't feel you're here?"

Mary and Martha asked the same question.

They told Jesus, "If only you were here earlier. If only you weren't four days late..."



## Symmetrical Parts

By the time that Jesus would make it to Bethany, Lazarus was already in the tomb for four days. So, Mary and Martha brought the same painful question to Jesus. But at the end of this whole story--spoiler alert--Lazarus was going to be raised to life.

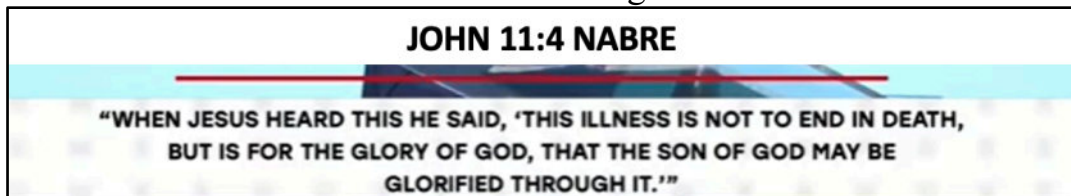
Do you see the symmetry the first part of this story?

**First Part:** It's about Lazarus and his sickness and his death in focus and how it troubled and brought grief to Jesus.

**Second Part:** The second segment, the two **B** sections are about the two sisters bringing their painful and difficult question to Jesus: "Where were you?"

**Middle Part:** In the middle, we have Jesus talking about the Resurrection.

The **First Part** and the **Last Part** match: The First Part is about Lazarus's illness and the Last Part is about Lazarus being resurrected.



The story of Lazarus is interesting because it's right in the middle of the Gospel of John.

For the past couple of Sundays, we've been talking about all these different *signs*. Do you remember when Jesus turned the water into wine? Last Sunday, we talked about how Jesus made a blind man from birth see.

Lazarus is going to be the sixth sign. All these signs are pointing to the seventh sign: Jesus' Cross and Resurrection.

This sixth sign is smack in the *middle* of the whole Gospel. It's almost like a hinge of a door where the story is about to turn-- from Jesus doing these *signs* to the *second half* of the Gospel of John where Jesus was going to fulfill His Passion and Resurrection. He was going to bring glory to the Father.

So, it's very important to highlight this: that even in this terrible moment where Lazarus was sick, where Lazarus's family was distraught and experiencing grief, they're wondering where Jesus was.

Jesus already foresaw that through this darkness, God's light is going to shine through. God's glory is going to be fulfilled through this.

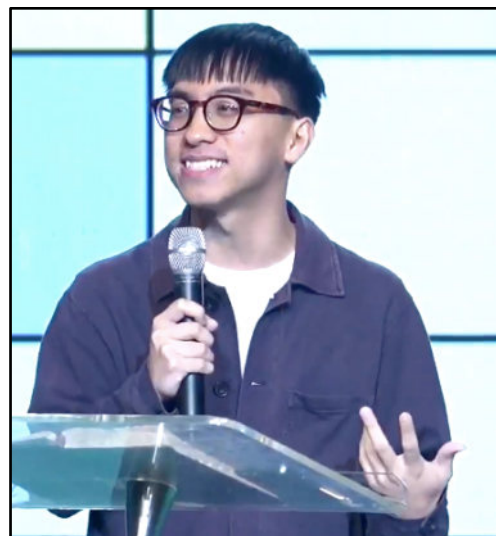
## Hope Amid Grief

I find it so fascinating that the middle of the Gospel of John is a story about grief.

Grief is something that we all have probably experienced. Grief is how we process some of the most illogical and senseless experiences in our life-- such as when we lose a loved one, when we lose our job, and when things spiral out of control. Grief helps us express our deepest longings, the ones that we don't have words for.

What's so interesting is that Jesus experienced this grief. He experienced the same pain that we experience.

Somehow, John is going to show how, despite all the trouble, darkness, and grief, Jesus' hope of the Resurrection can be found in the *middle*.



### JOHN 11: 5-6 NABRE

"NOW JESUS LOVED MARTHA AND HER SISTER AND LAZARUS.

\* SO WHEN HE HEARD THAT HE WAS ILL, HE REMAINED FOR TWO DAYS IN THE PLACE WHERE HE WAS."

Now, I know that you are thinking that it doesn't really make sense, right?

If I heard that my friend was sick, I would drop everything right then and there to go and visit that friend. If I heard that my best friend was in the hospital, I would cancel all my plans and go there.

But for some reason, Jesus waited for two days to go to Lazarus. Why did He do that?

We do have to mention that there was one reason Jesus would not want to go to Bethany. Let's read:

### JOHN 11:7-8 NABRE

"THEN AFTER THIS HE SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES, "LET US GO BACK TO JUDEA." \* THE DISCIPLES SAID TO HIM, "RABBI, THE JEWS WERE JUST TRYING TO STONE YOU, AND YOU WANT TO GO BACK THERE?"

Bethany was a few kilometers away from Jerusalem-- about a mile or 3 kilometers. Jesus wasn't so hot with the religious leaders. Actually, at this point in the story, the religious leaders had tried to capture or kill Jesus 12 times. The last time that they were there, it was the most intense because they had already picked up stones and they were ready to stone Jesus.

But somehow, Jesus was able to escape.

## Why Jesus Was 'Late'

Despite the danger, Jesus, upon hearing that His friend was sick, planned to go back to Bethany.

This would have been a perfect opportunity for Jesus to do a remote healing.

I think this would have been the perfect situation for Mary and Martha to open the Zoom and let Jesus in from the waiting room.

Jesus can pray over Lazarus online and even send a healing emoji. He could have healed Lazarus like how He healed a centurion's servant: *Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed.*" (Matthew 8:8)

But that's not what Jesus did. Jesus went there in person-- even if it would cost Him His life. That's how much Jesus loved Lazarus. He had to visit Lazarus's family.

But when we get to this part, we find the bad news: Was Jesus too late? Why didn't He come earlier?

Here's the thing: Even if He wanted to, it took about two days to travel from the region of Jordan, where He was staying, to Bethany. Lazarus was already dead and was in the tomb for four days. By the time that the messenger walked from Bethany and reached Jordan where Jesus was staying, Lazarus possibly would have already died.

Though this still doesn't answer the question why Jesus waited.

I don't think we'll ever know-- but that's just how it is. We don't know why sometimes God is silent, why we experience suffering, why we experience setbacks, and why we face disappointments.

But God invites us to bring these disappointments to Him.

That's why when Martha faced Jesus, she brought to Him her painful question.>

When Jesus would see Mary later, she would ask Him the same question.

Why didn't Jesus go earlier? Couldn't He have felt that Lazarus was getting sick, and couldn't He find a way to change His itinerary to be in Bethany four days earlier? Or, couldn't He have healed Lazarus from afar?

It can feel like that when our situation has gone too far-- that it's too late, that the train has gone so off the tracks, that there's no going back.

But we'll see God's ability to move and work in our lives is bigger and larger than we can possibly imagine.



JOHN 11:17 NABRE

"WHEN JESUS ARRIVED, HE FOUND THAT LAZARUS HAD ALREADY BEEN IN THE TOMB FOR FOUR DAYS."

