



Feast Royals

AS we write this intro, we, the men, bow, and the ladies curtsy before the *Royals* we feature in this July 2022 issue of *The Feast International*. They are the members of Feast United Kingdom and Europe who welcomed our founder, Bro. Bo Sanchez, and Bro. Arun Gogna, Feast Alabang District Builder, as preachers in a grand gathering of Feasts in UK and some parts of Europe, dubbed *Unmasked*, held in London on May 29, 2022.



So, here's a very special feature of that really inspiring event.

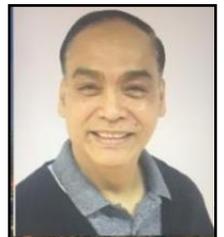


To gather materials for this issue, we checked out online posts on Bro. Bo and Bro. Arun's visit. By God's Divine Design, we got acquainted with Sis. Chrishelle Mae Fama (*extreme left*), a Feast London member, who kindly connected us with Sis. Hannah Joy Maganayes (*left*) Feast Planter of Feast Light London UK. Both Sis. Hannah and Sis. Chrishelle furnished us with stories and pictures of Feast UK members.

Yes, they are serving in the United Kingdom—land of the world's most popular royals. And our Feasters joyfully do so for the biggest Kingdom ever of God our Father. Yes, like you and me, they are children of God, heirs of His Kingdom. That's what we learn in *Genesis*, the first book of the Bible, which we explore in our brand-new Feast talk series, *page 22*.

So, now you know why we bow before those planting The Feast in the UK and Europe. We call them Feast Royals, undaunted by the big challenges of their mission for they know only too well that after all, this is The Feast of our real true King.

Glory!
VIC ESPAÑOL
Region Head
Feast International



Celebrations!

FEAST UNITED KINGDOM



ON May 29, 2022, Bro. Bo Sanchez was in London for a pastoral visit with our Feasts in the United Kingdom as well as other Feasts in Europe. Bro. Arun Gogna, Feast Alabang District Builder, joined Bro. Bo.

“It’s been really an exciting time,” Bro. Bo said in a Zoom message to Feast Philippines while he was in London.

How exciting?

First, for those not yet familiar with The Feast, a definition of terms. We call a Feast just beginning as Feast *Light*-- yes, as in a still young Light of Jesus Family. And the one starting a Feast is called Feast *Planter*—you know, someone receiving—one way or another-- a call to plant a Feast in a particular place to make disciples of our Lord Jesus there.

Just like The Feast Light LondonUK where the Feast Planter is Sis. Hannah Joy H. Magayanes. We were able to connect with Sis. Hannah through the kindness of Sis. Chrishelle Mae Ruiz Fama, a Feast London member, who with Sis. Hannah, sent us materials that enabled us to share with you this picture story on, yes, the exciting visit of Bro. Bo and Bro. Arun in The Feast United Kingdom.

Thanksgiving Mass



Rev. Fr. Alberto Escoto
presiding Holy Mass;
Joining hands,
receiving blessings:
Bro. Bo Sanchez,
wife Sis. Marowe,
their children:
Francis (*black shirt*),
and Bene (*white shirt*);
Bro. Bo and Sis.
Marowe greeting,
thanking Fr. Escoto.



Worship!



4 The FEAST INTERNATIONAL July 2022

Talk

BRO. BO SANCHEZ:

What is the purpose of life?

The purpose of life is not to be happy. Some people think this.

No, it's not.

The purpose of life is to go through suffering and be transformed by that suffering.

So that you come out the best version of who you are. And become the biggest blessing that you can ever become to the people around you. That is the purpose of life.



BRO. BO MEETING WITH FILIPINO NURSES IN LONDON:

The hospitals of London are in a mess right now. Because all of you are here.

Do you know why people love Filipino nurses? Because you embrace their pain. They're not just a number. They're not just a patient.

Because you're a Jesus follower, you don't only embrace your pain-- you embrace the pain of others. When they're crying you're crying.

This isn't just a profession. This is a ministry

You're a Jesus follower. You're a Kingdom builder.

I'm so proud of you.

I honor you for what you're doing.

Nurturing Feast Lights

Our Feasts in the United Kingdom are relatively young. So, like fathers doting on their young children, our Feast leaders make it a point to visit and nurture our Feast Lights.

After preaching in the Feast United Kingdom gathering on May 29, *here*, Bro. Bo and Bro. Arun enjoy photo-ops with members of the various Feasts in UK and Europe...



