

FBC TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ARTICLE

The Sabah Mission Exposure Trip in the Eyes of a First-Time Missionary

Prayer Spotlight

For Mothers of Teenagers and Youth

FBC

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MAIN SERVICE

| Physical & Youtube |

Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

YOUTH SERVICE

| Physical |

Sundays 8:45am

SUNDAY SCHOOL

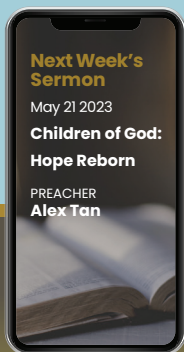
For Ages 3 to 12
(Preschool to std 6)

Physical Classes
8:45am / 11:15am

The Sabah Mission Exposure Trip in the Eyes of First-Time Missionary

As the sole child of a Christian family from a little town in Malaysia, my younger self enjoyed meeting missionaries from numerous nations. It was a blessing to care for them in our home and even more to glimpse the wondrous deeds God worked through

them. Nonetheless, the prospect for me to serve as a missionary was scarce. As someone who never went on mission trips but witnessed missionaries serve people, it was easy to presume that mission work required perfect and experienced Christians.



Pulpit Program

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My first mission trip was the Sabah Mission Exposure Trip from 16 to 19 December 2022. It was a time when God opened my eyes. The lesson Jesus frequently taught us as a team is that God does not call the qualified; he qualifies the called. Until today, the Sabah Mission Trip assures me that anyone who believes in Adonai and surrenders to him will not be overpowered by their limitations.

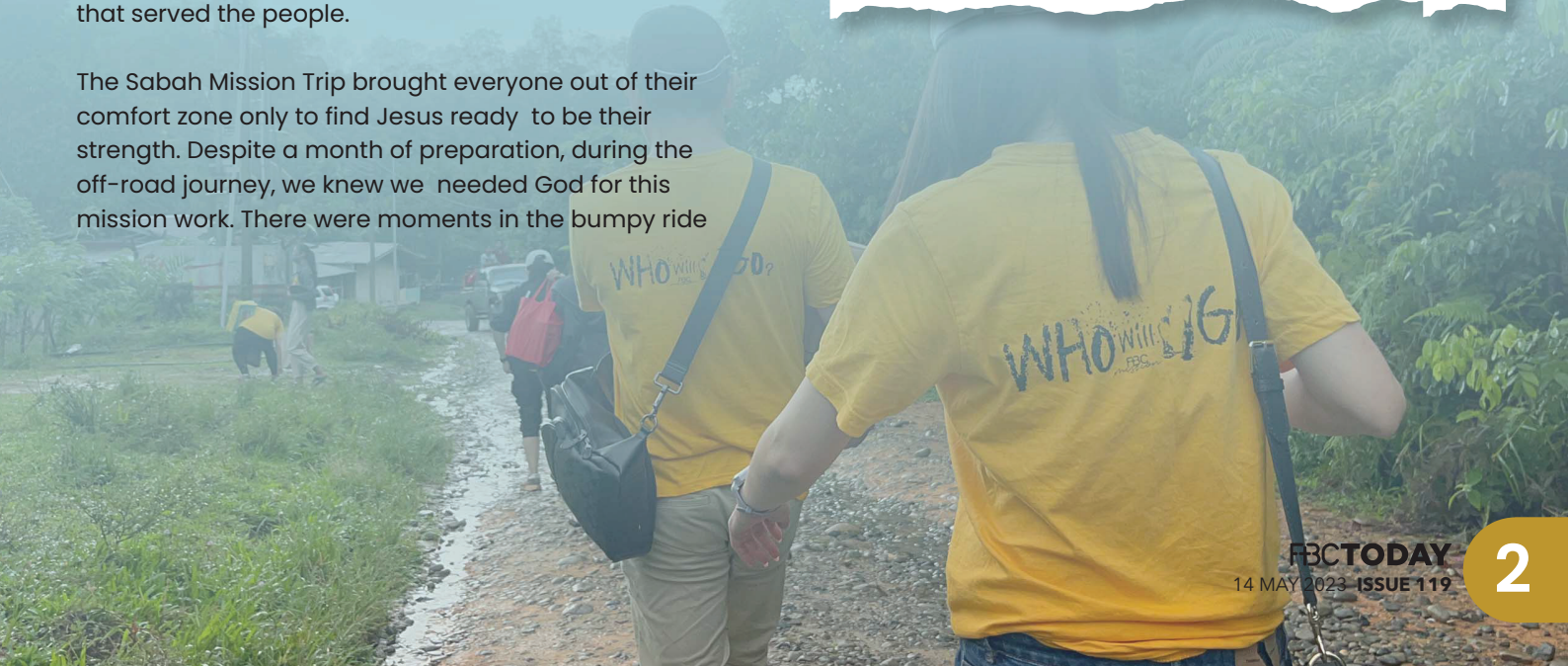
Sharing about the Sabah Mission Trip is emotional because it is hard to ignore the unanticipated way God blessed my life. In many ways, the Lord gave us new strength, and as I write, it is hard to hold back tears of gratitude. The team saw God surpassing their expectations. Throughout the preparation for the trip, we focused on demonstrating the love of Christ to the people at Kampung Wayan. Thus, it never crossed our mind that Jesus would uniquely minister to us as we evangelised to them. Not only did the Lord bless the people in Kampung Wayan, but he touched the team that served the people.