JOHN 11:21 NABRE

"MARTHA SAID TO JESUS, 'LORD, IF YOU HAD BEEN HERE, MY BROTHER WOULD NOT HAVE DIED.'"

## What Jesus Says

**JOHN 11:23-27 NABRE**

**"JESUS SAID TO HER, "YOUR BROTHER WILL RISE."  
24 MARTHA SAID TO HIM, "I KNOW HE WILL RISE,  
IN THE RESURRECTION ON THE LAST DAY."**

Martha was kind of saying,  
"Jesus, I'm a Jew. You're a Jew. We believe that at the end, God is going to come and He's going to resurrect everyone. Why are you bringing this up in the middle of the funeral?"

What Martha didn't realize was that she was speaking face-to-face with the Author of life.

This is what Jesus tells her:



**JOHN 11:23-27 NABRE**

**25 JESUS TOLD HER,  
"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE; WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME, EVEN IF HE DIES, WILL LIVE,  
26 AND EVERYONE WHO LIVES AND BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER DIE. DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?"**

Our view of God can be so limited. We already think He can't do it.

Does anybody here pray safe prayers? When a storm comes, we don't ask God to send the storm away. We pray for God to keep us safe because somehow, we've been conditioned to be disappointed when we come before God and bring our prayers. We don't pray bold prayers and that's just logical.

I think we can empathize with Martha. Nobody is expecting when somebody dies. Nobody expects him to be raised to life especially if the corpse has been rotting in the tomb for four days.

But what this story is trying to put in front of us is that maybe, just maybe, our view of what God can do is so small compared to who God actually is.

It's not that we don't think that He can do it. Maybe deep down, we feel like He *doesn't care*-- or that our concerns don't matter as much to Him in the grand scheme of things.

But in this Gospel, Jesus was telling Martha: "I am willing and that I have the power to change the fabric of reality."

We know that Jesus had come to confront death itself.

**JESUS HAS THE POWER TO REWRITE  
THE FABRIC OF REALITY AND CAN  
EVEN CONFRONT THE POWER OF DEATH.**

## Where You Meet God

So, Martha says:

**JOHN 11:23-27 NABRE**

**27 SHE SAID TO HIM, "YES, LORD. I HAVE COME TO BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE THE MESSIAH, THE SON OF GOD, THE ONE WHO IS COMING INTO THE WORLD."**

There's a shift in Martha's disposition. That's when she would call Mary who would come and tell Jesus the exact same thing. Except that Mary fell to her feet and she started weeping.

You can see the difference in personalities. Martha is the strong and stoic, and the avoidant. Martha is the more logical one and Mary is the more emotional one. But God meets them both.

The truth is God is never late in your life. He will show up at just the right time.

And it was in Mary and Martha's deepest grief where Jesus met them and offered them a hope. A hope that is bigger than they can possibly imagine or understand. He just asked them to trust.

If there's anything that I want you to remember in this talk, it is this: Your deepest grief becomes your meeting place with God.

After Jesus talked to Mary, she asked Him the painful question again.

Jesus asked her, "Where have you laid him?"

Mary said, "He's in the tomb. It's been four days and it kind of stinks already."

They didn't have all the advanced embalming technology that they have in the morgue now.

When Jesus saw the tomb, He wept.

This is the God of the universe. This is the God who breathed life into man and yet when He came face-to-face with the tomb of His dear friend, He wept.

I love how Jesus is portrayed both as the God of life and as a God who grieves over death. He's weeping because when He sees Lazarus' tomb, He knows that one day, He would be in a tomb just like this one. Even with the foreknowledge of Resurrection, it doesn't make it any less bitter.



**YOUR DEEPEST  
GRIEF BECOMES  
YOUR MEETING  
PLACE WITH JESUS.**

## In the Middle of Our Grief...

Going to the place where Lazarus was buried-- within the territory of His enemies -- would probably be the reason Jesus would also end up in a tomb.


This wasn't some private affair.

John notes multiple times that there was a crowd that came all over Jerusalem to visit Lazarus. Lazarus was an important guy. He had a lot of friends, and they all came to pay respects to Lazarus.

As I mentioned a while ago, Jesus was kind of a Public Enemy Number One in the eyes of the Pharisees. If Jesus was trying to keep a low profile, the last thing He would want to do was to go to a funeral full of people-- and perform a resurrection.

I don't know about you, but I think a resurrection would be really difficult to hide. But even knowing that, Jesus came to save His friend, the one He loved.

Jesus is the God of life and He's a God who grieves. He's a God who understands our deepest sorrows. I don't know what you came here in The Feast feeling or bringing with you, but I want you to know this:



A	Lazarus dies and Jesus delays in going to Bethany (11:1-19)
B	Martha comes out to Jesus (11:20-22)
C	Jesus talks with Martha about the resurrection (11:23-27)
B	Mary comes out to Jesus (11:28-32)
A	Lazarus is raised from the dead (11:37-46)

The whole story, that this chart shows, is surrounded with grief.

When Jesus heard about Lazarus' sickness, He was deeply troubled. When He listened to Martha and Mary's grief, it made Him weep.

But in the middle of the story (*part C in the chart*), we find the promise of Resurrection.

In the middle of our grief Jesus promises you and me that He is the Author of Life, that He is the Resurrection, and that we can trust-- even if it blows the laws of Physics into smithereens-- that God is bigger and greater, and He can do more than we could possibly imagine.

With tears in His eyes but with full confidence, Jesus spoke to the corpse, the lifeless Lazarus.

He said, "Lazarus, come out!"

## *Join the Resurrection!*

### **BRO. ALVIN BARCELONA:**

Many ask: "Where is God during storms?"

Make no mistake about it. God is always in control. God is the god even of the storm, of the raging winds, of the flood. God is God even in the darkness. But wait... More than that, God is the God of light, of life, of new beginnings, of a new morning, of a new dawn.

God is the god of Resurrection.

Yet, God also grieves. That's why in this Feast, we speak about the God who grieves. Because God respects the flow of nature. God acknowledges human experience and reality. He does not skip that.

Yesterday, I was watching the news. We need to thank the Lord that we are safe, but we also need to know the situation of those who were affected by the typhoon. It's heartbreaking. There was one father in Talisay, Batangas. His house was at the foot of the mountains. Due to the landslide, he lost not only his home but his entire family. I can't imagine how he feels.

Where is God in times like these? God is crying with you.

It continues to be a mystery. Human suffering continues to be a mystery.

We cannot fully explain and understand-- yet we have clues of why it happens. Maybe, one of the reasons is in the midst of your safety, God is inviting you to empathize with those who suffer.

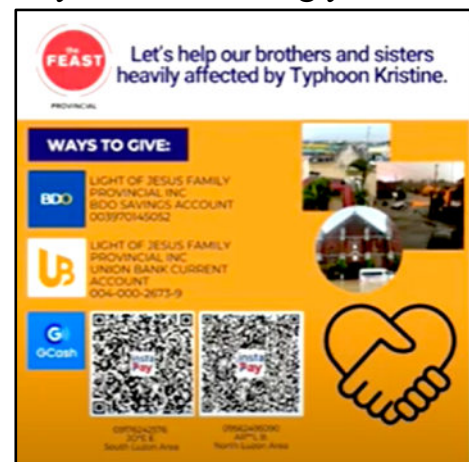
We are invited by God to join in the Resurrection. God will heal. God will restore -- but God is also inviting you to be part of the process.

