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BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN  
BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS



# Kapatiran

## MAGAZINE

VOL. XI NO. 1 PHILIPPINES



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Is Here Again!*
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# VISION

The vision of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals (BCBP) is that of a full life in Christ for all, particularly business people and professionals.

This full life is expressed through a three tiered, lifelong process:

## CONVERSION

to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ;

## COMMITMENT

to the values espoused by Him; and,

## COMMISSIONING

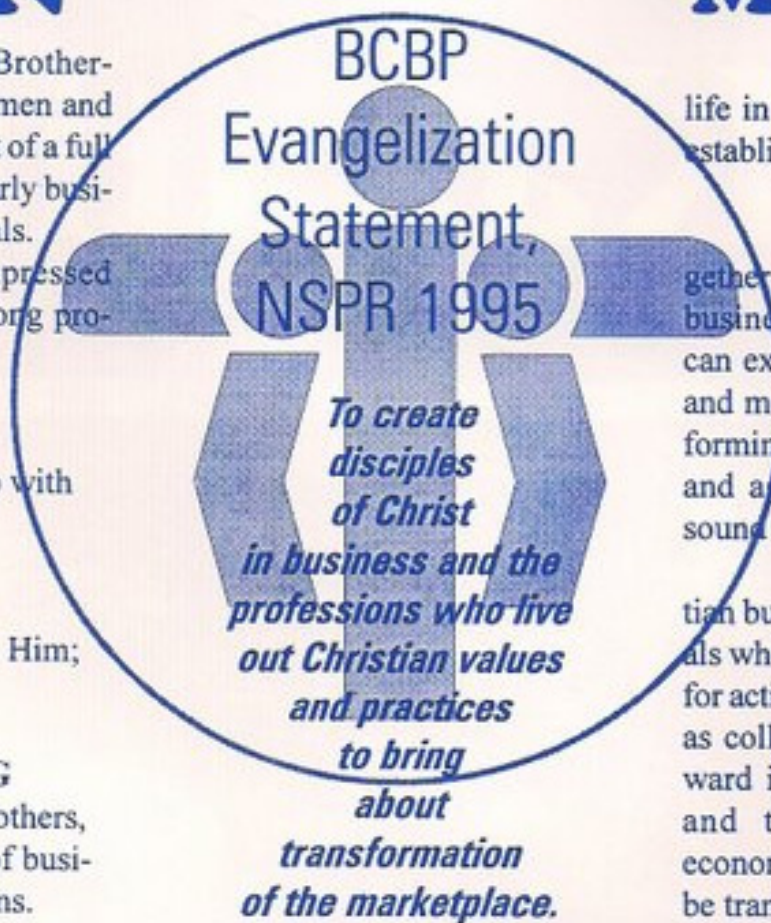
to spread these values to others, especially in the conduct of business and the professions.

# MISSION

To attain its vision of a full life in Christ for all, the BCBP has established a two-fold mission:

- To create and promote together a support environment where business people and professionals can experience Christ in a personal and meaningful way, thereby transforming them into disciples of Christ and agents for justice, equity and sound development; and,

- To create a body of Christian business people and professionals who are so trained and structured for action that their individual as well as collective efforts result in a forward impact in business practices, and through this, enable the economy, and society in general, to be transformed by Gospel Values.



## Evangelization Statement

Evangelization by the BCBP means:

"Creating disciples of Christ in the businesses and the professions, who bring about a transformation of the marketplace by living out Christian values and practices not only in their personal and family lives, but more particularly in their respective businesses and professions."

## The Essence of a BCBP Member

A BCBP member is a businessman or professional who influences change leading to Christ-centered behavior and practices in his sphere of work.

He is a disciple of Jesus Christ and has integrated the Lord's teachings in his total life.

He gains support and grows spiritually through his active involvement in the Church and in the BCBP.

## Some Clarifications about Being a Member of BCBP

Focus is not on the title or rank of the person in his work organization, but on his capacity to influence change and to bring about Christ-centered values and practices in the workplace.

Must be an active participant in all BCBP life, including Action Group structure.

Must attend at least 50% of each of the activities of his BCBP chapter.

A new member commits to renounce all forms of serious wrongdoing and un-Christian relationships, commitments, and practices.



# Editor's

# Note...

Happy New Year! As we reviewed the Mission and Vision of the BCBP, particularly the NSPR Evangelization Statement, we felt that we should focus our New Year's issue on evangelism to sort of start off the year right.

What really do we mean by evangelism... How is evangelism different than mission... The BCBP breakfast as an instrument for evangelization... How should you prepare a breakfast sharing... These are a few of the questions we attempt to answer. We also offer you a sort of test to help you examine your own attitude toward evangelism. Even the sharings focus on actual work in the BCBP mission field. We do hope you enjoy and learn from these articles.

Since we caught up with most of the news from chapters and outreaches in our last issue, we are now featuring recent directives and guidelines issued by the National Council.

The 17th Anniversary of the Brotherhood is upcoming in April in Cagayan de Oro with the BCBP chapter there as host. For your information and planning the anniversary schedules and activities are featured in the News Section. We hope to see all of you there for two days of fun, fellowship and celebration BCBP-style.

We invite and encourage you to send in your business sharings, responses to the Readers Survey, news and pictures. Check the Last Page, p. 32, for details on the upcoming issue's focus.

May the New Year fill each one of us with the Presence of the Holy Spirit and the fire of evangelism. -Nancy R. Catan

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# Your permanent record LIVES ON...

I used to laugh about my mother telling me, "That will go on your permanent record." I thought I had no permanent record. I was young and had a long, full lifetime in which to make mistakes and explore endless possibilities.... Now I know there is a permanent record. It lives on in the memories of all the people you have come in contact with.

It lives on in your own perception of yourself, coloring and flavoring who you become, what you expect to be able to accomplish, and how you live your life. Every decision you make determines your tomorrow. Your future is in your past.

—Judy White Edelson, *Newsweek*, December 13, 1993

## We are agents for cultural change

Real change must still come from the transformed hearts and souls of individuals. There is a great danger that you and I will once again be lulled into thinking that we will do our part by voting for the right people and promoting conservative public policies. We will feel that we can now sit back and watch

these people write new laws, correct faulty policies, and get our country back on track. Our charge is actually the opposite.... It is now time for people of character to become agents for cultural change.

—Kay Coles James, *Imprimis*, February 1996

## Taking a trip to HEAVEN

Eventually our lives amass so much furniture that we would find it difficult to move even if the spirit were willing. But why should the spirit be moved to move? Emily Dickinson didn't go anywhere. Neither did Jane Austen, much. "I am a little world made cunningly," wrote John Donne. Me, too.

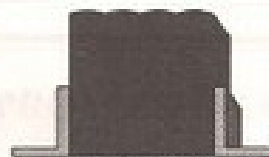
And it is hardly as if one cannot discover new things by keeping still. The gift of travel is also the curse; the imagination is instructed and corrected by reality, but it is diminished by reality as well. Places seen

are full of wonder, but so are places unseen.

There are certain locations that during a life-time are only reachable through thinking. Heaven, for instance. What if heaven, to which we have assigned a spot in outer space, always existed in the artistry of the mind?

Or one's proper place in the world. That cannot be arrived at by travel. To discover one's place in the world requires not moving a muscle, not taking a step.

—Roger Rosenblatt, *Modern Maturity*, Nov-Dec 1996



### BOOKSHELF

#### Some suggestions to read on your journey with Jesus

**The Greatest Treasure** by Rev. Joseph L. Chiavarino. (*Society of St. Paul, New York, c1952*)

This 48-page booklet helps dispel the ignorance, error and doubt in the minds of many Catholics about the greatest treasure of our faith — the daily Mass and the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. The book is simply written, very informative and filled with interesting and inspiring stories that speak to the hearts of readers of all ages.

**Church in Politics** by Bishop Teodoro C. Bacani, Jr., D.D. (*Manila, 1992*)

"Just as the Church is so important that it should not be left in the hands of churchmen, so also politics is too important a matter to be left in the hands of politicians alone. ... In the years to come, Church involvement in political activity will increase rather than wane until everyone takes it for granted that the Christian faith is to be exercised in all the dimensions of human living and that the Church has also been entrusted with a mission to renew the temporal order.

The Church in the Philippines will not rest content until the whole Filipino nation becomes a disciple of Christ even in its political activity (cf. Mt. 28:19-20)."

Even though this book was written five years ago, this statement taken from its final chapter clearly points out its relevance today, especially in light of the upcoming elections. Included in this 115-page book are Catholic election guidelines and other Philippine Church documents that serve to enlighten the Catholic voter.



# Polito-mania is here again!

**R**ight now, this minute, through out the Philippine democratic republic, you can hear a sound. Stand near an open window and you will hear it. Walk down the street, stop at the corner store and you will hear it...the most Filipino of sounds...the sound of people discussing, arguing, debating and dissecting the pros and cons of political candidates. And things seem to be just warming up as we energetically build up or tear down our candidates and everyone else's for whatever position is in the offing — from barangay officials (election this year) to the presidency (election in 1998).

It appears that many times this game of politics, sometimes called our national sport, has the tendency to divide rather than unite, whether families, clans, or parties, whether local or national. Part of the reason is media's polito-mania — all those talk shows with politicians arguing and journalists sniping. It is echoed and reinforced by carping columnists and avid analysts who rapaciously battle for the headlines in our newspapers and magazines, and TV and radio time. Polito-mania, as election time draws nearer and nearer, even makes the Thalia soaps take a back seat.

All told it has a spillover effect into our everyday lives — into our family relationships, into our offices, even into our clubs and organizations. We begin to criticize, to gossip, to "story-telling a lie", to enjoy fantasizing about the "what if's". Friendships are strained. Tempers flare. We begin looking for imagined hurts; we invent and re-invent strategies to beat the other guy. We get so carried away in this polito-mania that we conveniently forget the value and moral basis of having a democracy in the first place.

I guess one thing we need to realize is to remember that *not everything is politics*. That it's only part of life, it's not life itself. That democracy is supposed to raise the politi-



cal consciousness of the people, not to cover it with the muddy footprints of vote-buying and *dagdag-bawas*. That democracy is supposed to unite us all, not tear us up into splinters that stab us right where it hurts. That democracy is supposed to oil the gears of government for the benefit of the people, not to throw gravel into them and cause them to grind so laboriously, screeching and squealing like pigs in a barrel, that you can hardly see them move at all.

The wisest words I ever came across on the subject I clipped from a magazine several years ago. The message is brief. The biggest thing people need in order to deal with one another and live with one another in a democracy is patience. This is the ordeal of courtesy — the effort of listening, respecting, refraining from judgment, and not indulging one's temper.

If your friend or enemy (sometimes it's hard to know which is which when you're infected with the polito-mania virus) will not listen to you, be patient. Don't force the issue. You don't have to talk to them. Just talk to God about them. If you think there is a God, you think He is all-powerful. If He is all-powerful, He performs miracles; if He performs miracles, ask Him for one. After all, a change in the political weather in your home — or your office, or your organization — might be a miracle indeed.

We can continue to enjoy the coming polito-mania if we like that sort of thing, but we should also do our part in bringing to light the good things about people. We must direct our political consciousness toward order, harmony and unity. Yes, we must speak out — but always for the right and the righteous.

We need to be democratic like Jesus was, to be as politically and socially aware as He was, to be as willing to stand up for our beliefs like He did. And if you aren't sure what I mean, then it is time you found out!

- Nancy R. Catan



Eddie Mendoza  
Greenhills Chapter

# There are NO SHORTCUTS or the law of the farm

**M**anagement guru Stephen Covey talks about the discipline necessary to build successful operations and effective relationships. He called this the "law of the farm". On a farm, he says, you have to prepare the soil at the right time, select and plant the right seeds, patiently tend the soil and the crop, before you are able to finally harvest. These must be done at the right time and in the right sequence, and cannot be bypassed. Most things in business and in life are like that, whether it involves family relations, employee trust, or marketing strategies. There can be no shortcuts and no cramming if you want to achieve long term, beneficial results.

