

Servers Today, April 16, 2017

Making The Most Of Your Trials
(James 1:13-18)

Speaker:	Andy Bestre
Song Leader:	Chris Oliva
Invocation:	Ernie Wagang
Intercessory Prayer:	Julius Rojo
Communion Text:	Ephesians 2:3-10
Scripture Reading:	Rodrigo Bondoc
Prayer for the Bread:	Mark Wagang
Prayer for the Cup:	O'neil Gonzales
Prayer for the Giving:	Mervin Oliva
Closing Prayer:	Jojo Ramos
Announcement:	Chris Oliva
Evening Speaker:	Andy Bestre
Song Leader:	Chris Oliva
To Bring Flowers:	Josie Baban
To Bring Biscuits:	c/o Midtown
To Bring Drinks:	c/o Midtown
Usher/ettes	Bayla Family
Communion:	Kana Perdigon
Worship Coordinator:	R.Tada L.Glori A. Tacay

How To Become a Biblical Christian

- 1). Admit 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 Christ is Lord, 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 April 23, 2017

Behaving As We Believe
(James 1:19-27)

Speaker:	Jojo Ramos
Song Leader:	Andy Bestre
Invocation:	Abe Insas
Intercessory Prayer:	Dexter Wagang
Communion Text:	Colossians 3:1-4
Scripture Reading:	Mel Aquino
Prayer for the Bread:	Kajem Kitma
Prayer for the Cup:	Jasper Perdigon
Prayer for the Giving:	Sol Palaypayon
Closing Prayer:	Jhun Bayating
Announcement:	Andy Bestre
Evening Speaker:	Jojo Ramos
Song Leader:	Andy Bestre
To Bring Flowers:	Clarita G. Catchero
To Bring Biscuits:	Volunteers Needed
To Bring Drinks:	Volunteers Needed
Usher/ettes	Kitma Family
Communion:	Kana Perdigon
Worship Coordinator:	R.Tada L.Glori A. Tacay

THE **MIDTOWN** INFORMER

Official weekly publication of the Midtown Church.
(A Church of Christ Serving You)

Vol. XXXIII No. 16 April 16, 2017 Baguio City, Philippines

Livelihood participants appreciate workshop

A good number of Midtown brethren participated in the Livelihood Seminar spearheaded by Midtown’s Mission Outreach Ministry (MOM) and Ladies Ministry at Midtown’s assembly hall the other past Saturday, April 8, 2017 at 1—5 PM. The participants were very appreciative of the workshop as it gave them useful information, helpful techniques, and first-hand experience in the preparation of delectable peanut butter, *siomai*, and fresh *miki* noodles.

Sister Marina Gawe facilitated the peanut butter—making while Ms. Del Foronda facilitated the *siomai* and fresh *miki* noodle-making. Ms. Foronda is a trainor from the city congressman’s livelihood program. Those who benefitted from the workshop include sisters Ruth Trinidad, Leah Tada, Rowena Cordero, Jovy Mabesa, Fely Rojo, Angie Linggon, Jane Bestre, Minda Oliva, Evelyn Ignacio, and brothers Abe Linggon, and Sixto Aoas.Ω

Ramos serves as NLBC baccalaureate speaker

Spouses Jonathan & Janet Ramos were the Guests of Honor at the baccalaureate service and the 9th Commencement Exercises of twelve (12) graduating students of Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) and Associate in Theology (A.Th) at the Northern Luzon Bible College (NLBC) located at Barangay Bigbiga, San Fabian, Pangasinan the other past Saturday, April 8, 2017. There were 10 gentlemen and 2 ladies who received their diploma. Brother Jonathan A. Ramos served as the baccalaureate speaker on “*Always Abounding in the Work of the Lord*” based on 1 Corinthians 15:57-58.

NLBC’s president, brother Jonathan T. Ramos (not to be confused with brother Jonathan A. Ramos) extends invitation to Bokod young men and women to enroll in the college. He also requested brother Jojo Ramos to teach a course on Mission Theology in the college in the near future. In return NLBC will be willing to send their students for a summer missionary internship to help in MOM’s upcoming mission work particularly in Mountain Province or in Kabayan, Benguet. The Ramoses praise the Lord for the opportunity to have served with NLBC.Ω

"Anyone who has ever made anything of importance was disciplined."