That's why we in the Light of Jesus, in The Feast, promptly respond to the calls for help.

The Feast Provincial which takes care of Feasts outside Metro Manila, immediately gave assistance to places affected by the storm-- like Bicol and Batangas.

We have ongoing fund drives and relief campaigns. If you want to help, we are flashing details onscreen. You can give directly to the account of Feast Provincial and we will easily and quickly share this to those urgently in need. You can also deposit your donation in the GCASH accounts of The Feast leaders and builders of South Luzon, Bicol, Batangas, or North Luzon.

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## Jesus' Revelation

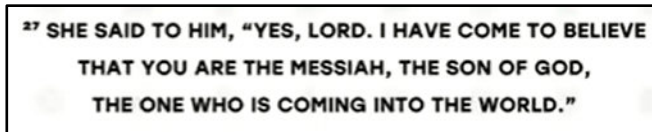
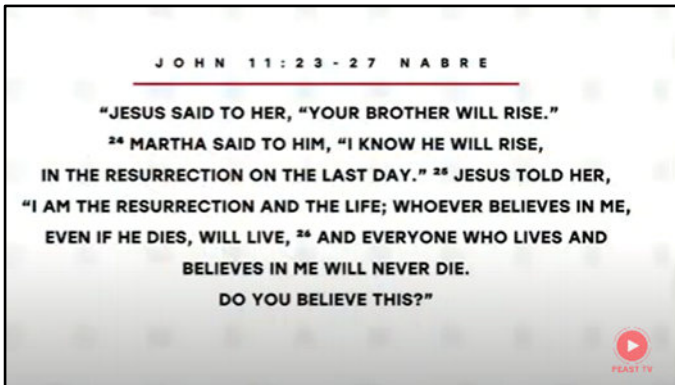
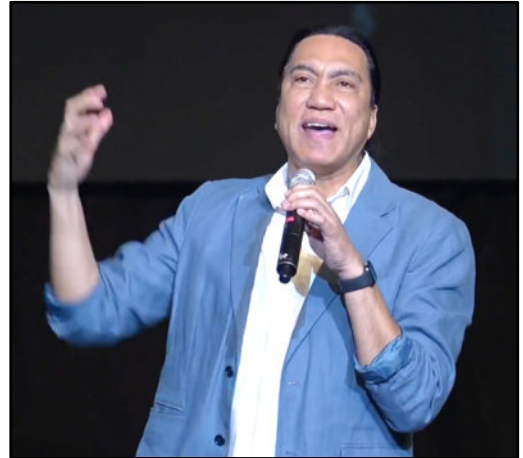
Once again, welcome to The Grand Feast. If you were blessed by Bro. Bene Sanchez's preaching, please give a big round of applause!

While Bene and I were preparing this talk, he thought that he would only do the intro. I told him to be the one to preach the entire talk and I would just sing because people always ask me what I would sing. If I don't, people would be disappointed.

But I want you to know that aside from Bro. Bo, Bene is one of those who create the talks that we give at The Feasts throughout the world every Sunday. Bene is one of the Bible Nerds. I told Bene that since he helps with creating the talks, he might as well start preaching. We were so blessed by Brother Bene. Thank you, Bene. We should hear more of you.

Bro. Bene masterfully showed us how genius John is in presenting the Gospel. Nothing there is by accident or by chance. He really put everything in order.

And what did Bro. Bene say about what's in the middle of the story of Lazarus? This we read in John 11:23-27, about Lazarus and his sisters Martha and Mary. Here, Jesus is talking with Martha:



This is what's in the middle-- where Jesus reveals that He is the God of the Resurrection. The revelation is in the middle of the story about Death and Resurrection.

What is this showing? What did Bene say about why, in the Symmetrical Presentation, this revelation is in the middle?

This is what John says: Your deepest grief becomes your meeting place with Jesus.





WHEN YOU HIT  
ROCK BOTTOM  
YOU MEET  
THE ROCK - JESUS!

SOMETIMES, SUFFERING IS NOT  
ABOUT PUNISHMENT  
BUT PURPOSE.

## Purpose... Not Punishment

In your most painful experience, when you're in your deepest suffering, that's where you will meet Jesus.

That's why I always say, when you hit rock bottom, you meet the Rock: Jesus!

I'm sure most of us here have hit our rock bottom.

I've reached my rock bottom with physical, financial, and family problems. I'm sure you've had your own share too. We've had problems with our parents, children, siblings, business, job... or you've been buried in debts... or a member of your family suffered serious illness... It's hard to get sick-- aside from being lonely you don't have money. So painful.

But every time you go through those problems, that's where you meet Jesus.

What did we learn in our past talks?

Last Sunday, we learned that most of the time, suffering is not about *punishment*.

It is about *purpose*.

So, what did Bene point out about what the Bible says-- why these trials happen?

The *signs*, as John calls the *miracles*, point you to the Glory of God.

Why do these incomprehensible, senseless, illogical incidents happen?

Sooner or later, they will point you to God's glory.

That's why the title of the entire series is *COME and SEE*.

But this is interesting: Remember, earlier, Martha and Mary welcomed Jesus who arrived to save Lazarus whom He loved. And they said if Jesus was with them earlier, He would have saved Lazarus from death.

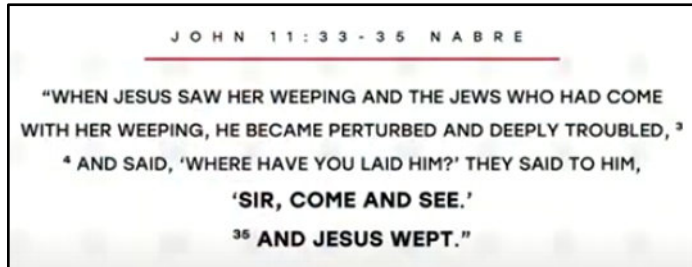


## Jesus Weeps with You



In John 11:33-35, Jesus was talking with Martha.

Now, here, in John 11:23-27, Jesus was talking with Mary who was weeping:



The Jews said to Jesus, *Sir, COME and SEE.*

Jesus wants *you* to COME and See, the Glory of God.

This man, whoever he is, tells Jesus, *COME and SEE.*

And what did Jesus see?

*Suffering. Grief. Loss. Pain.*

When He saw these, Jesus wept.

The shortest verse in the Bible is found in John 11:35: *Jesus wept.*

In Tagalog, *si Hesus, nanangis.* Jesus did not just cry. He sobbed.

He cried because aside from loving Lazarus, He felt the suffering.

So, Jesus is saying, *COME and SEE my glory.*

But we say, *COME and SEE our suffering.*

And Jesus wept.

Think about this. Jesus and Martha spoke with each other already. Jesus told Martha that He is the Resurrection. It only meant that He had plans of resurrecting Lazarus. But why did He still weep?

Even if Jesus knew that He would resurrect Lazarus, He does not skip that process of grieving.

It's okay not to be okay. I know I will be okay but now that I am not yet okay, let me be. Let me just emote☺ No shortcut.

You know, when I was just new in the Charismatic Community, when someone died, we told the grieving family, "Don't cry. He's already with the Lord. Let's rejoice! Let's sing, "Alive, alive!"