Jesus knew this. At the time when He was planning for His work of ministry, Jesus went to the desert and stayed there for forty days and forty nights, at the end of which He was tempted three times by the devil. I can just visualize it now:

Jesus is quite famished, and is deciding His strategy for salvation ministry. Then an idea, a temptation really, comes into His mind: "Hey, since I am really the Son of God, with all the powers of creation, why not turn this stone into bread? Then people don't have to go hungry. Great! They will notice me, they will believe me, and then they could all be saved!"

The temptation is to take the easy way out; the temptation is to use God's powers for man's worldly needs. Fortunately, Jesus discerns unmistakably and says: "Scripture says, 'Man does not live by bread alone'." Money isn't everything. It cannot satisfy fully.

Then after a while, as he reaches the peak of the mountain, he sees the whole of Judea below, and the thought occurs to Him: "Imagine all the power I

have. I can get all these people down on their knees easily. I have the power to work miracles, to cure the sick, to feed the hungry, to rebuild temples, to thwart the enemies, to rule over the world. People will give up their possessions, their very lives, to serve me and to honor me. I'll be great!"

The temptation for wealth, for power, for self-gratification; the crown of glory, without the cross of salvation. Jesus spots the culprit, and says, "Scripture says, you shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him alone." For one cannot serve God and money at the same time.

Finally, finding himself in the highest tower in downtown Jerusalem, another thought occurs to him: "Wow, look at all those people below. Helloooo...down there. I wonder if they can hear me, or see me? Wouldn't it be a scene if I jumped off this tower down into the market stalls below, but just in the nick of time, making sure that the entire crowd witnesses it, I float gently onto the ground. Applause, awe! Disbelief! Admiration! Wonder! After all, I can do it. My father, God, will send His angels to save me."

The temptation of presuming that God will come our way, each time; that we presume we own our self-made successes; that we own our belongings, our wealth, our powers and that these can save us from our ambitiousness and avarice. In wisdom Jesus replies: "It is written: You shall not challenge the Lord your God." Then the devil departs, to return another day.



Eddie Mendoza is senior vice president and head of Corporate Planning of one of the Philippines' prestige corporations, Phinma, and an active member of BCBP Greenhills. He regularly shares his reflections on the Christian businessman during the BCBP Greenhills' weekly Men's Breakfast, 7:30 am at Club Filipino, Greenhills. You are welcome to attend.



But we are not so lucky, nor are we as strong-willed as Jesus. What are the shortcuts that we take to achieve our market share? to increase our take-home pay? to sign our collective bargaining agreements? to import our raw materials? to manufacture quality products and to provide quality service?

More importantly, what is our shortcut to salvation, to eternal happiness?

Jesus says (Matt. 10:38-39) "Whoever does not take up his cross and follow in my steps is not fit to be my disciple. Whoever tries to gain his own life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for my sake will gain it."

There are no shortcuts, brothers and sisters, whether it is our career, our business, our investments, or even our personal salvation. But there are many opportunities to take up our crosses, to follow the straight and narrow path, to delay gratification, to put in the necessary investments in maintaining our spiritual, physical, emotional, and relational balance.

Let us thank God for these opportunities, and pray for God's grace to endure the trials that are meant to prepare us for eternal happiness.#

When nothing can be done about a problem, you've overlooked something.



# BCBPers SPEAKING OUT



## Business As Usual

Lazaro Y. Medina, Jr.  
Las Piñas Chapter

# Dispersing Corporate Wealth

**F**or years, the Philippine stock market has come to be known as the exclusive preserve of the moneyed class -- finance men, investors and other businessmen who accumulate more wealth via the local bourse.

Due to inherent weaknesses in the equities market, share offerings, which are supposed to diffuse corporate ownership in companies that are going public, hardly ever reach the "public." Initial public offerings or IPOs that run into hundreds of millions or even billions of pesos are invariably cornered by the big moneymen. As a result, the stock exchange which is supposed to democratize the country's corporate wealth becomes an instrument for making the rich even richer.

Why is this so? Is it the tendency of finance and money men to accumulate more wealth? Is it due to institutional weaknesses in the stock distribution system which give special treatment for those who have more money at the expense of those who have less money?

I think it is a combination of both factors — the lust for money by some people and companies and a skewed distribution system that has perpetuated itself over the decades.

Reform-minded officials of the Philippine Stock Exchange and its regulator, the Securities and Exchange Commission, are trying to address the problems and have come up with the idea of an automatic allocation scheme which will set aside 10 percent of all IPOs for small investors.

This scheme was formally launched late last year by the PSE with the public offering of the distribution chain Uniwide Holdings Corp. Uniwide Holdings

owns and operates the highly successful Uniwide Sales and Warehouse Clubs that cater to shoppers, mostly housewives, and to small retailers like *sari-sari* store operators.

Executives of Uniwide said some 47,000 small investors, presumably loyal customers of the shopping network, availed themselves of these IPO allocations — the first such stock dispersal scheme involving a private company in this country.

A similar experiment in the past, the Petron Corp.'s IPO was only partly successful because some rapacious investors in cahoots with brokers, traders and underwriters cornered the bulk of shares offered to small investors like retirees, public school teachers and ordinary employees.

Now if the distribution system used for the 10 percent automatic allocation for small investors in the Uniwide stock offering really reached its intended beneficiaries, then we may be seeing the beginnings of a promising stock dispersal program. We note that some of the more successful stock exchanges in Asia, like Japan and Taiwan, owe part of their tremendous growth to innovative allocation systems that enable small investors to become part of the corporate wealth in these countries.

Big players — fund managers and institutional investors — will continue to play a major role in raising relatively cheap funds via the stock market. But it is from the excess funds the small investors are willing to put into the stock market via good IPOs that the country's investment base will be widened and corporate wealth democratized.

We hope to see more and more successful IPOs in the near future. #

*A veteran economic journalist, Lazaro "Jun" Medina Jr. is currently managing editor and columnist of Money Asia, the country's newest business daily. He is a graduate of BCLP 25 and an active member of the BCBP-Las Piñas chapter.*





# Businessman today, saint tomorrow



## IN HIS TIME

*Karina Jugo, Bacolod North Chapter*

A few months ago I shared about how the Lord provided my husband, Gassy, with a job after being laid off from a previous one without any delay (KAPATIRAN, Sept-Oct 1996). This job of receiving imports of bangus fry had been offered to him by my brother Jimmy on a contractual arrangement, with the probability of being taken in permanently once the company operations went full swing. In between trips to Manila to receive the imports, my husband spent most of his time marketing their merchandise locally without added compensation and providing consultancy services to a bangus grower for a very minimal fee.

It was into the end of his six-month stint with the company that again we learned that he was to be cut

■ St. Homobonus was first of all a good businessman — AND a good man. In fact, in Latin, *homo bonus* means “good man”!

The father of Homobonus was a merchant, and he taught his son all about his business so that when Homobonus was old enough, he could be his father’s partner. Homobonus learned his lessons well. His father taught him that to be a good businessman, he must be a good man — honest, fair, dutiful, just, and kind.

Homobonus lived his whole business life that way, treating customers as he would like to be treated himself. And he lived his private life the same way. He married a lady who was prudent and faithful as he was, and they gave much of the money they made from their successful business to those who were less fortunate.

Homobonus went to Mass every day. After many years — when he was a very old man — he suddenly collapsed during Mass. He died as he had lived — at prayer. A “good man” to the end.

*115 Sainly Fun Facts* by Bernadette McCarver Snyder (Divine Word Publications, 1995)

off as no more imports were expected. There would be at least a three to six months wait before rehiring.

We thanked the Lord for seeing us through the past six months. Then we started to explore our options, deciding to tighten our belts and give up the comforts of having a family driver and yayas for our kids. We would be spending our bluest Christmas ever.

A while later the phone rang. His consultancy client called to ask if my husband would be willing to totally manage his bangus farm. Willing? In thirty minutes the Lord had presented us His option! In His time. This new job would even earn us a little bit more than the previous one.

And there was more to come! Although Gassy had been cut off from his previous job, the opportunity to sell their merchandise remained, this time with commission on all sales. Prospects that he had wooed before (when he had no commissions) and who had refused to book any orders, now are calling on him.

We are praying even harder now that we will be able to handle these blessings the way the Lord wants us to. We know that “in His time ... He makes all things beautiful in His time.”#



**M**y husband, Mon, had taken his optional early retirement about a couple of years earlier from a company he had been with for thirteen years and was striving to re-establish himself in the practice of law when we realized that our resources had dwindled to near bottom and began to feel the pinch financially.

It was at about this time when I was transferred to the purchasing department of the company for which I worked until May of this year (1996) when my own retirement took effect.

The company was into off-shore oil drilling and the need for industrial equipment and supplies involving sizable amounts was pressing and unending. I knew how it was in that department. It was riddled with corruption. Management suspected that almost everybody in the department was in it. I truly felt it was a big test for me, to be able to keep my Christian values intact in an environment of materialism and temptations.



# My workplace was transformed through prayer

*Hilda Malinao, Las Piñas Chapter*

## Prayer Before Work

Lord, as I start the day,  
let me remember how blessed  
and lucky I am to be in my job.

Remind me to be grateful for  
the work that I do, the people I meet  
and the wage I receive.

Keep me cooperative with my colleagues.

If I have to complain, make me  
think first of the common good and  
later of my own welfare.

Help me to be honest in my dealings  
and responsible in the tasks assigned to  
me.

Make me aware that in my work,  
I bring Your work to completion.

Amen.

In the new job, it did not take long before offers were extended and attempts were made, directly and indirectly, by some people who did business with the department to test what I was really made of. I maintained my integrity, although I had to double my prayer time, asking the Lord for strength, especially as we faced financial difficulty in the family.

Some people in the department knew that all overtures failed and they realized I could not be one of them. So, they wanted me out. Daily, I was subjected to ostracism — a situation I had never been in before. But as I always did in difficult times, when everything seemed not to be on my side, I resorted to prayer.

After several months, the company adopted a retrenchment program to save on cost and, at the same time, rid its work force of undesirables. With this move, more than half in the purchasing department were given their walking papers.

The remnants of the group, however, continued with their harassments. I could only hang on, trusting that the Lord would not abandon me.

Then some of my office mates, sympathizing with my predicament, joined me in regular prayer. That started the prayer group in the company.

Soon I could see the hand of the Lord working when all those who were left of the group got involved in a serious case in the company which resulted in their termination.

At my retirement, I left a department that had been cleansed and freed of misfits. It is now headed by an officer of integrity, being himself an active member of another Catholic renewal community.

What I saw and experienced in that company was a corporate transformation that came to be not by executive fiat but by the divine intervention of the true and genuine CEO.#



Doing just one small thing each week — for yourself or others — could make 1997 the best year ever.