Feast Light LondonUK. Feast Planters John and Hannah Magayanes with Sis. Lalaine and Bro. Arun Gogna, Sis. Marowe and Bro. Bo Sanchez.



Feast Basingstoke
With Feast Basingstoke Planters
Bro. Aga and Sis. Vina Estrada.



Feast Light Haywards Heath
With Planters Bro. Ronjay
and Sis. Cristal Sunga.





Feast Belgium



Feast Germany



Feast Light Ireland

Called

Sis. Hannah came to London in October 2008 to work as Health Care assistant at the Royal Free Hospital, which, according to its website, provides free healthcare to those who could not afford medical treatment, and for many years, the only hospital in London offering medical training for women.

(<https://www.royalfree.nhs.uk/about-us/our-history/>)

In the Philippines, Sis. Hannah went to St. James College of Quezon City for her pre-college education--elementary (1996) and high school (2000).

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Technology at the University of Sto. Tomas, graduating in 2004, and passed the Med Tech Board Exam. Then, she also took up Nursing at the Dr. Carlos Lanting College, graduating in 2006.



The year she graduated from college, Sis. Hannah joined the Light of Jesus Family in the Philippines.

Little did she know that was already a signal of God's call for her to serve His Kingdom here on Earth, in faraway United Kingdom.

In 2008, she migrated to the UK with her family—husband John, now working as chef in London, and their children, Luke Zion, 7 years old, and Skye Aria, 1 year old.

Feast Live at Home

Sis. Hannah, now 37 years old, happily counts her blessings since she joined The LOJ Feast.

One priceless is about her daughter.

She says: “My daughter Skye Aria was born during the Coronavirus Disease (COVID) Pandemic, on December 8, 2020—yes, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. While I was pregnant the doctors told me that my child could be a Down Syndrome baby. By God’s grace, Skye has come out hale and hearty.”



Instead of being anxious about doctors’ warnings that her daughter could be a Down Syndrome baby, Sis. Hannah says she fought her fears by serving the Lord through the Feast Conference (big annual learning event) here being held at her dining hall.



Sis. Hannah also got busy with attending the Jewels Conference, another learning, empowering event, exclusive for women.

A second blessing is Sis. Hannah's family home: "We prayed for a house that can accommodate our Feast gatherings-- because it was Pandemic and face-to-face meetings in public halls were restricted. But God gave us more of what we asked for.

"At the moment, we have overflow gatherings, that we are extending to the car park. God is good."

Feast gatherings at the Magayanes' home: *Above right*, Feast London Founding Anniversary in 2021 with Bro. Vic Español, Feast International region head, happily joining online.



2022 Sunday prayer meetings:
on February 4,
(*above*);
and on March 4.



Never Alone

The Feasts in the United Kingdom and key places in Europe may have just begun. Building these Feasts is not a walk in the park. But our LOJ sisters and brothers are undaunted by the big challenges. And why not?

The United Kingdom is called as such because there are royals there. But those who started The Feast there, yes, the Planters, are serving the biggest Kingdom and the Builder is the true Royal, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sis. Hanah and her co-Feast Planters know only too well that The Feast has been planted and continues to grow because King Jesus has always been with them since Day 1, when He called them to make disciples in that faraway land.

Sis. Hannah says what strengthens her most is God's Promise in Hebrews 13:5:

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."



MERCY MINISTRIES

³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

—Matthew 25: 35-40 NIV

Feast London Light Groups:

Mission: Compassion

OUR Feast International is well dedicated in supporting our Light of Jesus Family Mercy Ministries for those in need—the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, those who need clothes, the sick, those in prison.

Feast Light LondonUK also exists for those God has called its members to serve. The members are divided into small groups called Light Groups (LG) – yes, as in small versions of our Light of Jesus Family.

Manifesting their devotion to our Mercy mission are the names they have chosen for their Light Groups.



Grace To Be Born Light Group

This Light Group members (*right*) chose the name Grace To Be Born, the name of our halfway home for pregnant women in crisis—abandoned by the men who are supposed to take care of them.



So that a woman in crisis will not resort to abortion, Grace To Be Born provides her health care, counselling, and spiritual nourishment—eventually to give her baby the grace to be born.



He Cares Light Group. This Light Group is named after the He Cares Mission which provides shelter for street children.