He's already dead, and we still sang "Alive!"

We took the shortcut to mourning.

Jesus did not take the shortcut. He allowed Himself to cry.

So He could show you: "Even as I would bring back the dead man to life, still, for now, I'll grieve with you."

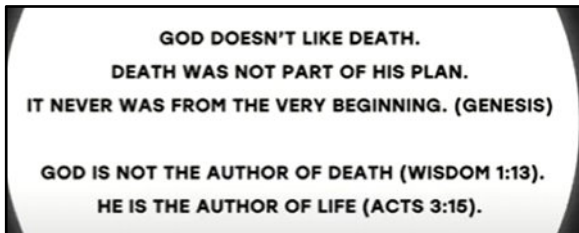
That's why Jesus is Messiah...It sounds like the Tagalog *masaya-- happy*☺

## ***COME and SEE***

If Jesus wept, it only means that it's okay to be sad and to cry. But don't stay there. Because after the grieving, comes the resurrection.

That's why I say, go through problems-- not skip through them. Because every problem is telling you something.

Jesus invites you to a process that He Himself went through so that you know that when you suffer, God weeps with you. Even if God will one day turn your sorrows into joy, your mourning will turn to dancing, your suffering still breaks His heart. When you die, God will grieve too. Yet, just like He did for Lazarus, know that Jesus will raise you on the last day.



Yet, He knows the process. God will weep with you. Why?

He meets you where you are.

I love that thought.

I love that truth.

I have been a teacher for a long time. As a teacher, you bring your students to a place of added knowledge and wisdom. But as a teacher, you don't expect them to progress quickly. We must go down to their level first.

Sometimes, I am being asked why I have a lot of drama like singing, storytelling, and acting when I preach.

But that is how Jesus is. He likes to tell stories:

*Look at the birds in the sky... Look at the flowers in the field...*

*The Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed...*

*Once there was a father who had two sons..."*

Jesu is not in a hurry. He goes where you are.

Bene was right. Jesus could have just saved us through Zoom.

With Jesus just staying in Heaven, we'd already be okay. He invited us to *COME and SEE* God's glory. But He also listened to our plea to *COME and SEE* our suffering.

So, from Heaven, He went down so He can *see* you... so He can know your dreams... so He can empathize with your failures...

If you have been betrayed, you know that Jesus will understand you because He experienced that. When you lost everything, Jesus will understand because He went through it. When you cry, He cries with you. He knows where you're coming from.

## Jesus Shows His Glory

We, as teachers, can't just start and end with storytelling. After you got the students' attention through your story, hold their hand and bring them to where they want to be.

That's what Jesus did. He met you where you are. He came down. He listened to you. He entered your world.

He held your hand and said, "I understand you. We are going somewhere that's more beautiful."

Jesus fetched you so that when He weeps with you, He will wipe away your tears. He meets you where you are, but He will bring you to where you should be.



After Jesus wept, He goes to the tomb of Lazarus. *Here*, a cave, and a stone lay across it.

Mary and Martha greet Him, crying: "If only you came earlier, this wouldn't have happened."

But Jesus tells them again, "Believe."

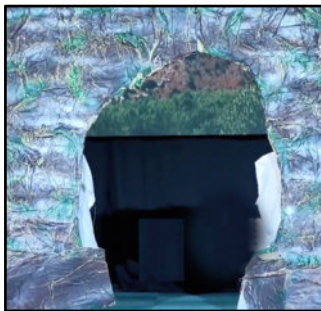
Jesus goes to Lazarus' place and tell

the people who are grieving as well,

"Take away the stone."

There is a time for grieving.

There is a time for weeping but there is a time for Jesus to show you His glory.

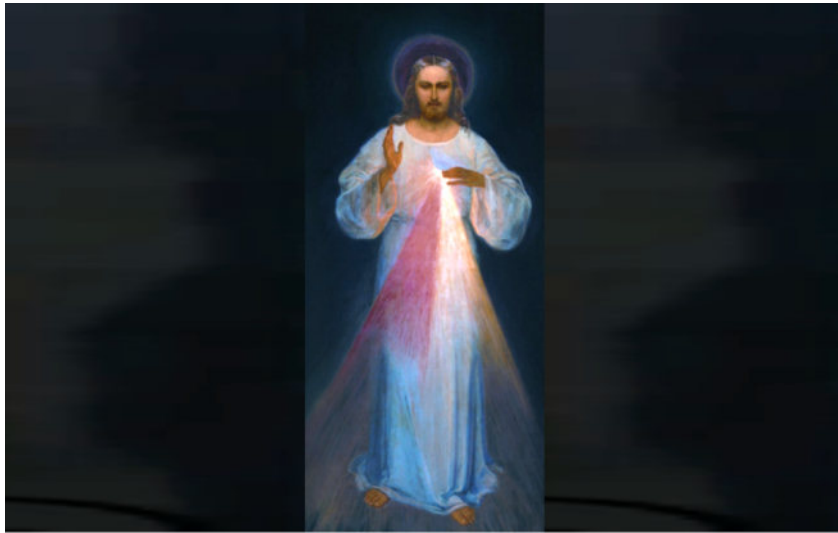


When Jesus sees the stone is out, He cries out, "Lazarus come out! Lazarus come forth!"

Lazarus comes out alive!



Jesus tells the people, "Untie him. Let him go!"



## Our Resurrection

Today, Jesus asks you to be part of healing and of restoration, of freedom from death.

Today, Jesus is calling you to meet Him, the One who loves you and calls you His beloved friend.

Meet the one who weeps when you weep. Meet the One who will one day raise you on the last day. He raised Lazarus to life. He Himself rose from the dead. Lazarus was raised from the dead. Jesus rose from the dead.

This was a preview to the greatest *sign* of all. In Lazarus's case, the stone had to be rolled out. But to Jesus, the stone had already been rolled away.

Somebody had to unwrap the burial clothes of Lazarus. But in Jesus' case, the burial clothes had already been rolled up.

Lazarus was raised to life, but eventually, he died again. When Jesus rose from the grave, death had lost its sting. He is the Lord of Life.

*Jesus is your Resurrection.* He will wipe your tears. You won't weep again.

I invite you to put your hands close to your hearts and let us thank the Lord for meeting us where we are. God understands our sorrow, our depression, our pains, and our hurts. He went through that. When you weep, He weeps with you. But again, we thank the Lord that He doesn't let us stay there. He respects the process. He grieves with us. But God is the God of hope. After we weep, there is hope in our broken relationships, in our sickness, in our debts, and in our brokenness. Even in death, there is a promise of Resurrection.

*Thank You, dear Lord, that You are the God who grieves,  
and You are the God of new beginnings. You are our Resurrection.*

Come, let us Worship the Light of the World!



**BRO. RYAN CAPITULO:**

JESUS, Light of the World, in our darkness, wrought by calamities, disasters, Shine Your Light that we may have hope to rebuild what was broken and regain what we lost.

Jesus, Light of the World, in our darkness wrought by sickness, Shine Your Light that gives us healing and restoration of our health.

Jesus, Light of the World, in our darkness, brought about by broken relationships, Shine Your Light that gives us the grace that gives us the humility to reach out to others to mend our broken relationships with families and loved ones.

