



Vol. XXXI No. 41 October 11, 2015 Baguio City, Philippines

"Let us aspire to inspire each other before we expire."

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Tuao congregation celebrates 10th anniversary today

Previous plans for Midtown's MOM to grace the 10th anniversary celebration of the Tuao (Cagayan) congregation did not push through due to the unforeseen demise of the mother of sister Janet Ramos. Because of this, MOM members waived participation in today's celebration and instead made an earlier trip to Ilagan City on October 7 & 8.

Brethren from the Pasir Panjang (Singapore) congregation, having been a major instrument in the establishment of this congregation in 2005, are gracing the occasion. Midtown, being partners with the Pasir Panjang church of Christ in Philippine evangelization, continues to lend moral support to the 10-year old congregation. This congregation conveys jubilations and prayers to the Tuao brethren through spouses Jojo and Janet Ramos who are to serve there today. Please keep them in earnest prayers.Ω

Brethren console Baggao family; officiate funeral

Last Wednesday, October 7th, a number of brethren from Midtown travelled to the city of Ilagan, Isabela to console the Baggao family for the loss of a loved one, sister VIRGINIA BALLESTEROS BAGGAO who passed away at the age of 68 on October 3, 2015. She is survived by 6 children, Taddy Baggao, Janet Ramos, Che Astadan, Veronica Zamora, Bituin Gomoang, and Ditas. She was also the mother of the late brother Don-don Baggao.

Brethren Julius & Fely Rojo, Gaspar Jr. & Virgie Baldo, Lailany Palaypayon, Ruth Trinidad, Jun Reyes, Arnan Bayla, and Shemer Sameon attended the funeral last Thursday, October 8, 2015. Singaporean brethren Adrian & Doreen Teo, and Peter Lim together with Mark Hooper were also there.

Brother Arnan officiated the necrological service held at the gymnasium of Barangay Baculud, and the committal service at the Ilagan City public cemetery.

The Baggao family conveys their most profound appreciation to the Midtown family for the undying love, unending support and encouragement during their time of grief.Ω

Brethren attend various mission & servant-leadership workshops

Forty-five (45) brethren representing seven (7) congregations, namely, La Trinidad, City Camp, NLEX, Centrepoint, Ambiong-Centrepoint, Midtown, and Dungan (Sison, Pangasinan) attended the workshop on "Leadership in Missions" held at the Midtown assembly hall the other Saturday, October 3, 2015 from 9 AM to 3PM. Brother Adrian Teo, an elder of the Pasir Panjang (Singapore) congregation facilitated the morning session on "The Leadership Challenge" while brother Mark Hooper of the Mission Resource Network (MRN) based in Texas, USA, facilitated the afternoon session on "Biblical Principles of Missions."

Meanwhile, a handful brethren, namely, Jojo Ramos, Lemuel Glori, Gaspar Baldo Jr., and Ruth Trinidad represented the Missions Outreach Ministry (MOM) in a special study on "Nehemiah's Servant-Leadership Style" facilitated by brother Mark Hooper held at the Family Life Center, Mezzanine floor of the Infinitea Cafe, Session Rd., this city, last Monday, October 5. Evening of the same day, sister Doreen Teo, an elder's wife, facilitated a study on "Daughters of Sarah" (1 Peter 3:1-6) which was attended by twelve (12) young ladies of Midtown.

Midtown thanks the Ramoses for coordinating the events, Mommy Rose Go for preparing tokens of appreciation for the guests and to the Glori-Trinidad family for hosting dinner in honor of the missionaries at their residence Sunday evening, October 4.Ω

Midtown ministers to Tuba senior citizens

With the invitation of brother Charlie Abance, an officer of the association of Senior Citizens of Tuba, brother Arnan Bayla was given the opportunity to serve as inspirational speaker before the members of the association of senior citizens at the Senior Citizen's Center of the Municipality of Tuba, Poblacion, Tuba, Benguet, last Monday, October 5, 2015.