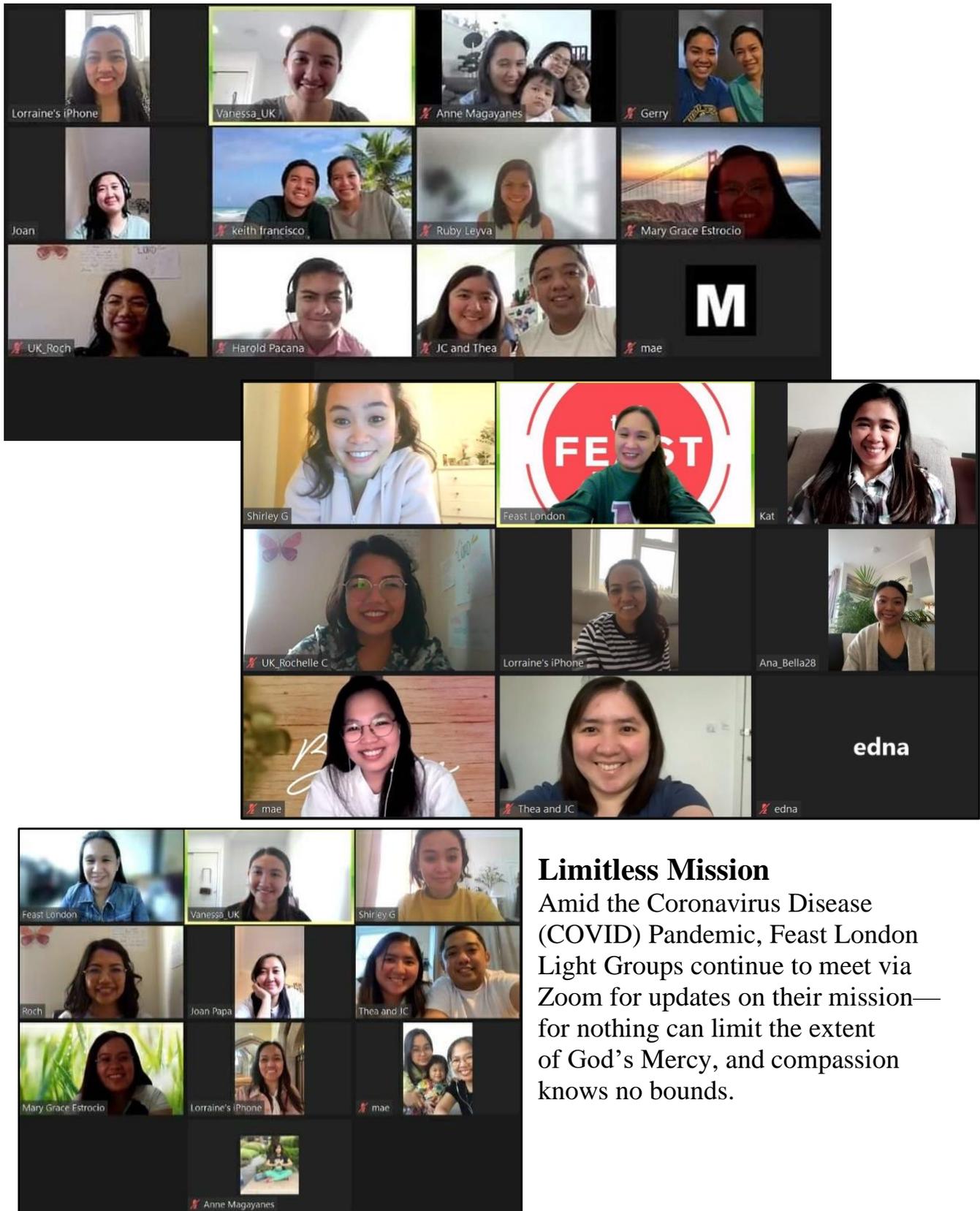


Anawim Light Group

As you can see, members of this Light Group are joyful, joyful. That's what you are when you serve our Anawim Home for Abandoned Elderly which takes care of *anawims*-- the Hebrew word for God's *poor ones*. Yes, lolos and lolas who were abandoned by those who are supposed to take care of them.



In Anawim, the lolos and lolas now live in resort-like cottages amid palm trees—receiving health care services, counselling, and spiritual nourishment for a life of dignity in their twilight years.



Limitless Mission
 Amid the Coronavirus Disease (COVID) Pandemic, Feast London Light Groups continue to meet via Zoom for updates on their mission—for nothing can limit the extent of God’s Mercy, and compassion knows no bounds.

Disciples Around the World

Christ's Girl

By CHRISHELLE MAE RUIZ FAMA



SEARCH online the meaning of my name and you'll find out that *Chrishelle* means *Christ+Girl* or *Christ girl*.