# 52 ways to change your life

1. Take your mother out to lunch...just the two of you.
2. Hold the door open for the person who enters a building behind you.
3. Write a letter of appreciation to a favorite teacher or friend.
4. Buy something red.
5. Offer to get a cup of coffee for your assistant or secretary at the office.
6. Keep a Gratitude Journal. List down 5 things every day that you are thankful for that day remembering that it is in the smallest details that the flavor of life is savored.
7. Mark your calendar with all the birthdays you want to acknowledge during the coming year.
8. Memorize a favorite poem.
9. Eat just one potato chip.
10. Write a letter to the editor of your newspaper on a topic important to you.
11. Pause for a while to smell the flowers and listen to the birds sing. Feed the birds in your garden.
12. Pay off at least half your credit-card balance before you buy another thing.
13. Spend an hour between midnight and dawn visiting the Blessed Sacrament.
14. Donate magazines you've read to a hospital in your area.
15. Memorize the Serenity Prayer: *God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.*
16. Drink four to eight glasses of water today. Good habits start with a single act.
17. Write a letter to someone you love.
18. Smile. Scatter joy around you.
19. Put a bouquet of fresh flowers on your dining table.
20. Leave a surprise love note for your kids on the computer.
21. Invest in a new exercise outfit. It might be all the motivation you need to get moving again.
22. Change the message on your answering machine.
23. Give the love of your life a candlelight-and-wine midnight supper.
24. Life is short: Make up with a sibling or a friend.
25. Back up all your computer files.
26. Tell your parents of a time when you took their advice and benefited from it.
27. Set your alarm clock fifteen minutes earlier and use the time just for yourself.
28. Make an appointment for a health check-up.
29. Bring your parents breakfast in bed.
30. Take a book break. Read a novel.
31. Call your sweetheart at work and tell him/her how sexy he/she is.
32. Park your car a fifteen-minute walk from your destination to get in your aerobic exercise.
33. Pitch a tent in your backyard and watch the stars with your kids.
34. Buy a dimmer switch for your bedroom.
35. Help your child clean up her room. It turns a chore into a shared event.
36. Add up all your debts, look them squarely in the eye and devise a strategy for dealing with them. And write your strategy down on paper.
37. Paint a picture, even if you think you can't paint. Post it where the family can appreciate it.
38. Invite some friends to form a monthly book-discussion group.
39. Go ballroom dancing.
40. Read a story to your child at bedtime — and make it a daily habit.
41. Plant a tree.
42. Start keeping a journal or diary.
43. When you travel, always pack a few personal items — a favorite photo of the family, a travel pillow, a small fragrant candle, a crucifix — to make the space more like home.
44. Make a large batch of hot nourishing soup like arroz caldo and hand out cups of soup to the street children that you pass on your daily travels around the city.
45. Sing a new song.
46. Volunteer for a parish community activity.
47. Watch an educational program on TV this week...no more soaps!
48. Invite a friend to a BCBP breakfast.
49. Do the grocery shopping for an invalid in your neighborhood.
50. Help your spouse do something he/she really likes to do.
51. See the good in others.
52. Be thankful for today. You are exchanging one day of your life for it.

—From various sources.



What act of worship brings you most strongly into God's presence?

Prayer is the most important thing I've learned in the BCBP. Prayer is opening my mind and heart to God, listening to Him and discovering God in all things and in my own life. Prayer is a dialogue with God, a real personal encounter, a continuous orientation from the Lord. How do I know when God talks to me? This is part of the mystery of faith. What I do know is that if I do not stop talking and begin listening, I will never learn from my Divine Teacher.

-Juanito F. Lagao, Dagupan Chapter

My quiet time with the Lord in front of the Blessed Sacrament most inspires me. One of my prayers at this time is:

I feel your presence,  
I feel your thoughts,  
I feel your touch,  
I feel YOU.

Lord, come and embrace me  
and give me solace,  
Regard not my emptiness  
But fill me with your holiness.

Nelly Prieto, Legaspi Outreach

I have felt God and His love most strongly when I had a stroke way back in April 1991. At first I questioned God, but after praying the rosary for the first time in many years, I acknowledged that God must love me. Then later in an LSS during the talk on God's love, I realized that sometimes we have to pass through the crucible of fire to be able to appreciate God's great love for us. Now I accept wholeheartedly and gratefully the trials that come my way knowing that God's love will pull me through and that He is with me each step of the way to make things bearable for me.

- Remigio "Remy" Gabuya, Davao Outreach

# Test your knowledge about Evangelism

1. You are asked to head your chapter's evangelism program. How do you respond?

- a. Tell them you need to pray about it — for at least a year.
- b. Ask if you could serve on the food committee instead.
- c. Start practicing your Billy Graham imitation.



2. What does lifestyle evangelism mean to you?

- a. Going to a restaurant and leaving a BCBP brochure as a tip.
- b. Playing the Christian radio station loudly enough for all your neighbors to hear.
- c. Jogging in your "Jesus is the only answer" T-shirt.

3. How should you respond when someone says, "There's something different about you. What is it?"

- a. "I just shaved off my beard." (or "just went to the parlor.")
- b. "Just what do you mean by 'different'?" (aggressively)
- c. "I'm a renewed, Spirit-filled Christian who's been regenerated, justified, and sanctified by Christ's glorious act of atonement. Brother, are you saved?"



4. What's the best way to witness to people at work?

- a. Anonymously fax gospel messages to your business contacts.
- b. Hold a Bible study during work time — after all, we're commanded to "seek first the Kingdom of God."
- c. Leave detailed instructions for the person who'll take over your job after the rapture.

5. Someone notices you reading the Bible and asks, "Do you really believe that stuff?"

- a. "No, I just look at it for the pictures."
- b. "No, I'm helping my son do a book report for his religion class."
- c. "I can't talk to you now — I'm doing a Bible study on evangelism."



6. You're visiting an acquaintance and want to evangelize her. You begin your conversation by saying,

- a. "What a lovely home, and what nice end tables you have. Speaking of end, if you were to die tonight..."
- b. "What a beautiful clock! When your time runs out..."
- c. "Did you know that God loves you, even though I don't?"

### Your Score.

If you selected any of the alternatives above, you may need to learn more about evangelism. After you've read the following article, try coming up with your own responses to these questions. This would be a good action group discussion activity.



## Back to Basics

Are we "selling" Christ to others? Is evangelization the same as mission? Evangelism is not only sometimes misunderstood, it is oftentimes misapplied. Let us go back to the basics, review and reflect on what is really meant by "evangelism".

"I believe that much of our evangelism is ineffective because we depend too much upon technique and strategy. Evangelism has slipped into the sales department." This statement by Rebecca Pippert, in her book *Out of the Saltshaker and Into the World: Evangelism as a Way of Life* (InterVarsity Press, 1979), reveals clearly to what extent evangelism is misunderstood today.

The product is Jesus Christ and His Gospel. The sales strategy has been defined and compiled into numerous manuals and step-by-step guidebooks. Books have been published, seminars conducted, doors knocked on, people earnestly prayed over, fiery exhortations and sermons preached.

And yet, how evident is the result? In the BCBP for instance, is attendance in the breakfasts increasing steadily? What about participation in prayer assemblies, teachings and action group meetings? As Christian businessmen and professionals what impact have we actually had on our workplaces?

Evangelism is not only sometimes misunderstood, it is oftentimes misapplied. So that we can better respond to Christ's Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20), let us go back to the basics, review and reflect on what is really meant by "evangelism".

### **Evangelism defined**

To evangelize is first of all to bear witness, in a simple and direct way, to God revealed by Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit. It is to bear witness that in his Son God has loved the world — that in his Incarnate Word he has given being to all things and has called men to eternal life (*Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 26).

The duty of Christians to take part in the life of the Church impels them to act as *witnesses of the Gospel* and of the obligations that flow from it. This witness is a transmission of the faith in words and deeds.



# Evangelism: A Call to Renewal

Nancy R. Catan



Witness is an act of justice that establishes the truth or makes it known (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2472).

The dictionary defines *witness* as "seeing, hearing, or knowing by personal presence and experience". To bear witness or to tell about something to another person simply means that we must first see, hear or know by personal presence and experience what we are talking about. John exemplifies this basic truth very well in his First Letter of John, v.1-4.

Thus, to evangelize effectively we must be able to see Christ in the sacraments, in the Church, in people around us. We must be able to hear Christ's voice in Scripture and circumstances and people. We must have a personal relationship with Jesus and have experienced his healing touch and his power in our own life.

We must live our faith as renewed Christians. Our lifestyle must reflect our Christian values. If we preach a simple life, then we should be living a simple life. If we talk about honesty, then we should be honest in our relationships with each other, honest in our business dealings and sincere in keeping our promises and commitments. To put it plainly, evangelism begins with the renewal of self — a putting off of the old self and putting on Jesus Christ.

All Christians by the example of their lives and the witness of their word, wherever they live, have an obligation to manifest the new man which they have put on in Baptism, and to reveal the power of the Holy Spirit by whom they were strengthened at Confirmation (*Ad Gentes* 11) and in the charismatic rite of renewal in the Holy Spirit.

### Clearing up some misconceptions

There is no such thing as instant evangelism, as an instant Christian. Yes, there may be an instant revelation experience for that person, but unless he or she is brought into a community of believers like the BCBP and into the sacramental life of the Church, we cannot say that true evangelization has taken place.

Evangelization is a process. It involves the continuing transformation of our hearts and our lives, a transformation that brings us into and unites us with the Body of Christ, the Church. True evangelization must always lead to communion with Christ in the Church.

*We must first see,  
hear or know by personal presence and experience  
what we are talking about.*

I think it was Bishop Ted Bacani who said that most Catholics today are sacramentalized but not evangelized. We participate in the sacramental rites of the Church, but we have not experienced in a continuing manner the presence of Jesus in our lives. The personal relationship is missing — thus the need for evangelization and community, where one strengthens and builds up the other resulting in a greater and deeper appreciation of the sacraments and the Church.

Evangelism is also not the same as "mission". Evangelism is the renewal of our hearts and the sharing of our renewed faith with others. Mission is the way we do it. Evangelization includes mission, but mission may not always include evangelization.

If we review the mission statement of the BCBP for instance, nowhere is evangelism mentioned by name. Rather the mission statement directs the creation of a support environment and a body of Christian business people and professionals with the goal of transforming the marketplace by Gospel Values. This process of transformation is evangelism.

### How do we evangelize?

There are many different methods, perhaps as many as there are Christian organizations and people. We see TV evangelists, prayer rallies, young people handing out tracts in the malls. No one method is the best way. How we evangelize may vary according to the different circumstances of time, place and culture and according to our abilities and talents to reach out to other people in witnessing our faith. But all Christians recognize with St. Paul that we **must** witness Christ.

*"But how can they call to him for help if they have not believed? And how can they believe if they have not heard the message? And how can they hear if the message is not proclaimed? And how can the message be proclaimed if the messengers are not sent out? ... So then, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message comes through preaching Christ." (Romans 10:14-15,17)*

Pope Paul VI in his apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi* presents seven ways that he feels have fundamental importance in modern times. They are: the witness of life, a living preaching, the Liturgy of the Word, utilization of the mass

*pls. turn to page 12*



**You won't leave anything for posterity if you don't get off your posterior.**





## Evangelism erosion

In my pastoral experience I have observed that the longer a person is a Christian, the less evangelistic he tends to be. This is obviously not a mark of growth or Christlikeness, but of spiritual stagnancy. We must consciously fight this tendency toward "evangelism erosion."

How have you been demonstrating a concern for the physical and spiritual needs of others? Have you shown it through helping to provide for someone's food, clothing, shelter, or health needs? Have you proven it through praying, giving, witnessing, or encouraging?

A sure sign of Christian growth is seeing needs you never saw before and beginning to meet them.

- Donald Whitney

### EVANGELISM... from page 11

media, indispensable personal contact, the sacraments and popular piety (EN 41-48). He goes on to emphasize that no matter who is the evangelizer or who is the evangelized, nothing can be accomplished without LOVE and the Holy Spirit.

We should never attempt to spread the Good News in a confrontational manner or try to motivate people to turn to Jesus through fear. For God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and self-control (2 Tim. 1:7). We must seek to be perfect in love, for, as John tells us, perfect love drives out fear (1 John 4:18).

### The role of the Holy Spirit

From the first to the last, the spread of the gospel is God's work, not our own. Yes, God uses us as his human instruments, but we cannot give, dictate, command or compel anyone to have faith. No one can make a person believe in Christ. That is the Spirit's domain; he alone is capable of revealing spiritual realities.

It is not us who evangelize; it is the Holy Spirit. And yet we are privileged to be cooperators in the Divine Plan.

We are all familiar with the parable of the Sower and the Seed. We can only plant the seed, it is God who provides the sun, the rain, and the time needed for the seed to develop into fruit ready for the harvest. We need to remember, however, that we can't labor in the harvest if we're not out in the field.