READ Hebrews 12:1-11

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YPeez jumpstarts VBS preparation; needs volunteers

Last Sunday, the Young Adults and the Young People had a special meeting at the Family Life Center, Upper Room of the Infinita Café, Laperal Bldg., Session Rd, this city, at 1—5 PM for the purpose of planning out the details of the upcoming Vacation Bible School (VBS). Take note of the following details:

- THEME: Adventures in Gospel Treasures
- BIBLE TEXT: “*My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*” Col 2:2-4 NIV
- DATE: May 22—26, 2017 | Monday—Friday
- TIME: 8:00 AM—12:00 PM
- REGISTRATION FEE: P25.00
- ADVISERS: Mervin Oliva & Dexter Wagang
- DIRECTORS: Kajem Kitma & Jasper Perdigon

Volunteers are very much needed in the following: Crafts and Props Preparation, snacks and meals sponsors for the working crew. Kindly contact the advisers and directors for placement. Thanks much.Ω

Ladies luncheon fellowship & devotional moved to next Sunday

THE 2ND QUARTER LADIES STEERING GROUP composed of sisters Janet Perdigon, Kana Perdigon, Louise Bawas, Keshia Oliva, Minda Oliva, Tess Kitma, Melina Igoy, Lorenza Losnong, Leah Tada, Nelly Bayla, and Josephine Selmo, announced lately that this month’s LADIES LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP & DEVOTIONAL scheduled supposedly today will be moved to next Sunday, April 23, 2017.

This is in anticipation of the lack of participants due to the so-called “long weekend” and ongoing holidays.

Next Sunday’s devotional includes discussions around this quarter’s theme, “*Servanthood in God’s Perspective*” based on Mark 10:43-45.Ω

Last Sunday's Offering April 9, 2017	
AM COLLECTION P29,653.00	
PM COLLECTION P5,040.00	
AM/PM TOTAL COLLECTION P34,693.00	
MOM - P3,000.00	
ATTENDANCE	
AM Adults - 93 YP - 28 Children - 32 Guests - 0	PM Adults -27 YP - 9 Children - 1 Guests - 2
TOTAL - 153	TOTAL - 39
TOTAL ATTENDANCE (AM/PM) 192	

PRAYER LIST

Good Health & Fast Recovery:

*Rosita Go

*Mely Genato

*Meeling Sze

*Amy Go

*Charity Ong

*Ian Pajantoy

*Gloria Yang

*Marina Gawe

*Mark Poblete

*Sotero Denis

*Bernie Austria

*Norma Aping

*Josefa Josayan

*Arian Kaith Igoy

*Damian Mercado

*Robinson Palaypayon

*Rodolfo Baggao

*Jun & Lily Soriano

*Andy Bestre

*Gil & Diana Geron

*Rodrigo Tada

*Ofelia Abance

*Lourdes Cera

*Cecilia Alvarez

*Carina Lacaba

*Gaspar Nawew

*Tess & Mahaysha Kitma

*Brayant Buenaflor

*Maril Bayating Sr.

*Charlie Alvarez

SAFE PREGNANCY

*Lorena Baban

*Andrea Yang



James 5:15

“And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up;

SAFE TRAVEL

Sameons & Co. (Negros) Vacationists

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

- YOUNG PEOPLE’S REGULAR MEETING — Mezzanine Floor, Right after the worship assembly today.
- TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM— April 18, 2017 @ 12:00—2:30 PM
- LADIES LUNCHEON & DEVOTIONAL—Lou Villanueva’s Residence, Outlook Ridge Residences, Outlook Drive, Baguio City | April 23, 2017 | 12:00—2:30 PM
- NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT—Melgrande Resort, Talunan, Davao City | April 26-29, 2017
- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—Midtown Hall & BPFLC Facilities | May 22—26, 2017 | 8:00 AM —12:00 PM
- NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR 2017 to Prepare Communion, bring flowers, bring drinks and biscuits for Sunday school children. Please sign up. Thanks.

HOW TO HANDLE TEMPTATION

The mature person is patient in trials. Sometimes the trials are testings on the outside, and sometimes they are temptations on the inside. Trials may be tests sent by God, or they may be temptations sent by Satan and encouraged by our own fallen nature. It is this second aspect of trials - temptations on the inside - that James dealt with in this section (James 1:13-18).

We may ask, *Why did James connect the two? What is the relationship between testings without and temptations within?* Simply this: if we are not careful, the testings on the outside may become temptations on the inside. When our circumstances are difficult, we may find ourselves complaining against God, questioning His love, and resisting His will. At His point, Satan provides us with an opportunity to escape the difficulty. This opportunity is a temptation.

Certainly, God does not want us to yield to temptation, yet neither can He spare us the experience of temptation. We are not God's sheltered people; we are God's scattered people. If we are to mature, we must face testings and temptations. There are three facts that we must consider if we are to overcome temptation.

