

**Servers Today, May 27, 2018**

**Persevering Through Persecution**  
(1 Peter 4:12-19)

Speaker: *Andy Bestre*  
 Song Leader: *Mervin Oliva*  
 Invocation: *Ernie Wagang*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *Jesse Bestre*  
 Communion Text: *Hebrews 10:1-10*  
 Scripture Reading: *Jasper Perdigon*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *Ezra Valdez*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *Oneil Gonzales*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *Dexter Wagang*  
 Closing Prayer: *Jerry Martin*  
 Announcement: *Mervin Oliva*  
 Evening Speaker: *Andy Bestre*  
 Song Leader: *Mervin Oliva*  
 To Bring Flowers: *Lara Montes*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *c/o Midtown*  
 To Bring Drinks: *C/o Midtown*  
 Usher/ettes: *Kitma Family*

Communion: *Loida Baddas*  
 Worship Coordinator: *Tada | Glori | 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 June 3, 2018**

**Encouraging Elders & Young Believers**  
(1 Peter 5:1-10)

Speaker: *Arnan Bayla*  
 Song Leader: *Andy Bestre*  
 Invocation: *Jhun Bayating*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *Lemuel Glori*  
 Communion Text: *Galatians 3:26-29*  
 Scripture Reading: *Melchi Aquino*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *Sam Quezada*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *Dante Baddas*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *Julius Rojo*  
 Closing Prayer: *Sol Palaypayon*  
 Announcement: *Andy Bestre*  
 Evening Speaker: *Arnan Bayla*  
 Song Leader: *Andy Bestre*  
 To Bring Flowers: *Clarita G. Cachero*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *Jane Abance*  
 To Bring Drinks: *Jane Abance*  
 Usher/ettes: *Perdigon Family*

Communion: *Volunteers Needed*  
 Worship Coordinator: *Tada | Glori | Tacay*



Vol. XXXIV No. 21 May 27, 2018 Baguio City, Philippines

**104 enjoy Baguio-Benguet youth joint fellowship**

The recent staging of the BAGUIO—BENGUET JOINT YOUNG PEOPLE'S FELLOWSHIP was a record breaker in terms of attendance with One Hundred Four (104) delegates coming from nine (9) congregations including Midtown, Baguio, La Trinidad, NLEX, Centrepoin, City Camp, Bokod, Calocan, and Hydro-Nangalisan. Activities were facilitated by the young people of Nangalisan with brother Julius Udan taking the lead role. Hydro-Nangalisan and City Camp congregations co-hosted the event. Thirteen (13) young people of Nangalisan ably hosted the delegates at the Function Hall of the RIVERVIEW WATER PARK HOTEL, Nangalisan, Tuba, Benguet. Five Midtown youth, namely, Jesse Bestre, Ezra Valdez, Melchi Aquino, Amber Po, and Maureen Soriano. They also tagged along their guests from the Calocan congregation, namely, Bryann Alec Ico and John Rhod Rosales who were very appreciative of the beauty and feels of the resort.. Brother Kevin John Ancheta from Nueva Ecija served as the speaker on "CHOOSING THE LIGHT" during the devotional and lecture.

The Nangalisan congregation thanks all the donors of the meals and also thanks the Bayating family for the use of the Function Hall of Riverview.Ω

**43 ladies attend last Sunday's fellowship and devotional**

The 2ND QUARTER STEERING COMMITTEE of the Ladies Ministry composed of sisters Leah Tada, Marlene Samonte, Carina Lacaba, Juvy Mabesa, Minda Oliva, Pearly Ambog, Angela Ramos, Letty Bayating, Ruth Camora, and Janet Ramos, thank all the ladies of the congregation who actively participated in last Sunday's LADIES LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP & DEVOTIONAL held at the Midtown Hall right after the morning worship assembly. The occasion also served as *bienvenida* or a welcome luncheon in honor of the Olidan Family.

