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TOGOP EXPOSURE TRIP (16TH-20TH SEPTEMBER 2025)

PRAYER SPOTLIGHT

PRAYER FOR SABAH





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Arrived at Kota Kinabalu International Airport (KKIL) and we were met by Rumba from SIB, her husband, William, and another SIB staff, Dexter, who was joining us for the mission Exposure Trip to Kampung Togop Laut. Togop

is three hours on the road in from KK. Most of us climbed into a van, Dexter joining us with Yakup driving it, and a couple of us in a pick-up truck with Rumba and William.









Our team, headed by Victor, consisted of Jerry Lim, Yakup, Michael Christine, Pei Ann, Ashley, Micah Andrew, and myself. We had no clue about the people in Togop that we would be meeting, but we knew that we would be running a leadership training for about 20 adults and young adults, and 40 children for a mini Vacation Bible School (Thank you, Genevieve, and team for helping with the VBS materials). We expected it all to be conducted in Bahasa Malaysia, but we heard that internet connection may be available and that means we could communicate in English with some of the children.

Our journey from KK continued up a scenic, windy road passing Kundasang. After a good lunch at Ranau town and buying a few things to bring into the kampung with us, our journey to Togop was just another 35 minutes.

At Togop Laut, we stopped in front of the kindergarten first. This is Tadika Bintang Harapan, which kindergarten is a sponsored by FBCSJ, from around 10 years ago. We were greeted by the kindergarten teacher, Evelyn, who was our main coordinator from the kampung. She had organised our accommodations as well as all the meals and facilities for the sessions we were going to have: the children's VBS at a multipurpose hall and the leadership training at the church itself. At the back of the church is a community kitchen where we had our meals.

Mini VBS



Our sessions for the children, aged 6-12 years old, started on the second day with 5 sessions to be run in 2 and a half days. We were so thankful and happily surprised by SIB when Rumba brought in 2 boxes filled with Malay Bibles for children and some devotional booklets. According to Rumba, these were also sponsored by FBC, "leftovers" from when they were in Sabah for a Mission 2 years ago. Indeed, the Word of God sent now was really God sent because we didn't bring any Malay Bibles with us, and we had thought that the children would have their own. So every child received a Bible, and that was what we used in all our sessions, getting them to read from the Bible and not just telling the Bible stories to them.

Praying:

The Word of the Lord that goes out not return to Him empty but accomplish what He desires and achieve the purpose which He sent. (Isaiah 55 : 11 NIV)



















The singing, games, activities, and small group discussions helped us bond with the children in Togop. We discovered that while some are from Christian homes and know the Bible stories, some completely unexposed to the word of God. Most of them were keen to learn, and we could see that in the small made different groups, ones connection to the lesson taught at some point. For some, it was like meeting Jesus for the first time, hearing him call their name. For others, it was knowing their worth in God's eyes, or knowing Jesus' promise to never leave them. While for others, it was an affirmation of faith, like a wise man building his house on a firm foundation, to continue in reading God's word and in prayer. We were all touched by how they responded in the sessions, and definitely the Holy Spirit was at work in their hearts.

Praying:

May these seeds be sown in good and fertile grounds that "produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." (Mathew 13: 23 NIV)

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The leadership sessions, held mainly by Jerry and Michael, proved productive in helping the leaders understand a bit about servant leadership, more mentoring, and communication. Abiding in the presence of God for leaders is to practice maintaining a Christ-like approach to leadership. The leadership training team ran 2 main objective activities: building the tallest tower using straws to set the foundation of casting, prayer, delegation, and serving one another through teamwork. What encouraged me, looking at the leaders of the village, was that the Ketua kampung himself is a man of faith, the church pastor is humble, and the people are so open and generous in sharing and learn with us. We were all touched by the love and openness of the people in receiving us, recognizing we are all part of the family of God.

"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

John 13: 35 NIV



























MY TAKEAWAY

"The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Deuteronomy 31:8 NIV

Firstly, while preparing for the kids' program, I felt inadequate because I wasn't sure about the materials. We also constantly mentioned the importance of reading the Bible's stories from the Bible

itself, but we weren't carrying any Malay Bibles with us, and we were just hoping that the kids would have them. But everyone in the team worked well together and were so flexible in tailoring the lessons as we got to know the children better. The miracle for me also was that the Bibles had already gone ahead of us, two years ahead! The Lord is Almighty!!

Secondly, Togop Laut was also a place where we were truly unplugged from myself, I actually technology. For "abandoned" my handphone, forgetting even to take photos for my Instagram, but was just present in the present, the here and now, and really absorbed in the air and space that enveloped me. I was also very glad for the opportunity to know the team members better, as we are fairly new to the church and are just know getting to more FBC's community.

The Lord is good.
To God be the glory!





PRAYER FOR SABAH

1. Bajau Pelau Community

- Children: For divine protection from harmful influences and for them to discover hope and a God-given future.
- Mothers: For spiritual growth and strength, that they would bring Christ's love and wisdom in their families.
- Transformation: For the school to be a catalyst for positive change and for God's love and power to bring holistic transformation.

2. Kampong Layon & Kampong Nangkawangan

- Economy: For the rejuvenation of village economic development, specifically for initiatives like pineapple farming to yield sustainable prosperity and create good livelihoods.
- Expansion: For the successful replication of community programs to other villages.

3. Pastor Calvenno & Family

 Support: For God's enduring strength, a hedge of divine protection, and His profound peace to rest upon them as they serve.