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UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL

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Relief, Rebuilding and Restarting

Much has happened since the pandemic began in 2020. For the past two years, the Philippines have struggled with the challenges that the pandemic wrought. There were increasing reports of unemployment, family dissension, and depression among the Filipino family due to prolonged lockdowns. Adding to the pandemic woes, typhoons also ravaged several provinces in the country. Despite the struggles the Filipinos faced, God has preserved, sustained, and even advanced His gospel through all the trials experienced. We at Kapatid Ministry were given the privilege to be a part of God's work among the communities experiencing the struggles mentioned through the ministries He has entrusted to us.



Calamity Assistance for Relief and Rebuilding

Last December 16, 2021, Typhoon Odette wreaked havoc throughout the Visayas and Mindanao Region, bringing torrential rains, landslides, violent winds and storm surges. 8 million people were affected, with 1.4 million homes damaged. The communities of 3 of our partners in the region - in Bohol, Negros Oriental, and Cebu - were greatly affected, with electricity down for months as electrical poles were wrecked by the Typhoon.In response, Kapatid Ministry immediately sent financial aid to our 3 ministry partners for them to give relief aid to their community. Our partner in Bohol, Pastor Jonathan Alvarez used the support to purchase kerosene gas to distribute to the families of the community. This was used for their lamps, as they were without electricity in the aftermath of the Typhoon. Pastor Jonathan also took the opportunity to share the Gospel to the community members as they received the rationed kerosene gas. On February 2022, we also gave additional financial aid to Pastor Jonathan in Bohol to assist 3 families in rebuilding their damaged homes. Our partner in Negros Oriental, Bro. Arwin and Sis. Amy Calansanan, used the aid to purchase relief grocery packs, which they distributed to 50 families in the community. They visited the families personally, going house to house and serenading them with Gospel songs to give them encouragement after what they had gone through. For our partner in Cebu, we gave financial aid to which was used to purchase blankets.

Feeding Program

We praise God as our partners in the ministry have resumed their feeding programs among children in their community as lockdown restrictions have been lowered to a minimum, allowing public gatherings even for children. We have at present, 31 feeding areas run by our partners in the ministry, including 3 new feeding areas started these past 2 months. They continue to share the Gospel, teach Bible stories, and feed around 20-30 children in each feeding area.

Child Sponsorship Program

Since the lockdown restrictions were lowered, we were able to visit some of the sponsored children in distant places, like Pampanga. We praise God as the children are all well and good physically. Some had struggles with the pandemic, having trouble in their studies due to the online/modular methodology implemented by the Department of Education in the Philippines. Yet, those whom we interviewed are still thankful that God had protected them throughout the pandemic and had supplied their family's needs.

Overall, many more stories are yet to be told, as we have seen and been amazed at how God has been faithful in preserving and growing His work among the marginalized communities in the Philippines. We praise God that He has included Kapatid Ministry and our partners to be part of this endeavor, of bringing the life-changing, amazingly beautiful, and truly powerful Gospel of Jesus Christ to the ears and hearts of children, families, and communities in the Philippines.



By Titus Laxa Jr. Titus is the head of Kapatid Ministry



Mother's Day

It finally hit me- 2 weeks before leaving for Australia, as I sat in the swivel chair of my room while hearing my mom laugh at a TV show from the living room- that, in 14 days, I would no longer be able to hear the background noise of my parents chatting, or get called out for dinner, or told to "sleep soon ya". I would be on my own, on a different continent, in a new city and living space, and seeing new people. And yet, despite all this, I am comforted by the fact that, regardless of the 2 hour time difference and changes in season, my mom (and dad, of course) are only one (Zoom/Whatsapp) call away.

We grow up with our moms at our near beck and call most of our lives, though most times, we don't realise it. Small little things, like coming back from a school day to a freshly swept floor, or being able to go out to the kitchen and make a cup of Milo, freshly stocked, or even waking up from a reasonable nap of 3 hours to your mom saying dinner is ready- "be out now, or the soup will get cold, I left the fan off so the food would be piping hot when you sit down." Simple, innocuous moments like hearing your mom calling someone from the living room while you do homework, or being able to walk to your living room and ask her if you should wear ripped jeans to youth service next week. Things that slip from our minds, but never from our moms. Moms have their hands in every part of the

"She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness." — Proverbs 31:26-27 (ESV)

world-of our world- from preparing our food to maintaining the house, from picking proper clothes for you and making sure you get enough rest for the next day.