Sister Janet Ramos served as facilitator during the devotional and discussed "BEING A PEOPLE INFLUENCER" in which she reiterated that Christians are to seriously take their role as "SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD" based on Matthew 5:13-14. She further emphasized that such must begin at home with parents modeling Christ-like attitudes. Next devo will be on June 17, 2018.Ω

**"He who stops being better, stops being good."**

**READ 2 Peter 1:5-11**

**INSIDE PAGE:**  
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**Now on Stage...page 3**  
**June Birth Anniversaries...page 3**

**Vacation Bible School kicks off tomorrow**

Another exciting adventure awaits all participants in this year's VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL with the theme, "THE GREATEST SAVIOUR", that will kick off tomorrow, Monday, May 28, 2018 at 8:00 in the morning and will run everyday until Friday, June 1, 2018. The culminating activity on Friday will be full of surprises and nobody should miss it says this year's VBS coordinators, namely, Ezra Valdez, Janriel Abance, and O'neil Gonzales.

The Midtown YPeez are excited with the staging of this year's VBS which was inspired by the movie, "THE GREATEST SHOWMAN." Here, the theme moves the participants to learn that all human beings come in different shapes and sizes, and may be characteristically different, but each one finds his or her place in the big puzzle of life. Without the one piece, life will not be complete. Here, THE GREATEST SAVIOUR is that one piece among mankind that completes the plan of God for mankind. Find out more! Join the VBS!Ω

**Midtown young men serve with Nangalisan brethren**

After having represented the congregation in the BAGUIO—BENGUET JOINT YOUTH FELLOWSHIP hosted by the Nangalisan congregation the other past Saturday, May 19, 2018, brothers Jesse Reuben Bestre and Ezra Valdez opted to remain at Riverview and stay overnight with brother Julius Udan for they were scheduled to serve with the Nangalisan brethren in their worship assembly the next day, May 20, 2018.

Brother Jesse Bestre served as sermon speaker in which he discussed about "LIVING IN THE END TIMES" based on 1 Peter 4:1-11 while brother Ezra Valdez facilitated the Young People's class in which he consolidated the past lessons learned on various occasions. Top lessons reiterated were on teamwork, prayer, sharing, and taking challenges.Ω

**Last Sunday's Offering May 20, 2018**

**AM COLLECTION**  
P36,185.00

**PM COLLECTION**  
P1,090.00

**AM/PM TOTAL COLLECTION**  
P37,275.00

**MOM - P2000**

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>AM</b>	<b>PM</b>
Adults - 97	Adults - 11
YP - 42	YP - 3
Children - 39	Children - 0
Guests - 4	Guests - 0

**TOTAL - 182**

**TOTAL - 14**

**TOTAL ATTENDANCE (AM/PM) 196**

**PRAYER LIST**

**Good Health & Fast Recovery:**

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| *Ian Pajantoy        | *Rolito Tugay-an       |
| *Gloria Yang         | *Maria Elena Lachica   |
| *Marina Gawe         | *Jeremy Denis          |
| *Sotero Denis        | *Eduardo Ganga         |
| *Bernie Austria      | *Linda Yaneza          |
| *Norma Aping         | *Florence Magalong     |
| *Josefa Josayan      | *Bernard Ignacio       |
| *Arian Kaith Igoy    | *Shinar Ciencia        |
| *Robinson Palaypayon | *Dave Mcmillin         |
| *Carmen Villanueva   | *Dan Sameon            |
| *Lily Soriano        | *Sophia Tanicala       |
| *Andy Bestre         | *Lucia Entera          |
| *Gil & Diana Geron   | *Felix & Layola Bravo  |
| *Rodrigo Tada        | *Clabern Sharlo Abance |
| *Ofelia Abance       | *Katrina Oliva         |
| *Cecilia Alvarez     | *Jane S. Abance        |
| *Gaspar Nawew        | *Maky Walang           |
| *Paulina A. Factora  | *Octavio Abance        |
| *Priscilla Bayasen   | *Jonah & Cel Cirilo    |

*Spiritual guidance and comfort for some brethren; world, national, and local leaders.*