*...we can't labor in the harvest if we're not out in the field*

### What's the question?

John Powell of Loyola University tells of an evangelical student who sneaked into his classroom before class time to write on the blackboard in bold letters, "JESUS CHRIST IS THE ANSWER". The student, however, was startled to discover when the class convened that an anonymous response had been scribbled beneath his slogan: "Yeah? What's the question?"

This brings us to a basic rule of effective communication that as evangelizers we cannot ignore. Unless answers correlate to questions, communication aborts. If I share about my experience of being renewed in the Spirit and my listener is not very sure who or what the Holy Spirit is, nothing is going to be accomplished. If I answer questions the listener is not asking, I'm only talking to myself.

Persuasion takes place on the listener's terms, not on the speaker's terms. Jesus used down-to-earth, everyday examples that his listeners could understand and relate to, to illustrate great truths. He could have quoted Scripture for hours and yet He didn't; He spoke his message succinctly, concisely and clearly, many times telling stories to help his listeners understand his message.

People, then and now, are looking for what is real in life, a sense of self-confi-

dence, the meaning of it all, the "what's in it for me" answer. If we fail to answer these oft unspoken questions, we fail to touch that person's heart. We need to learn to listen before we speak, if we are to learn to hear the questions we need to answer.

### Keeping the Great Commission

Jesus does not give us any choice. He commands us to "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matt. 28-19-20) He doesn't say, "I am inviting you to go and be my witnesses." He issues us a direct command.

How shall we respond? We don't have to be appointed or anointed to special missions or service. We don't have to be

more mature or more holy. Witnessing and introducing Christ to others is an integral part of being a normal, everyday Christian. If we believe that Christ has called all His followers to preach the gospel, and if we believe God never calls us to do something without giving us the means to do it, then we must know that for each one of us who believe there is an appropriate and effective way of evangelizing.

Effective evangelization depends on prayer. As we come into God's presence every day and prayerfully read His Word, we will grow in our understanding of his salvation and our desire to proclaim it.

But I believe that the best preparation for evangelism lies not in the method, the place, or the time, but in the renewal of our own hearts. We must evangelize ourselves before we reach out to others. We ourselves must be on fire with the Holy Spirit before we can spread this fire to others.

The more we share our faith with others, the stronger our own faith becomes. As we evangelize others we ourselves are evangelized. But the starting point must always be ourselves, our own spiritual renewal, our own continuing transformation and our own commitment to holiness.

In keeping the Great Commission, we must begin with ourselves.#





## Evangelism in your life

1. What is our responsibility in bringing others to Christ?

Romans 10:1

Matt. 9:37-38

Romans 10: 14, 17

Acts 1:8

1 Peter 3:15-16

Mark 16:15

2. Read 1 Thess. 2:3-8 in which Paul describes his attitude toward witnessing. What do you think it means to be "entrusted with the gospel"? Compare Paul's attitude with your attitude toward sharing your faith with others.

3. Evangelism is a process of transformation. What areas in your life have been transformed since you have had a personal relationship with Jesus?

4. In the Book of The Acts of the Apostles, Luke describes how Peter and Paul brought the Good News to the Jews and to the Gentiles. What insights about evangelization and mission can you gain from reading these passages from Acts?

Acts 1:6-8

Acts 13:1-3

Acts 2:1-41

Acts 14:21-28

Acts 2:42-47

Acts 16:4-10

Acts 4:23-33

Acts 20:17-36

Acts 5:17-42

Acts 28:23-31

5. What steps will you take to enable you to live your life fully committed to evangelism?

# How to get involved in the harvest

1. **Pray.** Ask God to show you one person you can impact for Christ. Make a commitment before the Lord to spend time with that person and to pray every day for him or her.

2. **Participate.** Get involved in activities where you meet people on a regular basis, especially in your workplace.

3. **Volunteer.** Get involved in your local school. Help with community projects. Look for opportunities to develop friendships with non Christians.

4. **Socialize.** Have a neighbor over for dinner or to watch TV. Look for common interests. Invite your officemate for lunch.

5. **Celebrate.** Take advantage of holidays to include unbelievers in your activities and traditions.

6. **Invite.** Watch for special concerts, seminars, or speakers who might interest your friends. Invite them to a BCBP breakfast.

7. **Serve.** Talk to your parish priest or your community head about your gifts and talents and find out how you can best use them in the ministries of the church and community.

8. **Support.** Find a missionary (or charity) to support financially, in prayer, and with letters of encouragement.

9. **Praise.** Give the Lord the credit for the blessings in your life in the presence of others. Acknowledge His help in difficult times.

10. **Empathize.** Look for opportunities to draw alongside people who are hurting.

11. **Evaluate.** Check your motives. Are you seeking your own glory, or are you motivated by love for God and for the lost?

12. **Intercede.** Pray regularly for the unbelievers you know and for ministries that are actively seeking to reach the lost.

13. **Encourage.** Uplift your fellow laborers with words of encouragement.

14. **Be available.** Don't get so overextended that you are unable to respond to the Spirit's prompting to minister to a friend when needs arise.

15. **Be holy.** Live a life above reproach. Your unrenewed friends should see the fruit of the Spirit in your life.

16. **Be transparent.** Don't try to be something you are not. Admit your own struggles and share how the Lord is working in your life to help you grow.

17. **Be accountable.** Seek out a friend you can pray with each week. Pray together for the people you are trying to reach. Share your experiences.

18. **Persevere.** Don't get discouraged when people don't respond right away. Leave the results to the Lord.

19. **LOVE.** Ask the Lord to give you the same love for your friends that He has. Do everything in love.

20. **Begin now.** Don't wait until tomorrow. Now, right this moment, is the best time to start.

*Discipleship Journal #49 and other sources.*





There are a number of Bible-related games that can be played in small groups, like in BCBP action group meetings. The ones given here are seat games that do not require the participants to actively move about the room and so are suitable for small meeting places. Refresh your Bible knowledge and have fun!

### **Scramble!**

Take a dozen or so familiar Bible verses and rearrange the words in each. Make sure the verses are familiar, since you will only read each verse, as it is scrambled, twice. The object is to see how many of your contestants, working individually or as teams, can unscramble each verse. No one will be asked to unscramble the verse word for word, but to make it quite apparent that he knows what the correct quotation is.

Other versions: You may use more difficult Bible quotations and provide each member a written copy of the scrambled verse, which must be unscrambled within a given length of time. You may also require them to identify the source of the verse (book, chapter and verse number).

### **Name the Book**

Select a number of outstanding Bible incidents, no more than one from any book of the Old or the New Testament. Mention these incidents briefly and ask the participants to name the book. Advise them that no book will be used twice. This can be done individually or as teams.

### **Did I Hear That Right?**

Read a well-known Bible story in which several errors have intentionally been written, such as incorrect names, incorrect places, numbers or the like. You may even want to reverse sequence of events in the story. As the story is read, your listeners are supposed to write down all the errors they detect.

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*During the August 24, 1996 Tagbilaran Outreach's Anniversary breakfast, Marjoe and Inday recounted their experiences in opening up the BCBP Dumaguete outreach.*

*These excerpts taken from their sharing show BCBP missionaries in action.*

**Marjoe.** Some two and a half years ago I was assigned to be the coordinator of our outreach in Dumaguete. I was comfortable in saying yes because I had a little hauling business in Negros, my hometown, and I thought that was why the Lord was calling me in that direction. But later, I was proven wrong on this as my hauling business ended and transferred to Bohol but my mission in the BCBP in Dumaguete continued.

**Inday.** Hearing that Marjoe would be leaving our shop almost every Friday afternoon brought me a lot of worries. Friday is the day before payday and a most crucial day in our business. But every time I felt like pestering Marjoe about this, Matt. 6:33 flashed into my mind. And that has sustained me during the past two and a half years.

**Marjoe.** The first storm we experienced sailing to Dumaguete almost dampened my enthusiasm to serve. Two vessels sank on that same day that we sailed for our outreach but we got there safely. Every safe trip to the shorelines of Negros is more than enough inspiration to believe that God indeed protects each one of us in the mission team.

And the storms were not only at sea. Storms started to rock our family-owned business, too. There were times when I started to fear that perhaps my work in Dumaguete was not worth the effort. Instead of blessings, our mission work was being rewarded with crisis after crisis.

**Inday.** Even amidst all of these storms, every time Marjoe arrived from Dumaguete, he would begin to tell about miracles after miracles happening in the lives of our brothers and sisters in the outreach. These stories were like manna from heaven. And trusting in God's grace, Saturday evening paydays were always provided for — from a customer's pay or from a generous hand which God guided to come our way.

**Marjoe.** I realized how Inday took the burden whenever I left her in the office on Friday afternoons. I counted my trips and it seems I have traveled to Dumaguete for more than 50 times since 1994. But every time I start my journey across the seas I easily feel God's reassuring me that He will take care of my concerns back home, and so I sail on.

Planting the seed of the BCBP in Dumaguete has enabled me to witness how God perfectly waters that seed which we plant. Instances of marriages reconciled, the healing of relationships, healing of physical illness — even cancer, seeing brothers quit smoking, priorities in life changing — all these are the food and medicine that God has given me as a missionary. I have to confess that there were several times I was really discouraged ... few breakfasters, no preparations, the eleventh



# Sailing across the seas for the Lord

*Marjoe and Inday Magallano, Tagbilaran Chapter*

hour backing out by sharers, almost no boarding space in the boats ... and about to hang up my gloves in the mission work. It is only now that I learned that the biggest gift the Lord has given me is that gift of faith and trust in Him.

**Inday.** All of us will go through life, facing all kinds of storms, but I can say that he who makes the Lord his anchor will never be moved nor shaken. Whenever Marjoe leaves for Dumaguete, God makes sure that no one in the family gets sick and our business needs are all met.

**Marjoe.** I have not been rewarded materially, but the reward I have received is something which I know in the eyes of our God is the best gift He can show me...and that is how He has blessed our brothers and sisters in Dumaguete.#

*I praise loudly; I blame softly. -Catherine II of Russia*



# A Vision in Infanta

Andy Nanagas, Makati Chapter

**A**pproximately one hundred fifty kilometers east of Metro Manila along the eastern coastline of Luzon, across the Sierra Madre mountain range from Manila, lies the rustic town of Infanta in Quezon province. For years the town remained untouched by outside influences due to long, hazardous travel time from Manila (six hours of off-road driving and occasional landslides) and the fact that it's so out of the way on the way to anywhere else.

Last April 1996, Infanta celebrated its 300th foundation year anniversary. This time, a lot of people from out of town participated in the town fiesta since the road had finally been paved. The town was now wide open to the various influences that would affect and probably change the way of life of the townsfolk.

Because of these developments I decided to

*Here is the account of just one of the ways in which God smiles on modern-day evangelists. As the Workers of Christ team touched the LSS participants, angels surrounded and touched the venue of the LSS with their loving protection.*

initiate a Life in the Spirit Seminar for the employees of the Rural Bank of Infanta (Quezon), Inc., that I manage and for other interested townspeople. Preparations got underway with an advance team from the Workers of Christ paying a courtesy call on the parish priest three weeks before the LSS opened on the last weekend of July.

Then, the week before the LSS, typhoon Gloria passed through Polilo Island which is just off Infanta. We called up Infanta on Thursday and they informed us that there was just rains and no wind. (In Infanta, a storm is considered a storm only if rains are accompanied by strong winds.)

My wife Odette and I left Manila for Infanta, Friday at 1:00 p.m. amidst heavy rains. When we hit the Sierra Madre Mountain range, a portion of it was blanketed in heavy fog and visibility was limited to a few meters. But when we came down from the mountains onto the coastline, the weather was very calm and the sea was as flat as the eye could see.

As the LSS got underway, the rain stopped and the attendance was good.

I was praying in the back of the room as the first speaker was giving his talk when a vision came to me. I was looking at the town of Infanta from above and the whole town was covered in darkness. But in one area there was a bright light that was shining. As I zoomed in on the place of the light, I saw that it was the church compound where we were holding the LSS. It was covered by a bright bubble — a bubble made up of angels in a huddle, holding hands together with their wings interfaced, covering the place where the LSS had just begun. The light was coming from within the dome of their wings and the light shone through their translucent bodies. This beautiful vision lasted a while before I became aware of my surroundings again.