Moms pour themselves into the world of their children, with love so abundant and strong. Moms give their time and energy to the little things that make our days flow without a hitch. Moms do allIIII of these things, and just like an army of backstage crew workers for a celebrity concert, most of their work goes unrecognised and unknown.

Our mother's care for us comes in many formsgentle rains on sunny days, loud storms on cloudy nights, but always, ALWAYS, holds as much love as the ocean itself-even more than that, I would say. And when you wake up to clear skies reflected in still water puddles, I want us to remember that we get to have the next day comfortably prepared for us, because of what our moms did for us the day before. So this Mother's day, I want to shout out all the little acts of love our moms give to us. I want to take this Mother's day to remember every moment that my mom walked into my room to ask me how I was doing, every instance she saved the last batch of ice cream for me, everytime I would walk to the living room couch, and sit and just be with her as the soft white noise of her chinese drama dragged on. Because when you're finally on your own, on a different continent, in a new city and living space, your moms might not be there to call you for dinner on time, or sweep your room while you were away. But, your mom (and dad, of course), will always be only one (Zoom, or Whatsapp) call away. Love you, Mom, and blessed Mother's Day.

Prayer for Mother's Day

1. Give thanks to God for the women who have nurtured, borne and loved us be it our mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers and aunties. Give thanks for their sacrificial love, devotion and unceasing patience. 2. Ask God to give her wisdom and guidance to train the precious children in your path, and then to leave the results to you, Lord.

3. Pray that God will give her courage to persevere even in the most difficult moments of her life. Bless her with honesty and integrity.

4. And where there are wounded relationships, ask the Spirit to bring reconciliation that hurts and offenses would be forgiven, and that both parties will find healing and peace.



By Amanda Lim Amanda is the daughter of Ho Yuw Han



May 8, 2022 **The Nature of Grace** (Matthew 20)



May 15, 2022 Jesus and the Accountability of Israel (Matthew 21:33-45)



May 22, 2022 The Parable of Tenants (Matthew 21:33-45)



May 29, 2022 Family in Genesis Series PREACHER Arnold Lim





MAIN SERVICE

Sundays 8:45am & 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE

SUNDAY SCHOOL for Ages 0-12yrs [ZOOM] Sundays



Call office to know more: <u>03-5621</u>2623

PrayerSpotlight

Kapatid Ministry

- 1. **Child Sponsorship.** Pray for the children as they complete their final month of the school year, that God will sustain them until the end of their school year.
- 2. **Feeding Program.** Pray for our partner churches in the 31 feeding areas, that as they continue to minister to the children and their parents, churches will be planted in the communities they are ministering in.
- 3. **Educational College Scholarship.** Pray as we have begun a new scholarship program for deserving college students to subsidize their college expenses. Pray that this will help college students are in danger of stopping in their studies due to the rising tuition/college fees combined with the low wages/unemployment of their parents.
- 4. **Ipo-Dam Feeding Site.** Pray for our partner church ministering in Ipo- Dam, an isolated, rural community. Pray as we look for a teacher/ educator who will be able to commit to teach the children in the community, as many of them have lost interest in studying due to the lockdown restrictions. Pray also that the interest of the children in learning will be revived.

UpcomingEvents



Alpha 22 The next Alpha program will start from 14 July 2022 Every Thursday 8:00pm CLICK HERE to register for the next Alpha program.



Gamma 19 Guide to Godly Living Despite Being in a Pluralistic Idolatrous Society Every Wednesday 8.30pm-10.00pm Starts from 18 May-8 Jun, 2022 (4-week study) For more information, contact



Daily Prayer Meeting Every Monday to Thursday 9:00pm Zoom ID: 929 735 694 Password: pray



Monthly Prayer Meeting 28 May 2022 (Saturday) 2:00pm to 3:30pm Venue : Transit Hall



Calling All Young Adults 16 May 2022 11:00am - 2:00pm Globe Cafe, FBC No registraion is required. Bring your friends too! For more information, contact Johnson at 016-3059027 or Li Zhung at 012-3557948

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