**SAFE PREGNANCY**

*Lara Villanueva*



**James 5:15**

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

**SAFE TRAVEL**

*Jun Reyes, Amber Po, Wynell Roncal (Bacolod) Sameons (Negros)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

- **YOUNG PEOPLE'S MEETING** — MEZZANINE FLOOR, RIGHT AFTER THE WORSHIP ASSEMBLY TODAY
- **TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM**— MAY 29, 2018 @ 12:00—2:30 PM. EVERYBODY WELCOME.
- **VACATION BIBLE SHOOOL**—MIDTOWN ASSEMBLY HALL & BAGUIO PINES FAMILY LEARNING CENTER "THE GREATEST SAVIOR" | MAY 28—JUNE 1, 2018 | 8:00 AM—12:00 PM | REG. FEE: P25.00 | 5—13 Y/O
- **NATIONAL YOUTH CAMP**—LIVING HOPE CAMP, TAROY, WANGAL, LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET | MAY 28—31, 2019 | HOST: MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST | REGISTRATION FEE: P1400.00
- **SUMMER BIBLE ENCOUNTER**— LIVING HOPE CAMP, TAROY, WANGAL, LTB | TENTATIVE DATE: JUNE 11-13, 2017

# PERSEVERING THROUGH PERSECUTION

Anticipating hardships the believers in Asia Minor were about to undergo, Peter encouraged his readers to endure suffering with Christ-like faith so that they might be further identified with Christ, receive a blessing, and trust God completely.

## ■ EXPECT SUFFERING AND PERSECUTION (1 Peter 4:12)

Persecution is not something that is alien to the Christian life. Throughout history the people of God have suffered at the hands of the unbelieving world. Christians are different from unbelievers (2 Cor 6:14-18), and this different kind of life produces a different kind of lifestyle. Much of what goes on in the world depends on lies, pride, pleasure, and the desire to *get more*. "A dedicated Christian builds his life on truth, humility, holiness, and the desire to glorify God. It is important to note that not all of the difficulties of life are necessarily fiery trials. There are some difficulties that are simply a part of human life and almost everybody experiences them. Unfortunately, there are some difficulties that we bring on ourselves because of disobedience and sin. Peter mentioned these in 1 Peter 2:18-20. The fiery trial he mentioned in 1 Peter 4:12 comes because we are faithful to God and stand up for that which is right. It is because we bear the name of Christ that the lost world attacks us. Christ told His disciples that people would persecute them, as they had Him, because their persecutors did not know God (John 15:20-21). The word "happened" is important; it means "to go together." Persecution and trials do not just "happen," in the sense of being accidents. They are a part of God's plan, and He is in control. They are a part of Rom 8:28 and will work out for good if we let God have His way.

## ■ REJOICE IN SUFFERING AND PERSECUTION (1 Peter 4:13-14)

Our suffering means fellowship with Christ. It is an honor and a privilege to suffer with Christ and be treated by the world the way it treated Him. *The fellowship of His sufferings* is a gift from God (Phil 1:29; 3:10). Our suffering means glory in the future. *Suffering* and *glory* are twin truths that are woven into the fabric of Peter's letter. The world believes that the absence of suffering means glory, but a Christian's outlook is different. The trial of our faith today is the assurance of glory when Jesus returns (1 Peter 1:7-8). This was the experience of our Lord (1 Peter 5:1), and it shall also be our experience. But it is necessary to understand

that God is not going to replace suffering with glory; rather He will transform suffering into glory. Jesus used the illustration of a woman giving birth (John 16:20-22). The same baby that gave her pain also gave her joy. The pain was transformed into joy by the birth of the baby. The thorn in the flesh that gave Paul difficulty also gave him power and glory (2 Cor 12:7-10). The cross that gave Jesus shame and pain also brought power and glory. Mature people know that life includes some *postponed pleasures*. "We pay a price today in order to have enjoyments in the future. The piano student may not enjoy practicing scales by the hour, but he looks forward to the pleasure of playing beautiful music one day. The athlete may not enjoy exercising and practicing His skills, but he looks forward to winning the game by doing his best. Christians have something even better: our very sufferings will one day be transformed into glory, and we will be *glad also with exceeding joy*."