It is said you become the name you are given. So, to be a Christ girl must be my parents' wish, their dream for me – which is being fulfilled as by God's grace, joining The Feast of the Light of Jesus Family, I am indeed have kind of become a Christ girl.



Here I am so blessed to be serving happily with my co-Feasters in the recent Feast United Kingdom grand gathering.

But it is also said that being with Christ does not mean you're already holy-holy, or you're spared of life's challenges. I can very well say I am not.

Triumphs and Trials

Life for me started out fairly well, with triumphs even. But not without trials.

With my family, I lived quite simply in our hometown in Bantay, Ilocos Sur. For my elementary education, I went to Bantay West Central School. For high school, to the Divine Word College of Vigan. For college, I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Technology at Data Center College of the Philippines – Vigan, graduating in 2012— *cum laude*.



Graduating with honors was more than I expected. That's because I was sick when I started college. In my last year in high school, I was diagnosed with a rare disease. Blood transfusions and steroids were the only treatments my doctor offered back then.

Little did I know, this ailment would bring me to the United Kingdom.

At the time, my mother, Vicky Fama, was working in Hong Kong, and from there, she found a job in the United Kingdom, and she transferred here in London in 2014. She then found out about the advanced medical technology here in the UK. And one of her friends gave her the idea of taking me here.

That's when I applied for a UK student visa. And by God's grace, the visa was approved and I came here in October 2016. With my student visa, I'd been able to earn another college degree—Bachelor of Arts in Business Management in London. I graduated in 2019, this time with first class honor. This qualified me for a Master's degree. So, I worked for a Master of Science degree in Finance and Accounting, finishing the course in 2021 with distinction.

After college, I found work as a staff at the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).

Reading my story up to this point, one would be thinking I have been living a charmed life. Not so.

Lost and Broken

Despite my academic achievements, somehow, I seriously craved for attention—actually, for love. I thought I found what I needed in a girl I met in college. But that affection did not last long because she fell for a boy and soon, they got married. I was left with a shattered heart.

But then I eventually met and fell in love with a guy who became the center of my life. He was my world. Then, misunderstandings, fights, and before I knew it, he was already breaking up with me.

I can't even begin to describe the pain of losing him. I juggled in my mind *why, how* I drove him away. I blamed myself. Because at the time, I was so dealing with emotional problems that I really was not exactly one you would want to be with.

You see, I was sexually abused – three times, when I was a child. Then, I also suffered sexual harassments three times—in college, then at work in the Philippines. And then here in London, I sought the help of my professor, but alas, he too harassed me.

So, I lost trust in people and I thought I would live my life well enough alone—do my work, my projects without help from anyone.

Then, when I could not handle my misfortunes, I blamed God for them all. I blamed Him for my sickness, for the molestations and harassments, for the breakup with my boyfriend.

Enlightenment

In hindsight, I know now that God is not to be blamed for my suffering. People, my own weakness, brought about these unfortunate incidents in my life.

Such enlightenment came about when I joined The Feast London.

I discovered The Feast when it just turned up on my wall when I was scrolling on my Facebook—one day when I was feeling down over my heart problems. The Feast I chanced upon was the afternoon, Taglish session led by Bro. Alvin Barcelona (*white shirt*). And then, I also discovered another Feast where the preacher was Bro. Didoy Lubaton (*dark suit*)

So, would you believe, I was watching the same talks given by two preachers. 😊





Announcements at The Feast led me to The Feast app. Promptly, I installed the app on my phone, and I tried to search if there is any Feast here in London.

I was amazed that there *is* a Feast in the city-- and it's around the area where I live. So, I got in touch with Feast London on that same day.

In time, I learned that Feast London is actively holding faith gatherings. Like recently, our Feast United Kingdom gathering where our guest preacher was Bro. Bo Sanchez.

Here I am happy with a photo-op with him.

Here are my co-Feasters enjoying a wacky *we-fie* courtesy of Bro. John Magayanes, husband of our Feast Planter, Sis Hannah. With us is Fr. Albert Escoto ,SVD (*dark shirt*) who was our guest speaker during our Feast gathering.

Before joining The Feast, I thought I should be in control of my life-- struggling to finish not only one but three college degrees, saving in vain my relationship with boyfriend, planning about my future.

But I learned God is the one who has a better way of running my life, as I heard at The Feast His Promise which is now my favorite Bible verse, Jeremiah 29:11:

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

There are times I don't understand what's happening in my life. But God's promise assures me He has a plan for me, and yes, it's much, much better than my plans.