I had seen a vision showing the Lord's protection over those who serve Him and over those who come to Him, particularly in the town of Infanta. This vision was confirmed by the service team and by the sharings of some of the LSS participants.

All the participants who started the seminar finished the weekend even staying up to 11:00 p.m. and waking up early the next morning to be on time for the sessions. The service team was full of energy and seemed not to tire at all. Everything went smoothly. Service team members who followed that Saturday arrived safely.

But I believe that this vision that I saw was not meant just for that occasion. With the opening of the road to Infanta, I saw it as a sign from the Lord that He will protect the town from the negative influences that will be coming in. He is truly a faithful God who protects us from all harm.#

*Any child knows that the real purpose of a middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.*



*From Cries to Kisses*

Annie Salvador, Makati Chapter

# PERFECT PARENTING

**O**n the night of my father's birthday dinner, our older children insisted on wearing what they wanted. Nico showed up in his favorite tattered sneakers. Tono decided on a striped jumper and a striped shirt. Marga opted for a pink and orange, neon-bright combination. Anton threw on whatever first came out of his closet. It took all of me not to usher them back inside for a change of clothes; my sense of style, directed by Elsa Klensch and her colleagues, shouted in revolt.

At my parents' house, I stole glances at my aunts and cousins, searching for the unspoken "How could you..." although there was none. All along, my children comfortably ate and played. As the evening wore on I finally relaxed, putting our "fashion faux pas" aside. Much later, I was even actually glad about the whole thing.

In the scheme of larger things, it was just a little incident. I could have chosen the easy way for me and had them

wear more appropriate clothes, with which they would have been just as comfortable. But the issue, beyond clothes and comfort, has to do with bigger things: independence, individuality, separateness.

As our children grow older, the fact that they are separate individuals —

in the house, provided they pick up after themselves. Young children can be given many other opportunities for decision making: carrots or beans? a bath now or after dinner? the red dress or the blue jumper? what story shall we read tonight?

Older children can perhaps be allowed to spend their

savings at their discretion for an agreed period of time, or take turns deciding on the family's dinner menu, subject to Mama's approval. A couple I know gave their teen-aged sons the money for their schoolbus fare each month. The choice of whether to take the schoolbus or public transport was up for each boy to make. Choices that are age-appropriate and within



the bounds of the family's values can serve to strengthen a child's sense of control over his environment. As we hone and polish our children's decision-making ability, we are equipping them with another necessary skill for adulthood.

As a parent, I know very well what the conflicts are. It would be so much easier if the choice were between good and evil, per se. But more often than we care for, we need to make a choice from a pool of sympathetic options. Oftentimes it is a case of having to choose

others — from myself will become more and more apparent. This is, after all, the whole idea. From the very beginning, conception was the result of the sperm and the egg being released to each other to form a new creation. At birth, this separateness becomes physically real. From the "Mine!" and "No!" stages of toddlerhood, all the way down, our children will progressively separate themselves from us, towards lives of their own.

What better way, then, to empower them for this end than to give them choices as early as we can? Our children, for instance, are allowed to play anywhere



Annie and her husband, Nelson, are active members of BCBP Makati chapter and are blessed with five energetic children.

*pls. turn to page 18*

*Some people don't put their best foot forward until they're on their last leg.*



# Have you "played" today?

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*We are told that "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." But as adults, should we play with a specific purpose, or should we just let ourselves go and enjoy ourselves? What really is considered "true play"?*

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**A**dult play has become a thing, a commodity, an event undertaken at a specific time, for a specific purpose. We play for a reason: to relax; to spend time with the kids; to take our minds off work. All these may be excellent objectives, but the process by which they are achieved is no longer play. True play has no end beyond itself.

The most glaring examples of this corruption of play may be sports and fitness. We no longer simply "go for a walk." Instead, we try to keep our heart rate to within 60% of maximum.

Can playfulness be recovered? Researchers insist that bringing play back into our lives is far from impossible. The first step is to take stock of our own state of playfulness. Are we getting enough? Have we been using play more than simply experiencing it? Are there possible changes that might shift the balance back?

One suggestion is to simplify your play objectives. For example, try taking a walk without your watch or without monitoring your heart rate. And don't take on an activity that is so ambitious, challenging, or expensive that you spend the entire time worrying about whether you can afford it, or whether you're performing well enough, or having enough fun to justify the time expended.

Also, check out how attached you've become to the material aspect of play — clothes, shoes, equipment, etc. If you've reached the point where you can't go biking without your biking shorts, biking may not be as playful an experience as it could be.

Chances are, you're not a professional player, so stop pressuring yourself to play or perform like one. Although amateur has almost become an insult, bear in mind that the word derives from the Latin for "to love." Unlike professionals, amateurs engage in an activity solely because they love it.

Remember to goof off. Play, says Geoffrey Godbey, author of *The Sociology of Leisure*, "means giving yourself over to an activity and not having to worry whether you're making a fool of yourself. Playing is fooling around, and fooling around requires fools."

Be open to play. Perhaps play will never be as simple or pure as when we were young, or when our culture was less complex, or when we had fewer responsibilities. But play, like hope, springs eternal. It breaks out, like weeds between cracks in the cement. Recognize play and then be willing to just let it happen.

*Paul Roberts, Psychology Today*

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## *PERFECT... from page 17*

to choose the best from among several goods. Which is the higher objective — safety or growth? To protect or to teach? To embrace or to let go?

Like our children, we will make mistakes, some will be minor and immaterial, while others will be painful and damaging. But as much as we need to accept our children for what they are — with all their humanness and shortcomings, so too, must we accept ourselves. The call, after all, is not to parent them

perfectly, but to parent them the best way we can.

And here, in our admission of our imperfection, is where God steps in. Flawed as we are, we can rely on our Heavenly Father's perfection to fill in the gaps we miss and to mend the wounds we render. He will keep safe whom we choose to let grow. He will protect whom we choose to teach. He will embrace whom we choose to let go. They are his children too, you know.#







# The Breakfast and the BCBP

One of the main ways that the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals evangelizes is through the BCBP Breakfasts. These are held weekly with the format including fellowship and the life sharing of a member.

Actually, it all started with a breakfast when sometime in July of 1980 a group of renewed Christian businessmen gathered for breakfast with the intention of supporting each other in the practice of Christian values in the marketplace. They began to meet every Wednesday at the Makati Sports Club to share with one another the stories of their conversion to the Lord and also to support one another through sharing their experiences in actualizing Christian values in their respective business endeavors and professions.

This handful of committed men invited others to the break-

fasts and soon their numbers began to swell. From that first breakfast of around 25 attendees, the BCBP now has over 6,000 members nationwide.

BCBP men hold weekly breakfasts — for schedules and venues please refer to inside back cover this issue — while the BCBP ladies meet once monthly. There are also joint breakfasts for both men and women held once monthly.

## The breakfast spirit

The breakfast is unique to the Brotherhood. There is no other organization that is known to have instituted a breakfast that has changed the lives of so many businessmen and professionals. The BCBP has the singular distinction of having introduced and sustained the breakfast system to bring the Gospel of Christ effectively to the marketplace. From this concept of a "Christian break-

fast" has evolved the potent renewal organization — the BCBP.

The simplicity of form and the effective delivery of a Gospel message through the "sharing" of a brother or sister serve to introduce the breakfast first-timers to the door of Christian renewal. This is the entry point, the window, to the Brotherhood with attendance of at least four breakfasts required before one can participate in the 13-week Brotherhood Christian Life Program (BCLP) to become a full member of the BCBP.

Breakfast attendance is not an "option" for regular members but rather a commitment to the evangelistic culture of the BCBP — to fellowship, share and upbuild one another in Christian values and practice. Thus members are continually encouraged to invite their business friends and associates to "have God at the 'break of day.'" -N.R.C.

*A pessimist is one who feels bad when he feels good for fear he'll feel worse when he feels better.*



**T**he mission of the BCBP is to bring Christ to the marketplace in line with our Lord's mandate in Matthew 28:19-20. And the entry point of our evangelization work is the breakfast. The breakfast provides the forum for the Holy Spirit to touch the hearts of the first timers as well as the regulars in His own mysterious way.

I would like to share with you what I personally have found to be quite effective in bringing first timers to the breakfast.

During the second week of January, 1992, as a result of prayer I decided to write down the names of people I had been planning to invite to the breakfast. My initial list consisted of about a dozen names that further elicited other names. This led me to devise a more systematic approach.

On the side cover of my planner, I wrote down:

***Sources of BCBP Breakfast Prospects***

- office mates (present and past)
- business associates
- members of professional organizations
- former classmates
- former students
- relatives
- neighbors/villagers
- Christmas gift list
- gatherings (reunions, weddings, etc.)

The next step was to write down the telephone number or address opposite each name. Then I classified and prioritized my prospects. This set the stage for the most important step — the actual invitation.

I picked up the phone and invited my first prospect to the breakfast. To my surprise, he offered no resistance, he accepted the invitation. The following week I invited my next prospect. And again, my invitation was accepted. This process went on and I observed that for the months of January and February I was able to invite eight men and two women to the breakfasts.

I told myself, "It seems all so easy. It's just a matter of putting it into a system. But why have I not been able to do this before?"

First, I have been guilty of procrastination. Next day would become next week and next week would become next month until I would find myself without any guest for almost a year ... maybe longer. I found out that the best way to kick the manana habit was to just do it.

Secondly, I would tell myself "maybe somebody else would invite him." Again, I found out that when in doubt, I should go ahead and invite. My prospect might just be waiting for me to invite him.

Finally, I was able to admit that one major reason why I had not been able to invite people to the breakfast was the fear of rejection. Although I mentioned earlier that it seems so easy to invite people to the breakfast, it is not always that way. I have

*next page pls.*

# **Breakfast evangelization: Making it work**

*Hermie Rodil, Alabang Chapter*





**BREAKFAST... from page 20**

personally encountered actual rejections. One former classmate laughed loudly and lengthily without even offering any excuse. This left me half wondering and half embarrassed. Another answered, "Sorry, not my cup of tea."

As I prayed about this fear of rejection, I opened to Matthew 5:11-12: "Happy are you when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of evil lies against you because you are my followers. Be happy and glad, for a great reward is kept for you in heaven. This is how the prophets who lived before you were persecuted."

I reflected that if businessmen are willing to take the risk of rejection in the pursuit of material concerns, shouldn't I take the risk of rejection in the pursuit of the BCBP mission of bringing Christ to the marketplace?

From my recent experience however, the batting average has been about 70-80% which is good enough. I have always been told that selling is a number's game. Inviting people to the breakfast is no different. The more aggressive I am in inviting, the greater the chance of succeeding.

What I recently noticed in myself was a change in attitude. Since I started this system, my frame of mind has been, "Who do I invite for breakfast this Saturday?"

And after the first breakfast I follow up my invitation because to me, the second breakfast is even more crucial. My friend may have accepted my invitation out of curiosity or accommodation. When he goes back to the breakfast for the second time, then I know it is more out of conviction, and that he is a good prospect for the BCLP and a deeper, more lasting relationship with the Lord.

I am a regular breakfast goer. I look forward to the warm fellowship and the spiritual nourishment from the powerful sharings. And the breakfast becomes even more meaningful to me every time I am able to bring someone with me.

- Reprinted from the April-May 1992 KAPATIRAN.

**Breakfast sharers in a row** - From opposite page: Rey Sy shares at what was then Cainta Outreach, now Rizal Chapter; Tita Cerdeña shares during the 7th Anniversary Breakfast of Cebu Chapter. Below: The Catans, Jun and Nancy, in Puerto Princesa Joint Breakfast; Her Excellency Former President Corazon C. Aquino as special guest sharer for the Second BCBP National Grand Breakfast at Shangri-La Hotel in Makati.