Jesus, Light of the World, in our darkness brought by uncertainties and challenges, Shine Your Light that makes everything clear.

Shine Your Light that illuminates our path toward our achieved dreams , toward our success, our prosperity, and service.

Jesus, Light of the World, Shine Your Light upon each and every one of us.



# Commitment

## **BRO. AUDEE VILLARAZA:**

I want to lead everybody right now, before the Presence of the Lord, so that you would have life with Jesus today.

If you need Jesus right now, I want you to put your hand over your heart. I want to encourage you, if this is your first time to do this, Heaven is going to celebrate today.

We celebrate this day with you and we're coming back to the Lord today. This is your party right here in this place.

I want you to know, my dear Friends, that there is a joy for every sorrow that you bring. There is strength for every weakness that you have. There is a light for every darkness that you go through, and there is a grace that is greater than the grief that you carry. Because we have Jesus.

Say this with me:

*Jesus, I am a sinner, in need of a savior. And right now, I need you. I believe that You are the Son of God. And I believe that you came I to this world to rescue me and raise me to life. And I Thank You that You walk with me, that You know my pain, and that right now, You are changing me.*

*I need You, oh, Lord. Give me a new heart and a brand-new start. And I promise You that from this day on, You will be my God.*

*Thank You, Jesus. Be the Light in my darkness.*

*In Jesus' Name I pray. Amen.*





## Love Offering

**BRO. LEP SUMERA, Builder, Feast Manila:**

Come on, don't stop praising Jesus. Love Him. Amen and Amen and Amen.

One thing I realized is it's so good to have a place where the Lord will bring you back to life. And if you're that person who is blessed today, receive the message. Look for seven persons around you and share the Love of God. Come on. Give them a Hi-5. Hug them.

One more time, let's applaud the Lord,  
*Thank You, Jesus for Your Light, for Your Love. Hallelujah!*



I agree with Bro. Alvin that we should have more of Bene. We, the Millennials, were able to relate 😊

I have two messages to share.

First, we gave you a letter about prayers for our faithful departed. We're encouraging you to write the names of your departed loved ones on your Love Offering envelope. And rest assured we will pray for them.

Second, I love our message today. Bro. Alvin gave a good message: That in the process of the Resurrection, bringing someone to life, *we are involved.*

I love that we are a part of something that is beautiful. That's what we're doing here at The Feast. One way or another, at one time or another, you were the one who needed resurrection. Amen?

And now, you're here-- brought to life! And now, you're the one being asked by God: It's your turn to help others. It's your turn to help others to get out from their situation of "death."

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### **We Got Involved**

Quickly, I'd like to share with you what's happening in Feast Manila. We had a great event yesterday, an empowering seminar on mental health, titled *Kaya Ko Ba?* (*Can I Do It?*) We were surprised by the response -- 90+ attended.

It was also a fundraising event because you know, Feast Manila, we need help with our finances.

Friends, we were able to raise P30,000.00 which was enough for our project.

We want to have a Christmas Worship Night that will attract young people. We hold Feast Manila on Saturdays. We now have enough for a Friday event.

But the storm happened which affected provinces where we have Feasts.

I love our servant leaders in Feast Manila. They told me, "Kuya Lep, we were able to receive funds. What if we give also?"

So, of the P30,000 we raised, we are giving P10,000 to our Feast Provincial sector, for those in need.

Because we need to be involved-- that's the message today.

We should stop the consumer mindset-- that we just have to receive. No.

The Catholic knows how to give, right? That's who we are.

I need to say that to remind us that God loves us-- that's why we really need to love, to give to others.

So, now, I am back to my problem-- I have less funds☺

How many of you believe that our God is a God of More? How many believe God is not yet done in your 2024? How many believe that more blessings are still coming this year? How many would love to be surprised with blessings before this year ends?

So, I'm going to tell you this story. Listen, I lacked P10,000. A Feast Manila servant messaged me: "Kuya, how much is our rent in our venue?"

I was intrigued. Why was he asking about our rent?

So, I told him P13,000 to P14,000 per month.

The servant said, "Kuya, I will take care of one-month rent for Feast Manila."

I was teary-eyed. I told God, "Lord, I was just starting to be anxious about our finances, but the solution is already in Your heart."

I just needed P10,000, but our donor was giving me P13,000. And so, I got back my P10,000 plus P3,000 more.

So, I thanked him profusely and told him about our Christmas Worship plan.

Then, he said, "Bro, I'm taking back my donation for the rent."

I was beginning to be desperate again, when he added: "I will take care of your entire funds for your Christmas project."

## Bringing People Back to Life

Last night, the man came to me and gave me a thick envelope.

I told God, *“Lord, this is going to be a seed that will bless young people who are dead with their dreams, dead with their relationships, dead inside, thinking there’s no one there for them.*

*Lord, this is us saying we want to be involved in Your mission.*



Do you want to be involved in God’s mission? How many times that your friend is crying here at The Feast? How many times you see someone around you that some here are going through something?

I think the Lord is telling is now it’s time to be involved.

Friends, this is the Grand Feast. I challenge you: give a Grand Giving.

Lift your Offering to the Lord, and repeat after me:



*Jesus, I give this to You. Use it as a seed to bring people back to life. And Lord, I pray, may You please bless me more because I really want to give more. I want to be involved. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.*

With smiles, my Friends, let us give to Jesus.

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

 Amarillo Lay Ministries Foundation, Inc.	 Grace to be Born Maternity Home and Nursery	 Ho Care Foundation Street Children Caring Center	 Jeremiah 33:6-7 Foundation	 Pagapasang Family 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

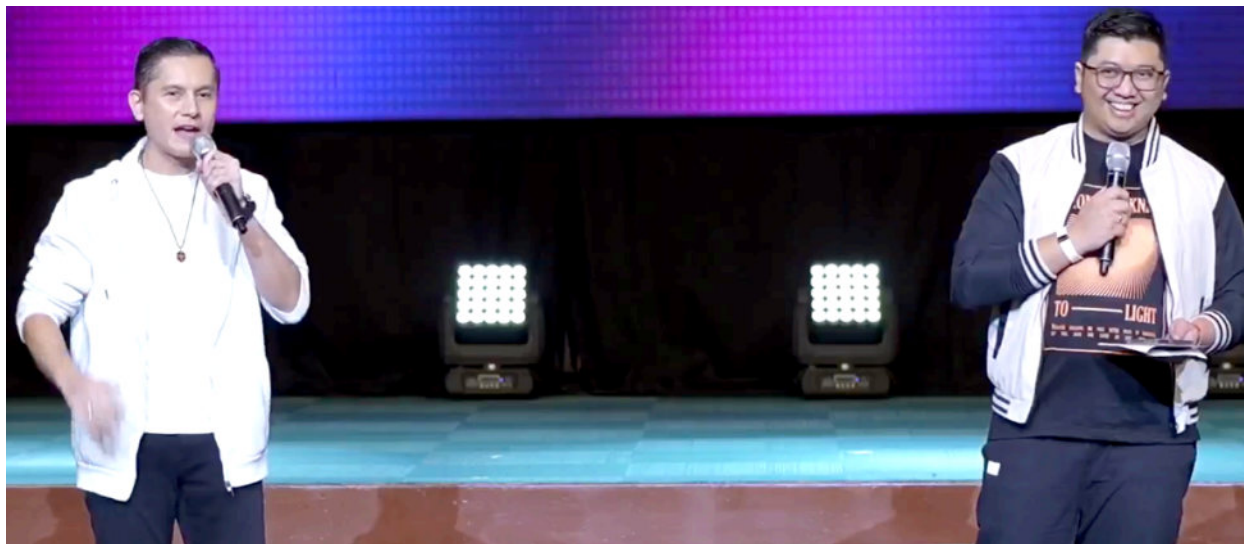
**UnionBank** The Builder of the Light of Jesus Family Mega Manila Inc. 000-4000-24846  
For online & check giving: **Feast Bay Area**

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# Welcome!