Brother Arnan Bayla encouraged the elderly to make use of their golden years to pursue and to realize precious and invaluable truths leading to

Servers Today, October 11, 2015

Communicating the Gospel (1 Thessalonians 2:1-12)

Speaker: Andy Bestre
Song Leader: Arnan Bayla
Invocation: Abe Insas
Intercessory Prayer: Dexter Wagang
Communion Text: Hebrews 9:11-15
Scripture Reading: Donnel Gonzales
Prayer for the Bread: Alec Likigan
Prayer for the Cup: Mark Wagang
Prayer for the Giving: Bernie Austria
Closing Prayer: Jhun Bayating
Announcement: Arnan Bayla
Evening Speaker: Andy Bestre
Song Leader: Arnan Bayla
To Bring Flowers: Clarita Cachero
To Bring Biscuits: Midtown
To Bring Drinks: Midtown
Usher/ettes: Tacay Family

Communion: Lerma Logro
Worship Coordinator: Rod Tada / Lem Glori

How To Become a Biblical Christian

- 1). *Accept that you are a sinner and in need of salvation, 1 John 3:4,8; Rom.3:10,23; Rom. 6:23.*
- 2). *Hear the pure New Testament gospel of Christ; Romans 1:16; Rom. 10:17.*
- 3). *Believe the gospel, Hebrews 11:6; Mark 16:16; John 8:24*
- 4). *Repent of your sins, Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30.*
- 5). *Confess that Jesus is the Christ, Mat. 10:32; Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:10.*
- 6). *Be baptized into Christ, Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16.*
- 7). *Remain faithful unto death, Rev. 2:10;*

Servers for October 18, 2015

Receiving the Lord (1 Thessalonians 2:13-20)

Speaker: Arnan Bayla
Song Leader: Andy Bestre
Invocation: Ernie Wagang
Intercessory Prayer: Greg Kitma
Communion Text: Romans 6:1-7
Scripture Reading: Ira Po
Prayer for the Bread: CD Espinosa
Prayer for the Cup: O'neil Gonzales
Prayer for the Giving: JJ Ramos
Closing Prayer: Mar Bayating
Announcement: Andy Bestre
Evening Speaker: Arnan Bayla
Song Leader: Andy Bestre
To Bring Flowers: Nancy Bayla
To Bring Biscuits: Midtown
To Bring Drinks: Midtown
Usher/ettes: Baddas Family

Communion: Lerma Logro
Worship Coordinator: Rod Tada / Lem Glori

Last Sunday's Offering October 4, 2015

AM COLLECTION
P26,842.00 + 40 US\$

PM COLLECTION
P2,850.00

AM/PM TOTAL COLLECTION
P29,692.00 + \$40

MOM - P1,000 + 500

ATTENDANCE

AM	PM
Adults - 109	Adults - 16
YP - 47	YP - 7
Children - 36	Children - 3
Guests - 0	Guests - 0

TOTAL - 192 **TOTAL - 26**

TOTAL ATTENDANCE (AM/PM) 218

PRAYER LIST

Good Health & Fast Recovery:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| *Rosita Go | *Robinson Palaypayon |
| *Leah Tada | *Santiago (Dan) Sameon VI |
| *Charity Ong | *Bernie Austria |
| *Octavio Abance | *Clavern Abance |
| *Bernabe Abance | *Jhun Bayating |
| *Ian Pajantoy | *Florence Magalong |
| *Gloria Yang | *Aracelli Pelle |
| *Marina Gawe | *Lily Soriano |
| *Fernanda Ringor | *Andy Bestre |
| *Mark Poblete | *Ching Chih Yang |
| *Rocelyn Rimando | *Ed Concepcion |
| *Sotero Denis | *Charlie Alvarez |
| *Ed Lauder | *Mellina Licupa |
| *Lulu Bondoc | |
| *Josefa Josayan | |

SAFE PREGNANCY

- *Margaret Suanding-Yang
*Kaiyah Kitma-Albay

James 5:15

"And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. . . ."