# How to give your life sharing

Nanette Ferreria, Alabang Chapter

**T**he basic purpose of the BCBP is to bring Christ into the marketplace, to move other people into a closer relationship with Jesus. This purpose can be accomplished by sharing how He has worked in our lives. Necessarily, for a talk to have great impact on the lives of people, it should be so powerful spiritually that it moves those who hear to change their lives for the better.

Sharing powerfully can be learned. My talk this morning (this talk was given during a Makati ladies' breakfast in 1990) attempts to give you some guidelines that hopefully can lead you to share your lives in a very powerful way to others.

There is more to sharing than just relating our life story. We share 1) to glorify God, and 2) to build each other up spiritually. We accomplish this by delivering a sharing that does not slip into gossip or scandal but rather serves as an inspiration to the listeners to grow closer to Jesus Christ.

A good question to keep in mind which could guide us in sharing is: "How can I evangelize my audience? Will what I am about to say help them become more mature spiritually?"

## Structuring your personal sharing

A personal testimony or sharing can be divided into three parts. First is your life before conversion, second is how you were called by the Lord to the Renewal, and third, but most important of

*pls. turn to page 22*



When money speaks, the truth is silent. -Russian Proverb



all, is the living out of your life according to God's call for you to change.

### ***Life before the Lord's call***

In relating our lives before we entered the renewal, we do not really need to follow the bible format, that is, starting with the annunciation, then conception, birth, and plodding through all the rigors of elementary, high school, your first job, your many firsts in life. These high points can be summarized in a very few sentences that are short and direct to the point.

We should ask ourselves always how these things, these high points in our early lives would enhance the sharing. How do these incidents relate to your conversion? How was God working in your life during those times?

Our being succinct about our past life however, does not mean that we are licensed to give bland uneventful sharings on our past life. What I am saying is that for most of us, the most significant part of our life is our adult life where we are confronted to make decisions which we are accountable for. Our adult life really starts towards our late teens, our early work life and our early married life. It is in this period that we experience the peaks and valleys of our lives. It is here where we experience how life can be tough on us. It is here where we sometimes in our confusion turn to the ways of the world to "survive", not knowing that if we turn to the world's ways we are not really surviving but are being damned in the process.

When we write down our past life, our initial draft should contain all of the events of our life which we feel are significant. After having written it all down on paper, we can then proceed to determine one by one how each incident relates to our sharing and whether the incident answers our guiding question: Does it glorify God? Will it build up the faith of those who will hear it?

### ***Answering His call***

After sharing about your past life, you now can go into how the Lord called you into the renewal. This is not too difficult to relate for there usually is only one single event that made us turn to Him. It can be in varied forms from personal traumas or triumphs.

What is more important is for your audience to realize that it was indeed the Lord who called you by name. Ask yourself, who were the people the Lord used for my conversion? What were the circumstances surrounding the Lord's call? What made me realize that I needed to follow this path laid before me? As a sidelight, you could also elaborate on your experiences during the Christian Life Program and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

### ***Life with Jesus***

The third and most important aspect of any sharing is the last part that deals with your new life with the Lord. The renewal is called "renewal" because we are all called to change for, as scripture has it, all have sinned and have fallen short of the glory of God. When we share our lives, this part should stand out as the best part because this is the time when we are leading our lives according to God's direction.

There are certain areas in your renewed life that should be shared. Primary among these is your personal relationship with the Lord as illustrated by your prayer life.

How did you get into it, what were the difficulties you encountered and how did you hurdle these difficulties? How do you and your spouse pray? How does your family pray? How does the Lord answer your prayers? Have you suffered disappointments or setbacks in your prayer life? How did you react to these setbacks? How do you teach your children to pray? How do you attend mass? How do you go to confession now? How do you teach your children about God's word?

How receptive are you to God's messages? Perhaps the Lord may have directed you to repair relationships, or to cut out from your life serious wrongdoings, or to cast off the old and put on the new life. How did you respond to His directions and how did you feel about following His will for you? What effect did this obedience have on your life, on the lives of your family and friends? How has the Brotherhood helped you along your path to holiness?

Aside from our prayer life, the way the Lord is working in our family life and business life are also worth sharing to others. How has the Lord helped you

improve your communication lines? How do you respond to the needs of your spouse, your children, your employees? How do you help your spouse to grow? Do you pray for your spouse? Do you pray for your business associates? Do you still have resentments or hurts that you need to deal with, if so how do you and the Lord plan to handle them? How are you able to bring Christ into your own particular marketplace?

### ***Sharing: our Christian duty***

It is not easy to share. But when we share with others, our listeners will hopefully realize that the difficulties they have are not theirs alone but have also been experienced by others. Through our sharing our personal life with them, we pray that they will realize that the Lord cares for them, too, as He has cared for each of us.





# All roads lead to Cagayan de Oro in April

## BCBP 17th Anniversary plans released

The 17th Anniversary of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals will be held April 10-12, 1997 in Cagayan de Oro. BCBP's CDO chapter head Joe Coruna has reiterated his warm invitation made during last year's celebration to all BCBP brothers and sisters to join the two-day's fun and fellowship that will be hosted by his chapter.

A morning of sports activities starts the celebration on Friday morning with golf, duckpin bowling and lawn tennis teams from the different chapters and outreaches pitted against each other. Later in the day the chapter and outreach heads meet in fellowship, with the entire assembly gathering for worship in the evening.

Day 2 begins with a Grand Breakfast and ends with a concelebrated mass in the evening followed by dinner and a program. During the day seminars, city tours and ladies' activities are planned.

The full national anniversary schedule is on page 24.

Other activities that have been set in motion are a National BCBP Theme Song Search and a Grand Raffle. These will culminate on April 12 during the evening's program. Details are on page 25.

See you all in Cagayan de Oro!

**17TH BCBP NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY**

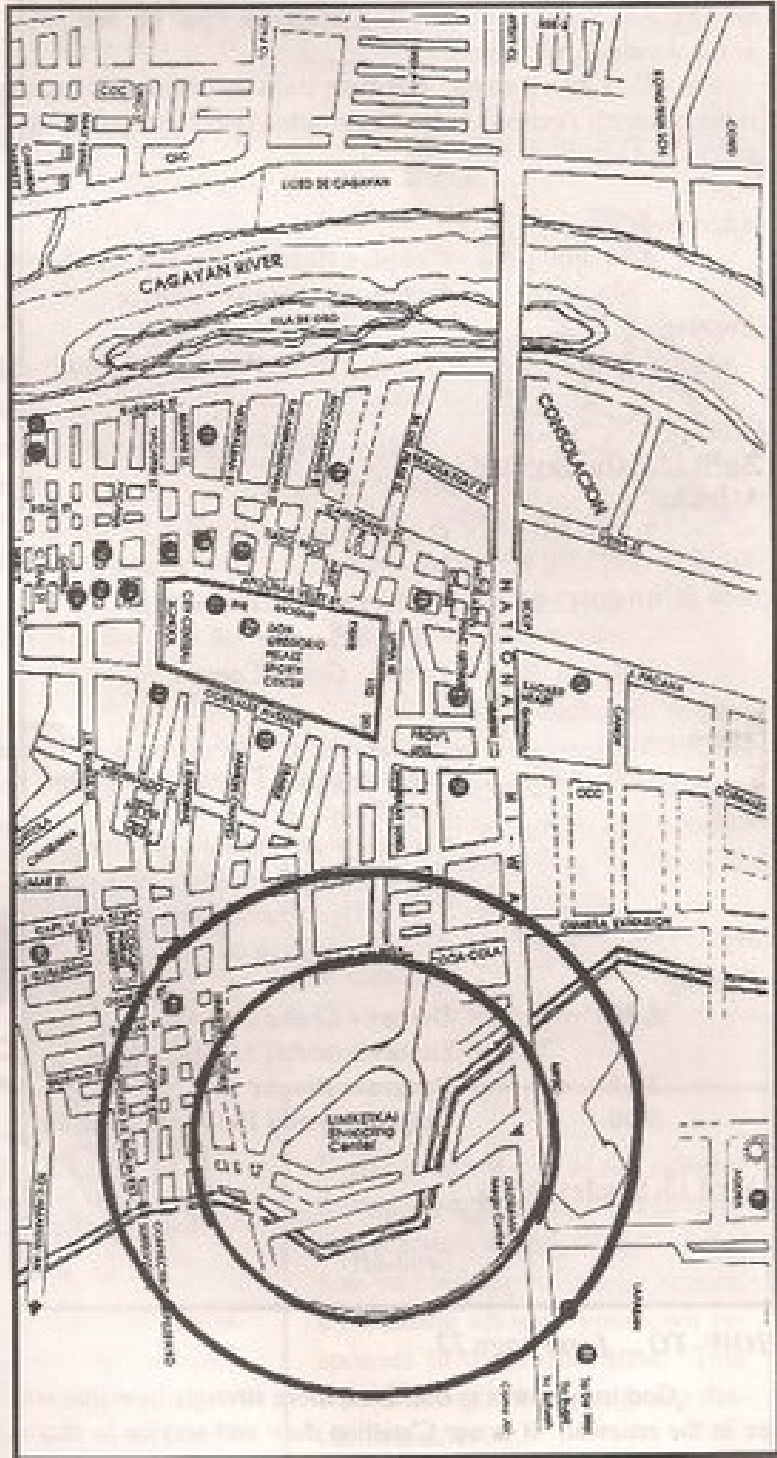
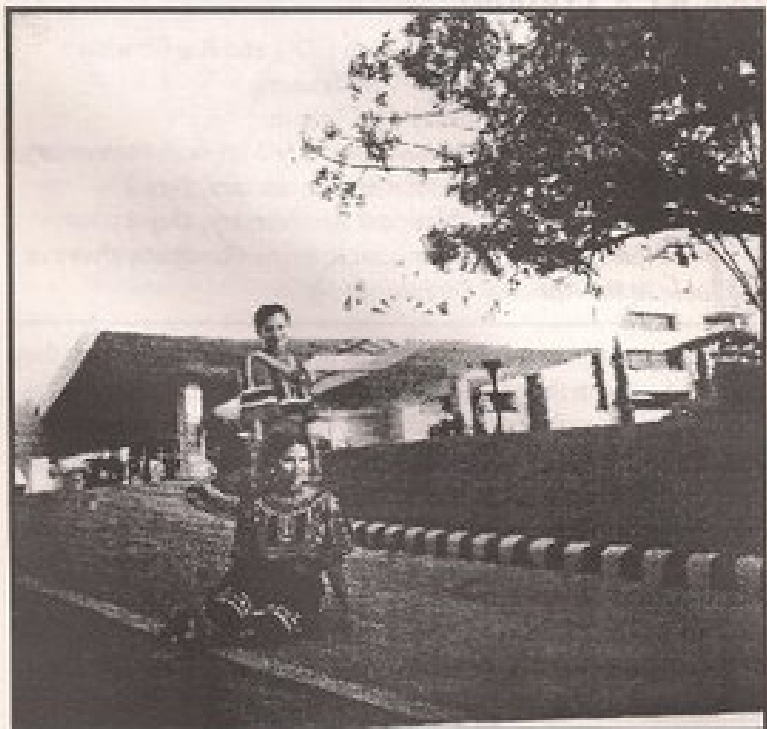
**APRIL 11-12, 1997**

**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**

*Theme:*

**"Speak fearlessly of the Lord"**

*Acts 14:3*





## National anniversary celebration schedule

### April 10, Thursday Day 1

- Arrival of BCBP brothers and sisters

### April 11, Friday Day 2

**Morning: SPORTS — SPORTS — SPORTS**

**A. Golf:** Tee-off time is 6:00 a.m., Del Monte Golf Course. Registration is P550.00 pax with lunch. Caddy Fee is to be paid by the player.

**B. Duckpin Bowling:** Roll-off time is 8:00 a.m. Venues Ororama Bowling Lanes. Registration is P880 per team of 6; snacks/meals not included.