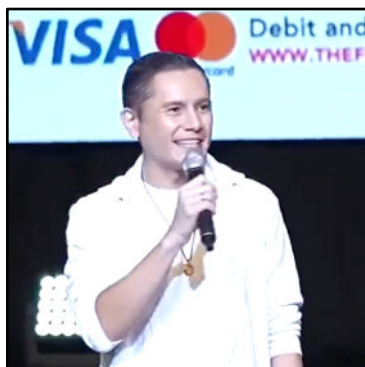
**BRO. TONY VALEZUELA, Builder, Feast PICC, P.M. Session:**

That was inspiring sharing by Bro. Lep. Spiritual awakening. That's why this is called the Grand Feast.

**BRO. JC LIBIRAN, Builder, Feast University Belt:**

The spirit of the Grand Feast is to bring all the Feasts in the Feast Bay Area District all together. This is not just Morning Session, not just the Afternoon Session.

Let's applaud the Lord for bringing us here together.



**BRO. TONY:** Yes, we have here Feast PICC A.M., Feast PICC P.M, Feast Binondo, Feast U-Belt, Feast Manila, Feast UST, as well.

So, we are blessed that we have a Grand Feast once a month, so that we are together as one Feast Bay Area Family. So, welcome to the Family!

And speaking of welcoming everyone, we want to shout out to all our first-timers in the house. Welcome to The Feast! We love it that you are here today.

Later, stay a while, come here, at the side of the stage, and we will give you a welcome gift.

Everyone, we have a Confession service, 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. on the second floor of our hall.

We also have a Ministry for those grieving for departed loved ones. We want to journey with you and we want to weep with you during this difficult time.

**BRO. JC:** Our heart also goes to those affected by Typhoon Kristine. If you want to volunteer to serve or you want to donate to the victims, Friends, we have our Feast Acts of Love, our Light of Jesus Recovery from Disaster Ministry.

Let's applaud all those helping those affected by the calamity.

And of course, in less than a month, November 22-24, we are having the biggest Catholic Learning and Inspirational Event, our FEAST CONFERENCE 2024! I heard the tickets for the premium seats are already sold out. So, we have tickets for regular seats.

Jonathan Roumie, award-winning actor of the *Chosen* series will be our special speaker during the Plenary session.

REGULAR	P2,200
PREMIUM	P3,700
YOUTH	starts at P600
ONLINE	P1,500

PLENARY SPEAKER  
**Jonathan Roumie**  
Award-winning Actor, "The Chosen" Series  
Get your tickets at [feastconference.com](http://feastconference.com).

**BRO. TONY:** And, here's our Feast PICC schedule for November:

**the FEAST**

# November to Remember

## NOVEMBER 2024 FEAST VENUE & SCHEDULE

<b>NOVEMBER</b> <b>3 &amp; 10</b> 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM PICC PLENARY HALL	<b>GRAND FEAST</b> <b>NOVEMBER</b> <b>17</b> 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM PICC PLENARY HALL
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# Reflection

**BRO. JOHN BEN RODRIGUEZ, Builder,  
Feast Binondo:**

I am here to guide you to a short reflection before we celebrate the Mass.

For one minute, just stay quiet, you may close your eyes, and I want you to think about what is that one message that God told you today.

Inhale. Exhale.

Say, "Thank You, Lord."

What I would like you to do next, find a partner, share the message of God to you today. Have one minute each.

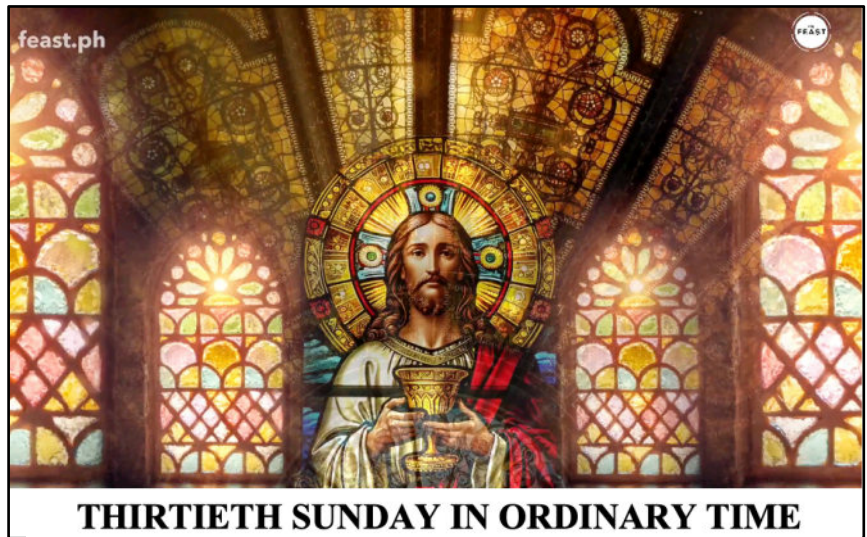
You may lay your hand over your partner. Pray for their dream. Pray for what they shared.



*Thank You, Jesus,  
for this gift of Community  
where we just get to receive  
Your Word, digest  
Your Word, and share  
Your Word with the people  
here we love. We know that  
You're at work in their life  
and we Thank You that You  
are present always. This we  
ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.*



# Holy Mass



## Homily

**REV. FR. KEVIN JOSHUA COSME**

on the Gospel Mark 10:46-52

Excerpts:

Good Morning, dear Brothers and Sisters!

It is a pleasure to be here to celebrate Mass with you. I am Fr. Kevin Joshua Cosme or Fr. Kevin Cosme.

Kevin Cosme was an incidental name for me. Aside from my father being a Cosme, I was born at a time when the popularity of Hollywood actor, Kevin Costner, was at its height. Then they added Joshua to my name. Even then, whenever they hear my name, a lot of people still remember comedian Dolphy (playing a character in the movie *Home Along the Riles* named Kevin Cosme).

It is a joy and a pleasure to be able to celebrate Mass here at our PICC.

I am a new priest. I was ordained on May 3, two years ago during the (Coronavirus Disease) Pandemic. Thanks be to God.

I graduated in 2020. Two weeks before our graduation, we were called by the Rector to the chapel of our seminary. He told us to go home because (to prevent the spread of COVID) there would be a lockdown in Manila. We thought it would just take us two weeks or two months. But it took two years. I wasn't able to go back to the seminary anymore.

Do you know how I graduated? I was on the way to my next assignment before I was ordained a priest. I was watching a video of our online graduation. From there, I saw my name. That's how fast it was.

