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for FBC Mission Team

2024 FBC Philippines Mission Trip Sharing- Part 3

A continuation of testimonies from the 2024 FBC Philippines Mission Trip:

Fiona Chan

I heard how going on a mission trip brings blessings and changes one's perspective. So I have set my mind to try. The thought that I will be used by God to share the gospel, and talk to people I have never met with the language barrier, did make me doubt what I can contribute to God's kingdom.









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But I went anyway cause I wanted to see God working in my and other people's lives.

Other people's lives - I witnessed how Children's sponsorship can transform lives: Visiting the sponsored kids' home in the slum, and seeing how they need help through education to break the poverty cycle. Through education, the children can have hope to achieve their dreams and hopefully improve the family's financial condition. However, the ultimate goal is to help to nurture the children in biblical truth. These children go to church and serve in various ministries. This would hopefully build the children's character to be Christ-like. And that the family would notice the changes in these children and draw the family also to the gospel.

My life - Being my first mission trip, I lack experience, boldness, and eloquence for the mission works. Remembering 2 Corinthians 12:9 -"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness". God is reminding Paul that the strength behind Paul's ministry was not Paul's experiences or abilities nor was it the absence of difficulty. When we are weak, God's power is even more evident. We should trust God to show up, allowing us to do so much more than we could ever do. Hopefully, this would also encourage some of you to also go for a mission trip, just go with a submissive and serving heart for God to work through you.

Soh Khen

Praise God for a fruitful mission trip. I am thankful and grateful to be part of this team of 15 participants (aged 25 to 69 years old, the majority are young adults), myself being the most senior.

Indeed I am very encouraged by the incredible teamwork - the willingness of each participant, servanthood, openness to the leading of the Holy Spirit, and the love and unity displayed among teammates.

Though we have different roles to play everyone just complements one another. Everyone was serving with much joy and cheer, no complaining though we were exhausted after the day's activities.

I have the privilege to work with the Kapatid Ministry and its partnering churches. Now I can pray more specifically for their needs.



In the afternoons we have the "Bless a Senior" Program. Some of the seniors are nonbelievers, and some are bedridden and need to be visited at their homes. We meet up with these Seniors who share about themselves and their families. Each has a story to tell and we give a listening ear. As the Holy Spirit leads, we share the Gospel and our testimonies. We pray for their needs. And we give grocery items to each family.

I had the opportunity to visit and pray for an elderly lady (in her late 90s) at her home. In my interaction with the Seniors, many have dedicated their lives to the Lord and are serving in their church and community. There is an 84-year-old lady who has been cooking for the children's feeding program.

On Sunday some of us followed Pastor Titus JR to the Llano Christian Baptist Church where he was preaching. We were also connected to 8 of our sponsor children. After church service, we visited some of their homes in a nearby slum area, to pray for them and their families. Their homes are very small, dangerously built beside the creek. The passage is as narrow as one person can go through only, very dark and wet.

I believe the seed has been planted in the places where God has placed us during the 4-day mission and that God will cause the seeds to sprout and to grow in His time and for His Glory.

It is never too old to go for a mission trip; just have a willing heart, avail yourself and you will be amazed how God can use you.



Suet Wei

Before going on the mission trip, I thought it was just a special opportunity to preach God's word. But after the trip, I realized it was so much more—it was about truly living out the gospel in everything we do.

On the first day, we took part in a children's feeding program. We were trying to connect with kids whose language and culture were completely new to us, and that uncertainty created some doubts within our team. We played with the children, made bracelets together, and shared the story of the "Good Samaritan." Unfortunately, we forgot to use a translator while telling the story! We worried that they had not understood us. But as we were saying our goodbyes, a little girl came up to me and kissed me on the cheek. In that sweet moment, I felt God's presence and knew He was working through us, touching her heart in ways words could not.

On our last day, I lost my voice and decided to join the seniors' program. We met with a few elderly people by a busy roadside. I did not plan to share, hoping Brother Victor would do the talking, but something tugged at my heart, and I felt called to share my personal experience of God's love.

I was not sure if they would want to listen to someone so much younger, but I went ahead anyway. As we were saying our farewells, an elderly aunty came up to me and kissed me on the cheek. That is when I knew, without a doubt, that God was with us throughout the entire mission trip, and I felt assured that He would continue to be with them in the Philippines.

Clementine Ong

Last year I signed up to go on the mission exposure trip to the Philippines, hoping to see and experience the works that God is doing there. We had a very small group (just four people) that went out from FBC. We worked alongside the Kapatid Ministry team and the volunteers from local churches on various programs.

One of my encouragement was to see many teenagers so committed to helping with the children's program. Some even traveled out of the city weekly to serve. Later, I came to know that many of these young volunteers were actually beneficiaries of the Child Sponsorship Program by the Kapatid Ministry. It's a program that provides financial assistance to families so that a child in that family is able to continue his/her education through high school. Many of the young people were

blessed by the program and they now commit their time to serve the LORD by serving their communities.

Before we left the Philippines, we were hoping to come back one day to organize a retreat for these young servants of God so that they would be equipped and encouraged in their faithful service. On our way to the airport, I was thinking, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few." I prayed that God would gather more people to work in His fields.

God answered my prayer!
This year, He raised 12 new
people plus the three
people from last year to go
to the mission exposure
trip to the Philippines.

Among the 12 who signed up, more than half of them were younger adults and thus allowed us to organize a retreat for the young volunteers for a time of rest, worship, fellowship, and studying of the Word together as we were hoping to do. God is so good! He made it possible for us to do what we hope to do this year in the Philippines, and He granted me the privilege to join Him in His works. Praise be to God and all glory to Him.



Conclusion:

"From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work" - Ephesians 4:16. It is evident that the churches planted by Kapatid Ministries are filled with members unified in Christ and growing in their love for Him, one another and others. Our team was so encouraged to go and do likewise. To see the pure joy of young children, youth, young adults, and senior citizens as they served Christ faithfully was evidence of their love for God. This is the body of Christ: all ages, all different giftings and all working together to make His name known to all for His glory and praise. If you are thinking about joining the team next year to see what God is doing in the Philippines and for your faith to be encouraged, commit to prayer now. Ask a brother or sister to pray for you. May FBC continue to send forth workers who love God and love others throughout and beyond Malaysia.



By Sarah Ong

Sarah leads the Prayerful People Life group with her husband Caleb and serves in multiple ministries such as the Missions Ministry, Young Adult Ministry and as an announcer in FBCT



Thanksgiving and Prayer for FBC Mission Team

- Lord, we thank You for blessing the participants of the 2024 Philippines Mission Trip with the heart to obey You, in loving You with their whole beings and loving their neighbours. We are grateful for the testimonies of seeing and experiencing Your mighty work, Your faithfulness and goodness.
- Lord, please give us hearts that care for the people who are still in darkness.
 Teach us in FBC to care for them as You do. Give us generous hearts that we will be willing to suffer hardships to seek the lost, just like Jesus who humbled Himself, even to death on a cross.
- We pray that You would help us to run events that encourage more people to undertake the work of going out and planting the gospel to those who have not heard of the salvation of Jesus. We pray that You will draw more people in FBC to step out in faith to join mission trips near and far.
- We pray Your Spirit will lead us in conversations that are seasoned with salt and full of grace. For friendships that show the love of Jesus.