## ■ EXAMINE YOUR LIFE IN THE MIDST OF SUFFERING (1 Peter 4:15-18)

In the furnace of persecution and suffering we often have more light by which we can examine our lives and ministries. The fiery trial is a refining process, by which God removes the dross and purifies us. One day, a fiery judgment will overtake the whole world (2 Peter 3:7-16). Meanwhile, God's judgment begins *at the house of God*, "the church" (1 Peter 2:5). This truth ought to motivate us to be as pure and obedient as possible. *Why am I suffering?* If a professed Christian breaks the law and gets into trouble, or becomes a meddler into other people's lives, then he ought to suffer! The fact that we are Christians is not a guarantee that we escape the normal consequences of our misdeeds. *Am I ashamed, or glorifying Christ?* This statement must have reminded Peter of his own denial of Christ Jesus. Christ is not ashamed of us (Heb 2:11) - though many times He surely could be! The Father is not ashamed to be called our God (Heb 11:16). On the cross Jesus Christ despised shame for us (Heb 12:2), so surely we can bear reproach for Him and not be ashamed. If we seek to glorify God, then we will not be ashamed of the name of Jesus Christ. It was this determination not to be ashamed that encouraged Paul when he went to Rome (Rom 1:16), when he suffered in Rome (Phil 1:20-21), and when he faced martyrdom in Rome (2 Tim 1:12). Ω

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**• NOW ON STAGE •**

**THE GREATEST SAVIOUR**

**VBS 2018**  
MAY 28-JUNE 1  
TIME 8:00-12:00

**FOR AGES 5-13**  
Reg. Fee P25

**LUKE 19:10**

VENUE: MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
TOP FLOOR, MARLET'S BLDG., KM 4  
MARCOS HIGHWAY BAGUIO CITY

BAGUIO PINES FAMILY LEARNING  
CENTER, 3RD BASEMENT, MARLET'S  
BLDG., KM 4 MARCOS HIGHWAY  
BAGUIO CITY

For more information  
please contact:  
**09458835439**  
Janriel Abance

**FEATURING:**

WHAT'S THE GREATEST PURPOSE?  
WHAT'S THE GREATEST ATTITUDE?  
WHAT'S THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT?  
WHAT'S THE GREATEST SACRIFICE?  
WHO IS THE GREATEST?

• KINDLY REGISTER EARLY •  
**PRE-REGISTRATION**

**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**

See schedule        Worship Assembly   
5:30 - 6:30 PM

MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
SERVING TO MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

TOP FLOOR MARLET'S BLDG.  
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Midtown website: [www.midtownchurchbaguio.org](http://www.midtownchurchbaguio.org)

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Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them..." Ecclesiastes 12:1

**Month of June Celebrators**



01 - Jonimar Domasig  
01 - Lois June Fermin  
02 - Claudette Zamora  
02 - Maril P. Bayating  
04 - Katrina M. Viduya  
04 - Aaron Carlos Cordero  
05 - Mary Jane S. Abance  
05 - Sonia Insas  
08 - Jerico Ramos  
10 - Jhovel Sison  
12 - Andrena S. Balang  
13 - Mervin G. Oliva  
13 - Jonee C. Baddas  
14 - Corine B. Mabesa  
18 - Jimmy June Reyes  
18 - Rutchie R. Rebuca  
19 - Erwin Oliva  
19 - Kaisha Lagsaman  
19 - Shauli W. Kitma  
20 - Flora Campos  
21 - Ezra A. Valdez  
21 - Lulu Bondoc  
25 - Julius Rojo  
25 - Anthony James Flores  
26 - Rafael C. Ozo  
27 - Luz Olidan  
27 - Lala Geron  
28 - Lou Villanueva

  
  
  


Please notify the M.I. Staff if your name should have been included in this list.  
Thank You.