The Pandemic graduates here know how it feels. I was not able to go up the stage. I was not able to put on my toga.

But God has a sense of humor. God is good. I may not have been able to go up the stage then, but I was able to go up the stage now and on PICC stage. I'm not wearing a toga today but I'm wearing a chasuble. God is truly good.

The FEAST FAMILY November 3, 2024 **31**



## Pain of the Blind

We shall reflect on the goodness of God as we reflect on our Readings for this Sunday, especially the beautiful reading from the Gospel of Mark that tells the story of a blind man.

Before I was ordained as a deacon, I had a problem with my right eye. I don't know what happened.

Just a little light would cause discomfort. It was so painful that I had to lock myself in my room and close all the windows and set up the blinds.

I was reeling from pain.

I had a hard time doing simple things such as brushing my teeth. I was groping for my toothbrush and my toothpaste. I was like that for a couple of days and that was only for a few days.

Indeed, it's hard to be blind.



### First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-9

*7 Thus says the Lord: Shout with joy for Jacob, exult at the head of the nations; proclaim your praise and say: The Lord has delivered his people, the remnant of Israel. 8 Behold, I will bring them back from the land of the north; I will gather them from the ends of the world, with the blind and the lame in their midst, the mothers and those with child; they shall return as an immense throng. 9 They departed in tears, but I will console them and guide them; I will lead them to brooks of water, on a level road, so that none shall stumble. For I am a father to Israel, Ephraim is my first-born.*

### Gospel Mark 10:46-52: Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus

46 Then they reached Jericho, and as Jesus and his disciples left town, a large crowd followed him. A blind beggar named Bartimaeus (son of Timaeus) was sitting beside the road. 47 When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was nearby, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

48 "Be quiet!" many of the people yelled at him.

But he only shouted louder, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

49 When Jesus heard him, he stopped and said, "Tell him to come here."

So they called the blind man. "Cheer up," they said. "Come on, he's calling you!" 50 Bartimaeus threw aside his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus.

51 "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked.

"My Rabbi,[a]" the blind man said, "I want to see!"

52 And Jesus said to him, "Go, for your faith has healed you." Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus down the road.



## Three Steps to Healing

Our man in the Gospel, Bartimaeus, was blind from birth. Imagine how difficult it was for him. All he could do was sit at the roadside and beg.

Then he heard about a man who was healing people, Jesus of Nazareth. He cried out to Him for help.

There are three steps that Bartimaeus does that we can also do.



### 1. He Cries Out

Bartimaeus cries out, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me. I have been suffering my entire life without light, without seeing anything. Have pity on me."

In Greek, what he says is "Eleison Me."

It means, "Jesus, have mercy on me."

That's what we always say at the beginning of each Mass:

*"Kyrie eleison. Lord, have mercy."*

Bartimaeus cries out and gets Jesus' attention.

This happens in Jericho. In the Old Testament, Jericho was a fortified city. It was one of the most powerful cities of Canaan, the Promised Land.

The Israelites wandered in the desert for close to 40 years and finally, when they arrived in Jericho, they could not get inside the Promised Land because of Jericho's high walls.

God told them to go around the city for seven days. On the seventh day, they should go around seven more times. At the end of that seventh time, all the priests and all the people should cry out, blow their trumpets, and something amazing would happen. The people did exactly that.

Later, the walls of Jericho fell, and they were able to enter the Promised Land.

When Bartimaeus cried out, the wall in between him and Jesus fell, and He got Jesus' attention

Cry out to Jesus. If you have a form of blindness-- physical or spiritual. If you are suffering because of your sin. You've done something and you can't forgive yourself. Your life has no direction. You wake up in the morning, you go to work. It's the same daily grind. It's a blindness of sorts without Jesus.

Cry out to Jesus. That's the first step.

## 2. He Throws Aside His Cloak

This is very significant. A person's cloak, especially that of a poor person, was his protection against the elements. He's homeless. He was living on the roadside.

Here in PICC, it's so cold that we wear jackets. It's much colder in Jericho at night. In the morning, on the other hand, it's so hot there that you need to cover yourself.

Bartimaeus' cover is his cloak, his security cloak. The blind man throws that away and comes to Jesus.

When we come to Jesus, throw away your security cloak. Throw away whatever it is that you are holding on, what's keeping you away from Jesus.

Sometimes, I encounter people who try to live a good Christian life. But in their homes, you'll see images of Maneki-neko (figurine of a Japanese domestic cat), Buddha, and other Chinese charms believed to bring good luck.

Some believe in Feng Shui (arranging furniture in the house for good luck along the flow of wind and water) and when I ask them why, they would say, "Father, there is nothing to lose by trying."

But I believe that there is something to lose. You will lose trust in the Lord. Because if you believe in Feng Shui, you believe that there are things that are not under God's control-- so, you place your trust on other things. Throw those away.

Come to Jesus. Throw away your cloak. Trust in Jesus.

Jesus sees the blind man. Asks him, "What do you want me to do for you?"

If I were the blind man, I could have answered, "Jesus, isn't it obvious that I want to see?"

But sometimes, when we are in distress, we don't know what we want anymore.

Be honest to Jesus. Tell Him, "Please heal me. Lord, take away this pain. Lord, heal my mother. Lord, heal my soul. Heal my heart."

Just be honest with Jesus. Jesus heals Bartimaeus.



### Second Reading: Hebrews 5:1-6

*1 Brothers and sisters: Every high priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2 He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring, for he himself is beset by weakness 3 and so, for this reason, must make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. 4 No one takes this honor upon himself but only when called by God, just as Aaron was. 5 In the same way, it was not Christ who glorified himself in becoming high priest, but rather the one who said to him: You are my son; this day I have begotten you; 6 just as he says in another place: You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.*

### 3. He follows Jesus

After Bartimaeus regains his sight, it doesn't end there. Bartimaeus follows Jesus to Jerusalem-- the place where Jesus would suffer and die.

The true disciple is willing to follow Jesus all the way to Jerusalem.

We follow Jesus even if it's not easy.

Why? Because we trust in Jesus. He was able to heal us.

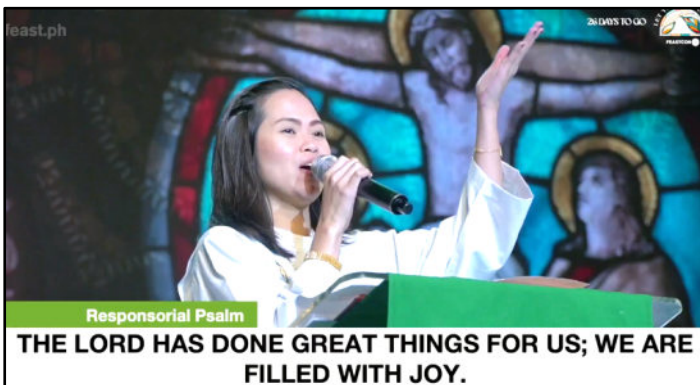
We know that He loves us.

We know that even though we follow Him to the Cross, we will follow Him to death, and to His glory. Thanks be to God for His goodness to us.

Three lessons, dear Brothers and Sisters, that we can learn from our Readings:

1. Cry out to Jesus
2. Throw away your cloak
3. Follow Jesus

We thank the Lord for His goodness and love. We pray that we may have the courage and the strength of Bartimaeus and that the Lord may also heal us, and that we may follow Him all the way. Amen.