SAFE TRAVEL

PPCOC & MRN team,
(Isabela & Cagayan)
Sameons (Mindanao)

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

- **YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING**—Mezzanine floor; after the AM worship assembly today.
- **LADIES LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP**—Next Sunday, October 18, 2015 @ 12—2:30 PM
- **LADIES MINISTRY MEETING**—Midtown Hall, Wednesday, October 14, 2015 @ 2:00PM
- **TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM** on October 13, 2015 @ 12—2:30 PM
- **EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN**—Surigao del Norte, September 30—October 12, 2015
- **PASIR PANJANG (PP) CHURCH OF CHRIST & MISSION RESOURCE NETWORK (MRN)**—Philippine Mission Journey, October 2—12, 2015.

COMMUNICATING THE GOSPEL*

A. As a Faithful Steward (1 Thes. 2:1-6)
Paul had been *put in trust with the Gospel*" (1 Thess 2:4). It was not a message that he made up or that he received from men (Gal 1:11-12). Paul looked on himself as a steward of God's message. The message of the Gospel is a treasure God has entrusted to us. We must not bury it; we must invest it so it will multiply and produce "spiritual dividends" to God's glory. Some Christians think that the church's only responsibility is to protect the Gospel from those who would change it (Gal 1:6-9). But we also must share the Gospel; otherwise, we are protecting it in vain.

1. The manner of his ministry (vv. 1-2). Paul and Silas had been beaten and humiliated at Philippi; yet they came to Thessalonica and preached. Most of us would have taken a vacation or found an excuse not to minister, Paul was courageous - he was not a quitter. He had a "holy boldness" that was born of dedication to God. Like the other Apostles before him, Paul boldly proclaimed the Good News (Acts 4:13,29,31). His preaching was *with much contention*. "This is an athletic term that means "a contest, a struggle."

2. The message of his ministry (v. 3 a). *For the appeal we make does not spring from error.* Here he assured them that his message was true. Six times in this letter he mentioned the Gospel. This message of Christ's death and resurrection (1 Cor 15:1)- is a true message and is the only true Gospel (Gal 1:6-12). Paul received this Gospel from God, not from man.

3. The motive of his ministry (v. 3 b). He was not guilty of "uncleanness," for his motives were pure. It is possible to preach the right message with the wrong motives (Phil 1:14-19). Unfortunately, some people in Paul's day used religion as a means for making money. Paul did not use the Gospel as *a cloak to cover his covetousness*"(1 Thess 2:5). He was open and honest in all his dealings, and he even worked at a trade to earn his own support.

4. The method of his ministry (vv. 3c-6). Paul did not use guile or trickery to win souls. The word translated "guile" carries the idea of "baiting a hook." In other words, Paul did not trap people into being saved, the way a clever salesman traps people into buying his product. Spiritual witnessing and "Christian salesmanship" are different. Salvation is the result of God's Word and the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Thess 1:5), not as a result of trickery.

B. As a Loving Mother (1 Thes. 2:7-8)
1. The emphasis of the mother is gentleness. As an apostle, Paul was a man of authority; but he always used His authority in love. The babes in Christ sensed his tender loving care as he nurtured them. He was indeed like a loving mother who cared for her children.

2. It takes time and energy to care for children. Paul did not turn disciples over to babysitters; he made sacrifices and cared for them himself. He did not tell them to "read a book" as a substitute for His own personal ministry (though good Christian literature can help young believers to grow). Children do not grow up instantly. They all experience growing pains and encounter problems as they mature. Paul's love for them made him patient, because love suffers long, and is kind (1 Cor 13:4).

3. A mother protects her child besides making sacrifices, having patience, and giving nourishment. It was this fact that enabled King Solomon to discover which woman was the real mother of the living child (1 Kings 3:16-28). Paul was willing to give not only the Gospel but His own life as well. His love for the Thessalonians was so great he would die for them if necessary.