The Sabah Mission Trip brought everyone out of their comfort zone only to find Jesus ready to be their strength. Despite a month of preparation, during the off-road journey, we knew we needed God for this mission work. There were moments in the bumpy ride

when we felt exhausted, but God used that journey to unite us and strengthen our faith in him. Minutes into the off-road journey, we realised the next hours would require tremendous courage. Upon continuing the journey with prayer, we noticed a rare, beautiful double rainbow in the sky. Excitement broke through the blue atmosphere, and we glorified God for his faithfulness.

Even after sharing memories about the Sabah Mission Trip for months, I never revealed why I decided to join the trip. Embarrassing as it may be, the first reason I sought to join the trip was to escape feeling disappointed on my 20th birthday. Knowing that was one of the worst motives in history to consider joining a mission trip, I gave more thought and prayed about it.

With the peace of God, I gave my name to join the trip. Soon, I found it a chance to show the love of Jesus, build faith, create good memories, and enjoy a plane ride after more than a decade. True enough, the Sabah Mission Trip was an unforgettable adventure. I will never forget the joy of sharing the birth of Christ on my birthday in a room full of children. At first, it was nerve-wracking, but soon, I was not left out of experiencing the love of God. As I fixed my mind on blessing children with the good news of Christ, Jesus overwhelmed me with his love. Telling children about Jesus, meeting new people, and building new friendships wiped away birthday blues.



Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6

For years, God reminded me of Proverbs 3:5-6. As a worried young girl, I hardly grasped the point of trusting in an unseen God and not overthinking every step of life. Little did I know that God would use the Sabah Mission Exposure Trip to teach me that scripture on a deeper level. A week after the trip, the Holy Spirit reminded me of Proverbs 3:5-6 as I shared the mission experience with a friend. I learned that the trip pulled me out of my comfort zone and handed me an opportunity to experience trusting God with all my heart in every move. The God who led kings and prophets since the early days knocks on the door of our hearts every day and reminds our anxious souls to not fear circumstances but trust in his leadership. The Sabah Mission Exposure Trip helped me grasp the point of trusting in an unseen God by relying on his strength.

After the trip, I told Jesus how sharing His love on my 20th birthday with the children was far better than the other 19 birthdays. During that moment with God, I realised how he used the mission exposure trip to prepare me for his calling upon my life. I began to remember promises God made to me during the lowest moments in my life and how he fulfilled them during the trip.



The 16th year of my life was a season of depression; I often felt it was better not to live. On my 16th birthday, I asked God for an explanation because I was frustrated with situations. The Lord explained how challenges in life prepare me for the days of serving him and encouraged me to persevere in that season. Not long after that, the Lord revealed his call for me to speak to children about Jesus and go on mission trips. Instead of believing, I laughed at the promises during the recent pandemic lockdown and soon forgot about it. As I thanked God for the Sabah Mission Exposure Trip after returning home, I remembered the promises I thought were dead and worshipped God for his faithfulness.

The God of Covenant we serve never forgets his promises. The Sabah Mission Trip was a short but impactful season in my life that showed me the need to share the gospel of Jesus with children. It was a training ground for me and gave new strength to many team members. One thing is for sure, never underestimate the things God can do when we serve him wholeheartedly.



Written By Samatha Raymond

Samantha serves in the caption duty team, the Mission Ministry, and the Sunday Service



For Mothers of Teenagers and Youth

- Grow in her the fruit of Your Spirit. Help her to model Christ-likeness even as she encourages her children in their walk with You.
- Grant her wisdom as she guides her children with healthy boundaries. When she is faced with disappointment or conflict, enable her to respond with grace.
- Tune her voice to affirm, ready her ears to listen, and fill her heart with compassion. Ground her in Your unending grace and everlasting love as she supports her children through adolescence and into adulthood.
- In difficult times, remind her that her children are Your children, made in Your image; You have a plan and a purpose for them.
- Inspire her with creative ways to build bridges to connect with her children. Bless them with opportunities to enjoy one another's company. Fill this season with laughter, growth, forgiveness, and Your loving presence, we pray.