**C. Lawn Tennis:** Net-time starts at 7:00 a.m. Venue is the Nazareth Tennis Courts. Registration is P150.00 pax with snacks and lunch.

**Afternoon:**

2:00-5:00 p.m. Chapter Heads/Outreach Heads Fellowship - *Grand Caprice*

**Evening:**

6:30 Worship Assembly - *San Agustin Cathedral*

### April 12, Saturday Day 3

**Morning:**

7:15-9:30 **Grand Breakfast - *Grand Caprice***  
Registration fee is P150.00 pax

10:00-12:00 **Fr. Herb Schneider's Talk**  
- *Grand Caprice*

12:00 - 1:30 **Lunch - *Grand Caprice***

**Afternoon:**

1:30 - 4:00 **Seminars/City Tours/Ladies Tour/Free Time**

5:00 **Concelebrated Mass - Fr. Herb Schneider, S.J., Fr. Mariano Varela, S.J., Msgr. Jesus Tuquib, and Msgr. Rodolfo Roa**

**Evening:**

6:30 **Dinner - *Grand Caprice***  
Dinner is at P175.00 pax

8:15 **Program Proper**

9:00 **Fellowship and Ballroom Dancing**

### April 13, Sunday Day 4

Send-off

## National BCBP Theme Song Search launched

A National BCBP Theme Song Writing contest will be formally launched during the 17th BCBP anniversary celebration in Cagayan de Oro. The purpose of the contest is to express the true BCBP spirit of Christian Evangelization of the marketplace in a National Theme Song, which will unite and strengthen the member's resolve to bring Christ into all businesses and professions. Requirements for the contest are:

Open to all chapters and outreaches of the BCBP; Composer must be a member or members of a chapter or outreach; Compose a song for the BCBP which will be adopted as a national theme song.; Must have a lively beat (e.g. marching); Composed for group singing, not for solo performance; Area screening will be done with one finalist per area (Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao). Criteria for judging: Overall impact - 40%; Melody - 20%; Lyrics - 20%; Visual impact - 10%; Delivery - 10%

The three regional finalist of the year-long contest will render their respective piece during the 1998 BCBP anniversary celebration in Manila. Prizes at stake are: Area winners - P1,000 each; National Runner-Up - P3,000.00; and the National winner - P6,000.00.

## Stewardship seminar

### SCHEDULE

|              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| April 2, Wed | Arrival in CDO, proceed to Camiguin |
| April 3, Thu | Day 1 of Seminar Proper             |
| April 4, Fri | Day 2 of Seminar Proper             |
| April 5, Sat | Day 3 of Seminar Proper             |
| April 6, Sun | Tour and sending-off                |
| April 7, Mon | Rest day for Fr. Herb in Camiguin   |

## Leader's Training

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| April 8, Tue  | Arrival in CDO and Registration                            |
| April 9, Wed  | Day 1 of Training  |
| April 10, Thu | Day 2 of Training<br>(Note: Day 1 of National Anniversary) |
| April 11, Fri | National Anniversary, Day 2                                |
| April 12, Sat | National Anniversary, Day 3                                |

Note: For those who wish to go to Camiguin, flyers are available at the National Secretariat Office.

these happenings in our life with our brothers and sisters that they may also grow in the realization that God is indeed alive and working through us and in us to make us better persons, a better people and a better nation.

We should therefore be bold and not be afraid to stand up and proclaim Him goodness through all the land.

So I hope when your time to share comes, we will never again hear "I do not have anything to share" as your reason for declining to share. Yes, we do have something to share, each and every one of us — it is the life we live in our love for Jesus Christ. Praise God! - *Reprinted from the Dec.-Jan. 1991 KAPATIRAN*

### HOW TO ... from page 22

God truly works in our lives, more strongly now that we are in the renewal. It is our Christian duty and service to share



**CAGAYAN DE ORO**

The BCBP-CDO "Call to Harvest 2" raffle winners were finally drawn last February 16 as scheduled at Limketkay Mall, Cagayan de Oro City.

Maria Concepcion of Meycauayan, Bulacan ran away with the first prize of Kia Pregio van. Second prize went to Tambas Usman of DAR office, Iligan winning a Mazda Sedan and Rural Bank of Medina, Inc won the Kia Pride as third prize.

Ten consolation prizes winning a stand fan each were also drawn. The winners are:

Wilma C. Gomez, Ramon Antinero, Gracia I. Borja, Lennie Gutierrez, Victor Malferrari, Henry Chiu, Ophelia Olamar, Gerald Barton Igot, Johndorf Ventures Corp. and Sandatu Namaludin.

The first, second and third prizes were drawn by Msgr. Roa, Mayor Ambing Magtajos and Chapter Joe Coruña, respectively.

## Many thanks for the support!!!

The Call to Harvest 2 Raffle Working Committee headed by Bong and Beng Pelaez wish to express their sincerest gratitude to brothers and sisters all over the country who in one way or the other helped and supported the project.

BCBP Anniversary Overall Coordinator Pepot and Charisse Fortich likewise thanked all those who purchased and sold tickets from Luzon to Mindanao.

Joe Coruña, BCBP-CDO chapter head, emphasized that with the full support extended by BCBP members, the project was a resounding success. He also reiterated his invitation to all to come to Cagayan de Oro on April 11-12 for the celebration of the BCBP anniversary.

# BCBP-CDO raffle winners drawn



**FAIR IS FAIR** - (Upper photo) Monsignor Roa being blindfolded by Bong Pelaez, Call to Harvest 2 Raffle Committee chair, before drawing the first prize winner. Also in the picture is Chapter "Joe" of BCBP-CDO. (Above) People were beginning to pour into Limketkay Mall as the raffle time drew near. Three brand new vehicles were drawn (foreground).

*A liberal is a man who is willing to spend somebody else's money. -Carter Glass*



## Council issues BCBP "MUST DO" Activities and Programs

In a planning session of Metro Manila chapter heads, mission and chapter life directors and the National Council on December 15, 1996, the group identified and agreed upon a set of "Must Do" activities and programs. These "Must Do" BCBP activities programs are printed herein for the guidance of all BCBP members.

**Breakfast:** 1. Regular breakfast schedules must go on throughout the year round. There shall be breakfast breaks only for Holy Saturday, Christmas and New Year's.

2. Each chapter, outreach and chapter-in-training should have a regular weekly Men's Breakfast, a Ladies' Breakfast at least once a month, and a monthly Joint Breakfast.

3. Breakfast schedules must never be used for any other activity.

**BCLP:** 1. Chapters must conduct at least one (1) regular Brotherhood Christian Life Program (BCLP) a year.

2. This is differentiated from the occasional LSS which the chapter may undertake for members' employees or other groups who are non-BCBP members.

**AGL Training:** 1. AGL training must be given on a regular and continuing basis, even without any scheduled or upcoming BCLP. This will enable the chapter to maintain a pool of ADLs, DLs and AGLs, thereby nullifying the excuse of not holding a BCLP because of lack of leaders.

2. AGL training is a prerequisite before taking the AGL Workshop Retreat.

**BCMR:** 1. The Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreat (BCMR) shall be held a minimum of one (1) every year.

2. A new topic, Sex in Marriage, has been added to the regular course content. Outline is available in the Secretariat.

**Chapter Assembly:** 1. A chapter assembly will be held on the third Friday of every month.



**BCBP Friday Rhythm:** 1. The regular Friday Rhythm of BCBP activities is:

First Friday - Assembly with either Mass or teaching.

2nd Friday - Action Group Meetings

3rd Friday - Chapter Assembly

4th Friday - Action Group Meetings

5th Friday (if any) - Fellowship (chapter option)

2. The First Friday of the Year (January) is declared as the BCBP's National Day of Thanksgiving. All chapters and outreaches are enjoined to celebrate this day appropriately.

**Metro-Wide General Assembly:**

1. Members are required to attend this activity as part of their commitment. Traffic should not be a reason for not attending.

2. The General Assembly is held on the First Friday of the quarter.

3. The General Assemblies are held quarterly following this schedule: March 97 - Alabang; June 97 - Greenhills;

*next page pls.*

## BCBP positions now have set terms of office

The December 15, 1996 Planning Session attended by Metro Manila chapter heads, mission directors, chapter life directors and the National Council members saw the formalization of the terms of office of various BCBP positions of leadership.

The terms of office are:

**Council members:** Three years with extension

**Chapter head:** Three years with one, 1-year extension

**Mission director:** Tenure of one year

**Chapter life director:** Tenure of one year

**Unit leader:** Tenure of one year

**All minor services:** Tenure of one year

These terms of office take effect January 1997. For incumbent chapter heads, there are some tenure cases that are undergoing review by the National Council.

For new appointments to either mission or chapter life director positions, the respective chapter heads must submit three recommendations for the National Council's selection and confirmation.

The chapter head has the prerogative to renew the terms of those holding positions with a one-year tenure.

Replacements of members of the National Council shall be on a staggered basis. The present Council will present a proposition on how this can be effected to probably include Vismin leaders as Council members in the future.

Upon serving his full tenure as a chapter head or member of the Council, one can now become a member of what is called the National Service Group, at the same time remaining as member of his respective chapter. Or, he may opt to start all over again as an AGL and work his way up to become chapter head again in the future.

It was also decided that there must not be any concurrent positions for the members of the governance team. This policy will mean that more members will be given opportunities to actively serve in their chapters. #



September 97 - Las Pinas; December 97 - Makati; March 98 - Paranaque; June 98 - Quezon City; September 98 - Rizal; December 98 - Alabang.

**BEP:** 1. The Business Evangelization Program (BEP) must be undertaken at least once a year.

2. The formal program on Business Evangelization is still being finalized.

**Outreach:** 1. Each chapter must maintain only one (1) outreach at any given time.

**Governance Meeting:** 1. A governance meeting must be held at least once a month.

2. The regular chapter governance team is composed of the chapter head, mission director, chapter life director and the unit leaders.

**Chapter Retreat:** 1. Each chapter must hold a yearly chapter retreat. This must not be equated with "recollections". A retreat means getting away from it all and should ideally be held outside of Metro Manila or the general vicinity of the chapter locale.

**Family Day:** 1. Chapters must have a Family Day Celebration at least once a year.

## "MUST DO" Activities and Programs



**Chapter Anniversary:** 1. All chapters must celebrate their individual chapter anniversary.

held on the last Sunday of May, May 25, with Alabang as the chapter-in-charge.

**Metro-Wide Family Day Celebration:** 1. This must be held once a year.  
2. The BCBP Sports Olympics is included in this activity.

**Metro-Wide Bazaar (Tiange):**  
1. The Bazaar shall be held once a year.  
2. For 1997 the date set is November 16 with Greenhills as the chapter-in-charge.

3. For 1997 this activity will be

*pls. turn to page 28*



*Intentions, like eggs, soon spoil unless hatched.*



## "MUST DO" Activities and Programs



### MUST DO.. from page 27

#### BCBP National Anniversary:

1. This will be celebrated yearly.
2. In 1997, the National Anniversary will be in Cagayan de Oro on April 12.
3. In 1998, the anniversary will be celebrated in Metro Manila with Alabang as the chapter-in-charge.

**Teachings:** 1. All Regular Teachings must be given and completed within a year.

2. For optional or elective teachings the chapters must inform the National Council on the details of these teachings prior to delivery.

3. Every member must take the regular teachings in their proper sequence. This sequence is: BCLP and Culture Talks; BCMR; Prayer Series; Mary, Mother of God Series; Christian Service Series; Evangelization Series; Christian Personal Relationship Series.

4. A member must have taken these teachings plus the AGL Training before he can take a major service starting with Discussion Leader (DL).

5. Teachings must not be revised or compressed. Time allotment for each teaching may vary but not the content.

#### AGL Workshop Retreat:

1. This will be held once every two years.
2. AGL Training Program is a prerequisite for participation in this retreat.

**Yearly Chapter Plans:** 1. Chapters must submit a Yearly Chapter Plan including a Financial Plan on or before the end of January.

