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ARTICLE Sabah Expedition Reflection

Prayer Spotlight Mission Prayer Request







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- www.fbc.com.my
- MAIN SERVICE | Physical & Youtube | Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE | Physical | Sundays 8:45am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

For Ages 3 to 12 (Preschool to std 6) Physical Classes 8:45am / 11:15am

Expedition Reflection

We're home! The 11 participants who answered God's call to embark on an exposure trip to Sabah in December have returned and they are thankful for God's blessings, keeping them healthy, safe and also traveling without major disruptions. The team thanks everyone who prayed and supported them. You were with them in the Spirit of God as they experienced this trip. Everyone of them has so much to say about the trip. However, I wanted to write a quick summary about all God has done for them and those around them during this trip as well as some initial personal reflections to encourage the church as a whole in our mission for the Lord.

As the team visited the few kampungs, it would be life-changing for some as it was their first time going on an exposure trip which isn't all about

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holidays. For some, it was their first time traveling without parents; for others, it was traveling to a place which was further away from the city without the comfort which they were so used to. However, as each one of them reflected and shared, it was evident that God was in their midst, walking with them, encouraging them as they journeyed. They missed how God unified them, helping them work alongside each other despite the group consisting of various ages. They missed waking up to nature, the fresh air, beautiful sceneries and even the chickens crowing. However, out of all the things that they missed, it is fair to say that the group missed the kampung folk in general who were so generous and hospitable, giving them the best despite having so little, who worshiped alongside them so freely despite language barriers. These people and experiences were definitely a blessing.

In life, many of us live comfortably and yet as humans, our natural inclinations are to be greedy and selfish. How often can we say with absolute confidence that we appreciate what we have, that we do not complain frequently about our surroundings or current circumstances?





This exposure trip has definitely helped the group develop gratitude, understanding how gracious God is and would love to encourage the rest of us to answer his call to missions, to enable God to show us how much he has given and still gives us. As the group reflected, many of them were thankful to God, realizing how God has given them good lives, good opportunities, roof over their heads which are fully furnished, technology, transportation, clean water supplies, comfortable toilets, jobs and the list goes on, and yet, we do catch ourselves being unsatisfied, not having the latest technology, a new car, being unhappy at a job, not having the largest house, often times being unhappy with the choices of food which is being served at the table during meals as well. Over there, the people lead such peaceful lives, they barely have a fraction of what we have and experience, they do not even have choices and yet one thing stands out, God's grace and mercy prevails.





Excitement filled the hearts and minds of the group as they traveled. Some even had doubts, being uncertain of what was to come. The group did not realize what God had prepared for them and looking back, many agreed that this trip did open their eyes to God's goodness, how he was actively working in their lives before and during the trip. Many of them said that they felt God communicating to them in ways which were so tangible.

They saw God through the singing and praying with the local people in the villages through the activities, even through just interacting with the locals, seeing how much the local people trust God despite how little they had.

God reminded the group of how he had a plan, and despite how many obstacles they had to face, if they were obedient and trusted him, if they relied on him, God will not leave them alone and use them, he carried them through each hurdle which the bible reminds us in Isaiah 41:10 - So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

The group had many takeaways from the trip. From realizing how blessed they are to being more open to serve whether it be the kampung folk or even those around us, many of them came to the conclusion of realizing how little power they had in dealing with situations, realizing God was in control and they needed to learn to trust him, not just in the rough but also the easy situations.



Evangelism, whether it was to their individual cell-groups, church members, friends, family and even anyone who was interested to lend a listening ear were all on their minds. Through this experience, they are filled with

enthusiasm, wanting to serve because they are able to see how blessed they are, how much they have.

An exposure trip that was filled with doubt and excitement, wondering how they could serve turned out into an experience which pointed them back to God, showing them how much they had which taught them so much more.

They expected to give but were given so much more by the local people in Sabah, by God. We as a church are so grateful for the experiences that these participants have gained and as much as this newsletter is written, I'd encourage you to have conversations with the participants, to allow them to share with you all that they have experienced so that you may be able to catch a glimpse of God through their experiences too!



By Dickson KamDickson serves in FBC's Missions Ministry and attends GG Life Group



Mission Prayer Request

- 1. Pray for the ones who went on exposure mission in Dec 2022, that the experiences and encounter with God will continue to shape their personal walk with God.
- 2. The 60+ children ministered during the mission trip, will keep growing in their faith in God.
- 3. Pray for the Sabah seminary students to grow in godly faith and trust as God shapes them and prepares them for long term ministry.