●**Consider God's Judgment** (James 1:13-16)

This is a negative approach, but it is an important one. James said, *Look ahead and see where sin ends - death!* "Do not blame God for temptation. He is too holy to be tempted, and He is too loving to tempt others. God does test us, as He did Abraham (Gen 22); but He does not and cannot tempt us. It is we who turn occasions of testing into temptations.

A temptation is an opportunity to accomplish a good thing in a bad way, out of the will of God. Is it wrong to want to pass an examination? Of course not; but if you cheat to pass it, then you have sinned. The temptation to cheat is an opportunity to accomplish a good thing (passing the examination) in a bad way. It is not wrong to eat; but if you consider stealing the food, you are tempting yourself.

●**Consider God's Goodness** (James 1:17)

One of the enemy's tricks is to convince us that our Father is holding out on us, that He does not really love us and care for us. When Satan approached Eve, he suggested that if God really loved her, He would permit her to eat of the forbidden tree. When Satan tempted Jesus, he raised the question of hunger.

If Your Father loves You, why are You hungry? The goodness of God is a great barrier against yielding to temptation. Since God is good, we do not need any other person (including Satan) to meet our needs. It is better to be hungry in the will of God than full outside the will of God. Once we start to doubt God's goodness, we will be attracted to Satan's offers; and the natural desires within will reach out for his bait. Moses warned Israel not to forget God's goodness when they began to enjoy the blessings of the Promised Land (Deut 6:10-15). We need this warning today.

The next time you are tempted, meditate on the goodness of God in your life. If you think you need something, wait on the Lord to provide it. Never toy with the devil's bait. One purpose for temptation is to teach us patience. David was tempted twice to kill King Saul and hasten his own coronation, but he resisted the temptation and waited for God's time.

●**Consider God's Divine Nature Within** (James 1:18)

In the first barrier, God says, *Look ahead and beware of judgment.* "In the second barrier, He says, *Look around and see how good I have been to you.*" But with this third barrier, God says, *Look within and realize that you have been born from above and possess the divine nature.*"

James used birth as a picture of desire leading to sin and death (James 1:15). He also used it to explain how we can enjoy victory over temptation and sin. The Apostle John used a similar approach in 1 John 3:9, where *his seed* refers to the divine life and nature within the believer. It is this experience of the new birth that helps us overcome temptation. If we let the old nature (from the first birth) take over, we will fail. We received our old nature (the flesh) from Adam, and he failed. But if we yield to the new nature, we will succeed; for that new nature comes from Christ, and He is the Victor.

A Sunday School child explained the matter in simple terms. *Two men live in my heart: the old Adam and Jesus. When temptation knocks at the door, somebody has to answer. If I let Adam answer, I will sin; so I send Jesus to answer. Jesus always wins!* ☪

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Midtown Church of Christ

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LESSON NO. 2 – Introduction to the Bible
LESSON NO. 3 – How We Got the Bible
LESSON NO. 4 – Overview of Bible History
LESSON NO. 5 – Christ's New Testament Replaces the Old Testament
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To enrol in any of the lessons, feel free to contact :
Arnan Bayla @ 09473-423-673
Andy Bestre @ 0916-425-0138

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

VENUE	TIME	FACILITATORS
TUESDAY		
Bayating Residence Tuba	5:30- 7:30 PM	Arnan Bayla & Andy Bestre
WEDNESDAY		
Midtown Assembly Hall	7—9 PM	Arnan Bayla, et. al.
Irisan Mobile (Baban, & Yang residences)	7 – 9 PM	Andy Bestre/ Sixto Aoas
Congregational Midweek Devotional	6 – 7 PM Every 4 th Wed	Care Group assigned
THURSDAY		
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 Enthu- siasts
Mobile Saturday Care Group	3 – 5 PM	D. Sameon, E. Wagang, R. Tada
Couples Care Group	5 – 7 PM 4 th Saturday	Jun Bondoc / Lemuel Glori
High School -College Care Group @ FLC	5 – 7 PM	Young Adults and College students
SUNDAY		
All YPeez Care Group	12 – 3 PM Fourth Sunday	YPs in charge
All Ladies Fellowship	12 – 3 PM Third Sunday	Ladies in charge: 2ndf Q Steering Group
Young Adults FLC	3 – 5 PM	YAs in charge

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP ASSEMBLY



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

MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS SUNDAY PM WORSHIP

See schedule



Worship Assembly
5:30 - 6:30 PM



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