I know He will not forsake me. How do I know?



Blessings

Many are the ways God has proven His faithfulness to me. But here let me share just three blessings manifesting His unconditional love for me.

First, about my illness. As I said, my disease is so rare, treatments for it are still under trial. Before, for relief from the symptoms, I had to have blood transfusion every six to eight weeks, with drugs administered via intravenous (IV) injection into my vein and directly into my bloodstream – to the point that the vein has just about collapsed.

Today, I no longer need blood transfusion. My last transfusion was last January 2022. That's because in the UK, advanced clinical studies have developed a drug—a tablet that I just take in place of the painful transfusions.

Second, I had a problem with my UK visa. It was only a student visa—so, when I was about to be done with my studies in London, the visa would already expire.

But I could not go back home to the Philippines. I needed to stay in the UK for the treatment procedure for my illness—which is not available in the Philippines.

Mercifully, Sis. Hannah (*here with me in a recent meeting*), kindly helped me to get a Humanitarian Visa. I waited eight months for the visa to be approved-- only to be denied. We appealed, with the help of the King's College Hospital which vouched for me, confirming my need for the treatment of my rare disease.

By God's grace, I finally got the visa on June 16, 2022. Would you believe, that was the exact date that I received an invitation from *The Feast International* to write a sharing of my Feast blessings! Speak of God's Perfect Timing!

My third and best blessing, of course, is The Feast. Because of The Feast, I have come to meet Jesus in a very personal way.

At The Feast, naturally, I found out about the Light of Jesus Family.

Here, I learned God so loves me that He would not let me down, He would not let me get hurt. Instead, He is the one who would pick me up when I fall, and heal me of my pains. And how He has done so!

Yes, despite my imperfections, He continues to love me and take care of me—even if I don't feel worthy of His love. Even if I still have questions about this faith I am struggling to believe. Yes, as the jargon goes, I am still a work in progress.



Grateful

I am deeply grateful for my Feast London Community, for my Light Group (*right*), on whom I have leaned in those times I felt so empty, that I couldn't even bring myself to attend our Feast gathering. They have accepted me and my flaws. They comforted me when my boyfriend broke up with me. And yes, they well supported me when I had a problem with my visa. They have given me advice like truly a family does. They recognized my talents, telling me how blessed I am.



The Feast thus has given me the priceless opportunity to serve God as instrumentalist—guitarist-- for our Worship Ministry.

Yes, through The Feast, I have become not only by my name Chrishelle, but truly, humbly, Christ's Girl.

By the way, my second name, *Mae*, means *beloved*. And indeed, now I truly feel that I am. Because here...



Glory to God!



THIS MONTH

Jesus Read *Genesis* in a Very Special Way

WELCOME to our brand-new series, *Blessing and Curse*, where for nine weeks, we'll dive into *Genesis*, the first book of the Bible.

Question: *Why Genesis?* Shouldn't we focus on the New Testament? Like the Gospels? Or the Letters of St. Paul?

They're easier to understand. They're direct to the point. We all have our favorite verses from the NT, such as "All things will work for good to those who love God" and "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me".

Here's why we need to look at *Genesis*. Whenever Jesus was asked hard questions by the Pharisees or by His disciples, He liked turning back to Page 1 of His Bible. Because *Genesis shaped His thinking*.

Genesis was really important to Jesus.

And because we want to follow Jesus, we want to read the Bible the way Jesus read His Bible. *He read Genesis in a very special way—and that's how we want to read it too*. This is one of our lofty goals at The Feast.

Talk 1 of our new series is titled *God Made You Good*.

May God's Word rock your world as we explore *Genesis* in The Feast!





Exploring the Reason for the Hurt

THE story of Cain and Abel is so powerful.

It gets repeated in Thor vs. Loki and Mufasa vs. Scar.

They don't have to be siblings—just friends that were like brothers.

But the story is the same.

Did you know that Clark Kent and Lex Luther were childhood chums?

Literature speaks about a reality
that we've seen again and again.

Why do we hurt each other?

This is what we explore in Talk 2 of our series on *Genesis* and it's so profound.

Have a heart-altering Feast this month!

May your dreams come true,

Bo Sanchez

Our Partner Beneficiaries

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



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



He Cares Mission provides shelter for street children.

Pag-asa ng Pamilya gives scholarships to poor students.



Jesus Christ Cares for Cancer Foundation 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.



HOME OF GOD'S POOR

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

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INTERNATIONAL NEWSMAGAZINE

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Go and make disciples of all nations.

— Matthew 28:19