C. As a Concerned Father (1 Thess 2:9-12). Paul considered himself a "spiritual father" to the believers at Thessalonica, just as he did toward the saints at Corinth. *For if you were to have countless tutors in Christ, yet you would not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the Gospel*"(1 Cor 4:15, NASB). The Spirit of God used the Word of God in Paul's ministry, and many people in Thessalonica, were born again into the family of God.

1. His work (v. 9). The father works to support his family. Even though the Christians in Philippi sent financial help (Phil 4:15-16), Paul still made tents and paid His own way. No one could accuse him of using his ministry for his own profit.

2. His walk (v. 10). Fathers must live so that they are good examples to their children. He could call the Thessalonian believers as witnesses that his life had been exemplary in every way. None of the members of the assembly could accuse Paul of being a poor example. Furthermore, God had witnessed Paul's life; and Paul was not afraid to call God as a witness that he had lived a dedicated life, while caring for the church family.

3. His words (vv. 11-12). A father must not only support the family by working, and teach die family by being a good example. He must also take time to speak to the family members. Paul knew the importance of teaching these new believers the truths that would help them grow in the Lord. Paul dealt with each of the believers personally. "For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children" (1 Thess 2:11). As busy as he was, Paul still had time for personal counseling with the members of the assembly. Our Lord was never too busy to speak to individuals, even though He preached to great multitudes. This is what a father does with His children, for children are easily discouraged. New Christians need someone to encourage them in the Lord. The word exhorting in our Authorized Version means *to call to one's side, to encourage*. "It does not mean that Paul scolded them. Rather, it means he encouraged them to go on with the Lord. Paul also comforted them. This word carries the same idea of "encouragement," with the emphasis on activity. Paul not only made them feel better, but he made them want to do better. It must be a stimulant that awakens us to do better. Finally, Paul charged them. This word means that Paul "testified to them" out of his own experience with the Lord. It carries the idea of giving personal witness.

Sometimes we go through difficulties so that we may share with new Christians what the Lord has done.

God "comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God" (2 Cor 1:4, NIV).

This passage gives us a beautiful example of how to communicate the gospel. Paul has shown us how to raise the babies. We must be faithful stewards, loving mothers, and concerned fathers. This is a good example for us to follow.Ω

(Condensed by Arnan Bayla from The Bible Exposition Commentary.)

Midtown Church of Christ SCHEDULE OF MONTHLY / WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL / CARE GROUPS

VENUE	TIME	FACILITATORS
WEDNESDAY		
Midtown Assembly Hall	7-9 PM	Arnan Bayla, et. al.
Irisan Mobile (Baban, Austria, Yang residences)	7 - 9 PM	Andy Bestre/ Sixto Aoas
THURSDAY		
Mobile: Lower Kitma, Dangwa, Cabinet Hill	6 - 8 PM	Dodoy Sameon / Ernie Wagang / Rod Tada
Midtown Assembly Hall	7 - 9 PM (On Hold)	Andy Bestre
Young People Family Life Center	5:30 - 7:30 PM	O'neil Gonzales, et. al.
FRIDAY		
Midtown Assembly Hall	7 - 9 PM	Lemuel Glori / Arnan Bayla
Upper Kitma Village	7 - 9 PM	Greg Kitma / Chris Oliva
SATURDAY		
Sports & Jogging Panagbenga Park	8 - 10 AM	YPeez Sports Enthusiasts
Young Adults Family Life Center	5 - 7 PM	Dexter Wagang / O'neil Gonzales
Couples Care Group	5 - 7 PM Fourth Saturday	Jun Bondoc / Lemuel Glori
SUNDAY		
All YPeez Care Group	12 - 3 PM Fourth Sunday	YPs in charge
All Ladies Fellowship	12 - 3 PM Third Sunday	Ladies in charge: Pagbibigay Group

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP ASSEMBLY



HOLY COMMUNION

Communion - 9:00 - 9:30
Bible Classes - 9:30 - 10:30
Message - 10:45 - 11:15

MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS SUNDAY PM WORSHIP

6:30 - 8:30 PM



Worship Assembly
5:30 - 6:30 PM



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