### Responsorial Psalm

(Psalm 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6)

**R: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

*1 When the Lord brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming. 2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing. (R)*

*Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."*

*3 The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad indeed. (R)*

*4 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the torrents in the southern desert.*

*5 Those that sow in tears shall reap rejoicing. (R)*

*6 Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown, they shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves. (R)*



# MERCY MINISTRIES

*God blesses those who are merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.*

--Matthew 5:7

## FEAST TIMOG

### *The Blessings Cycle Continues*

IN the July 28, 2024 issue of *The FEAST FAMILY*, we featured FEAST TIMOG, a fairly new Feast, starting on October 2023, now based at The Circle Events Place on Timog Avenue, Quezon City.

This October, Feast Timog celebrated its First Founding Anniversary courageously declaring that it continues with its ministry with the theme: *Tuloy Pa Rin*, presented with a musical play on October 6, 2024.

Feast Timog kindly held the play as a fundraising event for the benefit of three Light of Jesus Mercy Ministries: Anawim Home for Abandoned Elderly; Jeremiah Foundation for abused minor girls; and the Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer (JCCFC). JCCFC is particularly essential to Bro. Bimbo as he himself is battling cancer and looks forward to a miraculous healing.

**TULOY PA RIN | Bagong Simula**  
A MUSICAL PLAY  
by the Worship Ministry  
**BENEFICIARIES**

**anawim**  
HOME FOR ABANDONED ELDERLY  
Gives home and a warm embrace to the poor and abandoned elderly.

**Jeremiah**  
FOUNDATION  
35:5-7  
Provides renewed wholeness, opportunity to heal, mature beautifully, nourish and renew bodies, mind and spirit of abused girls.

**JESUS CHRIST CARES FOR CANCER**  
Dedicated to helping indigents and people suffering from cancer.

10.06.2024  
Sunday  
The Circle Events Place

Ticket Price: Php 500  
Matinee: 2:00 PM  
Gala: 6:00 PM

Tickets available every Sunday at The Feast Timog Admin Table, The Circle Events Place

For inquiries, call 096882919800 and look for Joseph. Visit The Feast Timog FB page for more details! Scan the QR code to proceed to ticket purchase.



During the event, *from left*: Sis. Agnes and Bro. Jun Ferrera of the Feast Valle Verde Mercy Ministry; Feast Timog Builder Bro. Bimbo Leonardo; Sis Joie Cabrillas, also of Feast Valle Verde; and Sis. Elsa Leonardo.



Bro. Bimbo welcomes representatives of beneficiaries: from JCCFC, Bro. Alo Gelano, chairman, and Sis. Maritess Cordero, Board secretary; and from Anawim, *from Bimbo's left*: Arsenia Binohhi, Center administrator and Social Services head; Anlyn Pagunsan, Stockroom custodian; and Stella Marie Josefa Apao, Human Resources and Administration supervisor.



Happy to receive Feast Timog's gift.

*--Photos by Reinna Abad*



**BRO. ALO:** Thank you very much, Bro. Bimbo, for the donation...

As a backgrounder, JCCFC Inc has been in existence for about nine years now. We are a cash aid foundation. We receive cash from donors and we help our beneficiaries with their medical, food, and their everyday needs.

Because the problem is, if you have cancer, especially if you are indigent, it is one of the most expensive treatment that you would encounter. And sometimes, our beneficiaries do not know where to get the money, or they just forget treatment altogether. But on top of that, sometimes the desperation is there. They do not know what to do and they cling to anything.

So, our Foundation is a cash aid. And if you give them money they can do whatever they want-- if they want to eat at Shakey's, in KFC, just enjoy life.

Now, our beneficiaries include young and old-- from the youngest, 2 years old, and to the oldest, up to 70 or 80 years old.

And since this a cancer foundation, the only thing that we can do is to give priority to the poorest of the poor with the highest cancer stage. Because of that, our mortality rate in our Foundation is quite high. We just lost a 4-year-old kid a couple of months ago.

I was telling our partners and our servants, God gave us this ministry for the cancer patients. If we are the last person to hold their hand before they go to the next life, we're willing to do it. But we can only do it with the support of donors like you.

So, thank you very much, and I hope you continue to support our Foundation. Thank you, Bro Bimbo.

**BRO. BIMBO:** We know that cancer is a very expensive ailment. Friends, if you know someone who needs help, let's refer that person to JCCFC. Anawim Home for Abandoned Elderly, and Jeremiah Foundation, for abused minor girls, are also our beneficiaries.

## Flashback

As early as Feast Timog's first quarter-- from October to December 2023-- Bro. Bimbo, ably supported by his wife Elsa, started a Feast Timog fundraising drive called SHARE+ to cover operational expenses.

Attendees themselves generously contributed portions of their personal funds. Feast Timog continued the drive during its annual Servants' Christmas Fellowship, soliciting donations from private individuals and companies that supported The Feast in the past.



## Sharing

Having received such a precious gift, Feast Timog promptly shared the funds as *aguinaldo*, gift, to Anawim, led by Center Administrator Carlos Dimson; and Jeremiah Foundation, led by Executive Director Jing Apuhin.

Also, in 2023, Feast Timog donated cash to He Cares Mission for street children in response to the appeal of Bro. Joe Dean Sola, He Cares founder, when he visited Feast Timog earlier to promote the He Cares Back-to-School scholarship program for out-of-school youth.

Yes, *Tuloy Pa Rin*--the cycle of blessings continues. And those who make it happen are the happiest because they receive blessings after blessings as God promised cheerful givers in Luke 6:38 NLT: *Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full-- pressed down, shaken together, to make room for more, running over, and poured in your lap.*





## **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

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

2. Pick Up from Your House or Office (Metro Manila Only) Cash or Checks Address Checks to Shepherd's Voice Radio and Television Foundation 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](mailto:support@kerygmfamily.com) or text us at (63) 922-828-9890/ (63) 998-968-4416 or Fax to (+632) 725-1230.



**FAMILY  
ONLINE  
NEWSMAGAZINE**

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

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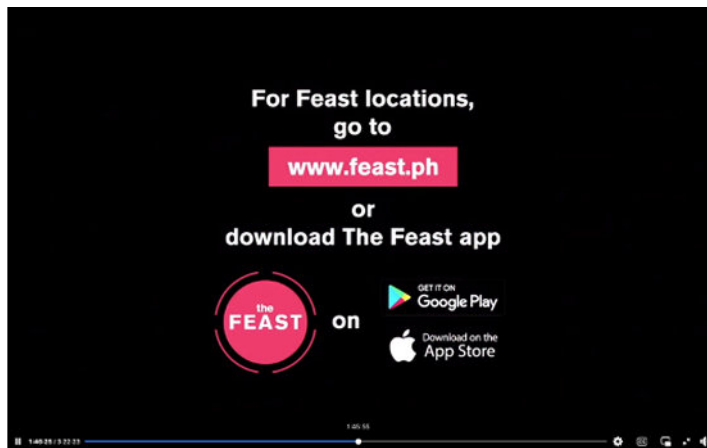
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***Go and make disciples of all men.***

— Matthew 28:19

