

FBC TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL

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FBC

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MAIN SERVICE

| Physical & Youtube |

Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE

| Physical |

Sundays 9:00am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

For Ages 3 to 12
(Preschool to std 6)

Physical Classes
8:45am / 11:15am

Philippines Mission Trip Reflection

This past June, I had the opportunity to see and experience what God is doing in the Philippines. Before this trip, I did not know very much about the church in the Philippines or my brothers and sisters in Christ. I was expectant to learn and serve as our team prepared to share the love of Jesus with the children and adults we would be

visiting. Since I had been on several mission trips prior to the Philippines, I need to have a flexible and patient mindset to adapt to any itinerary changes and do whatever is required of me.

In terms of our schedule, our days were quite similar. We would begin with a



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home-cooked breakfast and head out to a different church plant. We would engage the children apart of Kapatid Ministry's feeding program by singing songs, playing games, telling a bible story, and making Gospel bracelets before inviting them to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Then, we would meet the sponsored children and get to know them. This was one of my favourite parts of the day. Many of the children were in their early teen years and it was fun to hear what they wanted to be when they grow up as they shared their hopes and dreams. It was also encouraging to hear about their involvement in their church as many served each week. We also visited the elderly people around the churches by going into some of their homes and praying with them. In between all of our activities, we traveled and shared meals with some of the volunteers of Kapatid Ministry as they quickly became like family to us in just a few days. I am reminded of the verse in

Romans 12:10 "Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor".

Preparing for a mission trip, of course you want to remember to show the love of Jesus, but to receive the abundance of His love through my Filipino brothers and sisters was spiritually refreshing and encouraged my faith.

While it is important to note what we did in the Philippines, it is more edifying to share what we saw God doing through the churches He has established. Throughout the trip, I couldn't help but think of all the seeds that have been planted and watered over the decades. I'm sure there were pioneering missionaries who labored without seeing any fruit. When we sow Gospel seeds, we don't always know or even see how God will grow it and multiply but I was reminded that God abundantly exceeds our expectations even when we may never personally see it with our own eyes. We walked into healthy churches that were thriving as we heard of discipleship, community outreach and even sending their own missionaries to other nations. But what encouraged me the most was the church members' genuine joy in loving and serving others. The joy of the Lord really is their strength. They understand their need for God's spirit to give the growth for the seeds sown and watered. We saw a plentiful harvest in the slums we entered. Materially poor but spiritually rich. My words will not be able to paint a picture of the places we entered nor explain the radiant light shining forth out of the church plants. You must experience it for yourself.



If you're considering going on a missions trip, I guarantee you it will be edifying and encouraging to your soul and walk with Jesus. To see His Spirit at work beyond your own comfort zone will strengthen your faith and refresh your soul. As I said before, I did not know or have many expectations about this trip to the Philippines prior to going. I just needed to go with an open heart and open hands. On the first ministry day as we were talking with the sponsored children, two little girls jumped on my lap and wouldn't leave me. With the little English they knew, we were able to converse a bit. They followed us the rest of the afternoon into the elderly homes and clung tightly to me as we said our goodbyes. I asked if they were sponsored and found out they did not have a sponsor. I thought about how young they were and saw the opportunity to sponsor them like sowing seeds. I knew they would be watered and nurtured both physically and spiritually through the church plant in their village. I thought of who they would become in the next few decades by the grace and power of the Holy Spirit. It's a joy to be able to invest in God's kingdom both in Malaysia and in other parts of the world. I'm encouraged by the global Church as God is at work. While I can tell you that you should go on a mission trip and sponsor a child, I actually challenge you to first be still and ask God what He wants you to do. We are all called to "go into all the world and make disciples of all nations" but it can



look different for each person. What are you doing with the positions and platforms God has already given you? How are you building God's kingdom now? I do think that joining a missions trip will encourage you to invest more into His kingdom but it is not the only way. If you are hesitant, pray about it and reach out to your brothers and sisters who have already gone. God is moving. What a gift of His grace to be able to witness it.



Written by Sarah Searle
Sarah attends GG Life Group.





Prayer for Kapatid Ministry

1. Pray that the Word of God shared among the youths who joined the Bible Basketball Fellowship may bear fruit in their lives.
 2. Pray that the Lord will bless Brother Michael Diong as he makes his report to his Church as to his observation of what God is doing in Kapatid Ministries.
 3. Pray that the 6 new graduates from the Child Sponsorship Program are able to find jobs that will help their families cope with the increasing costs of living in the Philippines.
 4. Continue to pray for the growth of wisdom and godly character for the 179 sponsored children as they enter a new school year at the end of August.
 5. Pray for strength and joy for our partner Pastors as they continually share God's Word with children (feeding and child sponsorship programs), youth, parents, and senior citizens.
 6. Please pray for the planning and preparation for the upcoming visit of a 4-member Mission Team from a Filipino Church in Canada.
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Prayer for 3 September from NECF 40 Days Fast and Prayer 2023

- May God cause an awakening in us so that we would not merely be occupied with internal activities in the Church, but be convicted about the works of the Gospel for the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Pray that we would be trained well, and rise up with a sense of mission and urgency to preach the Good News in the harvest fields so that people might come to comprehend its essence.
- Pray that God would continue to protect those who have overcome their addictions and that He would empower them to be witnesses of Christ. Pray for the many people who have entered the ministries for drug addicts that they would continue to point others to Jesus and be a blessing to those who are in bondage.
- The unemployment rate in Malaysia is about 3.6% (Dept of Statistics Malaysia, Oct 2022). The 2020 statistics show that 202,400 fresh graduates are jobless, and the trend has been increasing over the past few years. Pray that our younger generations would increase their proficiency in English, as well as technical, soft, and digital skills. Pray also that they would be realistic in their salary and job expectations.