**Financial Reports and Remittances:** 1. All chapters are required to submit monthly financial reports and remittances.

2. Such reports are due on or before the second week of the month following the audit month.#

## GREETINGS AND PRAYERS FROM: PADOJINOG, AMANE, GENGOS, ALOBBA & BILLENA Lawyers

Atty. G. Padojinog (BCLP 1)  
Atty. Noel Amane (BCLP 1)  
Atty. Vicente L. Gengos (BCLP 5)  
Atty Rex Alobba  
Atty Oscar S. Billena

Suite 202 Evergold Building  
19 Quezon St., Iloilo City  
Tel. Nos. 7-44-33; 7-91-77;  
Fax 336-35-78



## BCBP Regular Teaching Series

Here is a listing of the regular teachings that must be given and completed within a year. Members should take these teachings in their proper sequence after completing the Brotherhood Christian Life Program (BCLP), Culture Talks, and the Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreat (BCMR).

### BCBP PRAYER SERIES

- Session 1 - Prayer
- Session 2 - The perfect prayer
- Session 3 - Praying with others

### MARY, MOTHER OF GOD SERIES

- Session 1 - Mary's part in Jesus' infancy
- Session 2 - Mary, the mother of Jesus
- Session 3 - In defense of Mary

### BCBP CHRISTIAN SERVICE SERIES

- Session 1 - Our mission
- Session 2 - Being a servant
- Session 3 - Receiving the power to serve
- Session 4 - Guidance
- Session 5 - Spiritual warfare
- Session 6 - Evaluation
- Session 7 - Model of a servant

### EVANGELIZATION PROGRAM SERIES

- Session 1 - What is evangelization

- Session 2 - The great commission
- Session 3 - Breakfast testimony
- Session 4 - The types of evangelism and types we do in the BCBP
- Session 5 - Selective evangelism

### BCBP CHRISTIAN RELATIONSHIP SERIES

- Session 1 - Relationships today
- Session 2 - Loving one another
- Session 3 - Correction
- Session 4 - Working out conflicts in relationships (within the BCBP)
- Session 5 - Relationships outside the BCBP

### BCBP ACTION GROUP TRAINING PROGRAM

(May be conducted as an all-day workshop or as a series)

1. What is an Action Group
2. Why have an Action Group
3. Make-up of an Action Group



4. Qualifications of an AGL
5. Attitudes of an AGL
6. Responsibilities of an AGL
7. Authority of the AGL
8. How to handle problems
9. Attitude of group members
10. Contents and format of the meeting
11. Mock-up of an action group meeting
13. Mock-up of a one-on-one meeting.

## Policy Directives list

From time to time the National Council issues Policy Directives that set out policies and procedural guidelines governing the conduct of Brotherhood activities. We are providing you a list of such policy directives as of December 1996 for your information. Copies of the directives have been forwarded to all chapter and outreach heads.

- PD 1. Specific functions and responsibilities of the National Council
- PD 2. Specific functions and responsibilities of the Chapter Heads Council
- PD 3. Standardization of formation and teaching programs and CLP
- PD 4. Initial one-time assessments to start the National Secretariat
- PD 5. Assessment for Pinatubo victims
- PD 6. Kapatiran costs per issue

- PD 7. Chapter remittances to National Office
- PD 8. Required National Council Approval for new chapters and outreaches
- PD 9. Appointment of new chapter heads and mission directors
- PD 10. Procedures for sponsoring new outreaches
- PD 11. Procedures for sponsoring a new chapter.
- PD 12. Integration of the BCBP into the Church and Society
- PD 13. Standardization of printed and promotional items
- PD 14. Change of CLP to BCLP
- PD 15. BCLP speaker requirements
- PD 16. Allowing qualified women to lecture in the BCLP
- PD 17. Supersedes Policy Directive No. 15
- PD 18. BCBP standard organizational chart

- PD 19. Required approval of the National Council for all fund raising programs
- PD 20. Expenses that outreaches need to assume
- PD 21. Unit structure development
- PD 22. Chapter structure development
- PD 23. Mission structure development
- PD 24. Chapter expenditures
- PD 25. Organizing the leadership of new outreaches
- PD 26. Liquidation of advances
- PD 27. Financial reporting
- PD 28. Asset responsibility
- PD 29. Masonry is incompatible with Catholic Faith
- PD 30. Chapter life director's job description and selection criteria.
- PD 31. Adherence to outline and time allotment of training and teaching talks.#

*Everybody can be great ... because anybody can serve. -Martin Luther King*



## *Bayanihan inspires Unilab in serving you...*



An original mural by Carlos "Botang" Francisco at the Administration Building of United Laboratories.

*Bayanihan, a beautiful Filipino tradition of cooperation and comradeship that has remained relevant today as it was centuries ago when our forefathers were opening new lands and building new communities. Bayanihan is a way of life at Unilab, the hallmark of its corporate culture... of working together and sharing the fruits of achievement. Our tools and systems have changed, for the better, but the spirit that inspires our commitment to serve Filipinos, through high quality medicines within their reach, will remain in years to come.*



**United Laboratories, Inc.**

*Serving you in the Philippines and Southeast Asia:*

Biomedix | Medichem Pharmaceuticals | Pediatrics | Therapharma |  
United American Pharmaceuticals | Westmoor Pharmaceuticals |  
L.R. Imperial Inc. | Myra Pharmaceuticals | Unilab Generics |  
United Home Products | Univer Agricultural Products

*Originality is the art of remembering what you hear but forgetting where you heard it.*



**One Minute Meditations**

Fernando de Larrazabal

# Price and prize

*"I will be your follower wherever you go." Luke 9:57*

The price of discipleship is complete and total dedication within the context of your own state of life, to bring the good news of salvation to those who need to hear the word of God. A disciple is called to a new life, dedicated to follow Jesus. The demands are such that one is called to exchange his will with that of the Father. The prize of discipleship is life everlasting with God. The demands are great, but the benefits are out of this world.

Discipleship demands the giving of self, where the self is subjected to the needs of others. The demands are costly, not so much in terms of money, but in terms of personal sacrifice. Many are those who offer to follow Jesus, but upon learning what it entails, give up. Discipleship is not for cowards, nor is it a bed of roses; there are sharp thorns between the flowers. One has to accept both.

All who wish to follow Jesus must be fully aware of what is expected of them. They must set aside all personal concerns that conflict with their new role. Once decided, they must look to its completion. Jesus, in reply to one who offered to follow him, had this to say, "Whoever puts his hand to the plow, but keeps looking back, is unfit for the reign of God." (Luke 9:62)

There are those in our midst who are blessed with talents and resources, who are part-time disciples. They have offered their life to God, but are limiting their service to only those of their own community. They are good people, charitable, and to a certain extent, pious, whose only drawback is using their God-given virtues only for their own community needs. The Church needs them to expand the reign of God on earth. They, however, need to break away from the confines of the boundaries of their community.

## Prayer

Dear Jesus, I don't relish to be a part-time member of your Church.  
Give me the grace to make available the talents you have gifted me,  
for the greater use of the Church.

My desire is to serve you and all those who need  
to be served.

Amen.



*Fernando de Larrazabal, better known in the BCBP as Tito Larry, has been with the Brotherhood since its beginning 17 years ago. He currently serves on the National Council as Director for Luzon chapters and outreaches.*



# Love above all

*Here is an adaptation of 1 Corinthians 13 (Clark Cothorn, DJ #79) that illustrates the most important principle in leading effective small groups like the BCBP action groups.*

If I understand all the truths of Scripture, but have not love, I am only a noisy participant. If I can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, yet do not allow others to discover those mysteries and that knowledge, I am not demonstrating love, and I am not contributing to the growth of others.

Love is patient, it allows others to speak and answer questions. It does not boast in its knowledge of all the answers, is not rude or interrupting, is not self-seeking. Love is not easily angered by those who differ in their opinions as they learn to understand truth through Scripture.

Love always rejoices when others discover truth firsthand. It protects the feelings of others, trusts others to participate in discovery, hopes for their growth, and perseveres in helping them learn to dig out truth for themselves.

These three remain: knowing Scripture, guiding others to discover Scripture, and loving those who are learning from Scripture. But the greatest of these is love.

*What I am is good enough if I would only be it openly. -Carl Rogers*



BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS

# KAPATIRAN Magazine

Vol. XI, No. 1 JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1997

*"Answers the call for INFORMATION, INSPIRATION and FORMATION, nationwide"*

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## UP NEXT

MAR. - APR. Issue

Deadline: February 15, 1997

Features:

Politics & Leadership

Readers Survey:

What do you feel is the most critical issue in the Philippines' political situation at this time?  
What to you are the most important qualities you expect to see in a BCBP leader?



MAY - JUNE

Deadline: April 18, 1997

Features:

17th National Assembly

Readers Survey:

What is the most important lesson you learned from your mother?  
... from your father?

Nothing lasts forever, not even your troubles.



# VENUES

## MEN'S BREAKFASTS (7:30 a.m.)

*Wednesdays* - MAKATI: Makati Sports Club, Makati

*Thursdays* - GREENHILLS: Club Filipino, Greenhills

*Fridays* - MANILA: Chateau 1771, Adriatico St., Malate, Mla.

## *Saturdays*

ALABANG: Ayala Alabang CC

BACOLOD: Roli's, La Salle, Bacolod

BAGUIO: Trellis Rest., Session Rd., Baguio

(2nd & 4th Sat)

BAYBAY: Angelicum (1st and 2nd Saturday)

BUKIDNON: Taipan Restaurant, Valencia (1st Saturday)

Pines Hotel, Malaybalay (3rd Saturday)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Paolo's Ristorante, CDO

CALAMBA: Max's Restaurant

CEBU: Ding Qua-Qua Rest. - Gen. Maxilom Ave., Cebu City

DAVAO: Terraza Millesa (2nd/4th Sats.)

DUMAGUETE: OK Pensione House (1st/3rd Sats.)

ILIGAN: Maria Cristina Hotel (2nd, 4th Sats.)

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel

LAS PIÑAS: Italia Club 500, BF Resort, Las Piñas

LEGASPI: Bistro Albay - Legaspi City (2nd Sat.)

LUCENA: Cherry Blossom Restaurant (every other Saturday)

MAASIN: Valtevan Rest., Leyte (1st Sat.)

MACTAN: Flormond Hotel, Cebu (1st & 3rd. Sats.)

OZAMIS: 1st and 3rd Saturday

## MEN'S MERIENDA (4:00 p.m.)

*Saturdays* - TUGUEGARAO: Marilyn's Restaurant (2nd, 4th Sats.)

## LADIES' BREAKFASTS (7:30a.m.)

*Wednesdays* - MAKATI: Makati Sports Club (2nd Wed.)

## *Saturdays*

ALABANG: Ayala Alabang Country Club (2nd Sat.)

BACOLOD: Quan, La Salle, Bacolod City (2nd Sat.)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Paolo's Ristorante (2nd/3rd Sats.)

CEBU: Ding Qua Qua Rest. (1st/3rd Sat.)

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel (1st Sat.)

LAS PIÑAS: Italia Club 500 (3rd Sat.)

LEGASPI: El Sid Cafe (4th Sat.)

PARAÑAQUE: Little Quiapo, Aguirre St (4th Sat.)

QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill (2nd Sat.)

RIZAL: Valley Golf and CC, Antipolo (1st Sat.)

## LADIES' LUNCHEON (12:00 nn)

*Mondays* - GREENHILLS: Casa Nila, Fe-Luisa Bldg,

Greenhills Commercial Center (3rd Mon.)

## JOINT BREAKFASTS (7:30 a.m.)

*Wednesdays* - MAKATI: Makati Sports Club, (1st Wed.)

*Thursdays* - GREENHILLS: Club Filipino (1st Thurs.)

*Fridays* - MANILA, Chateau 1771

## *Saturdays*

ALABANG: Ayala Alabang Country Club (4th Sat.)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Silver Court (3rd Sat.)

CAINTA: Valley Golf and Country Club, Antipolo (3rd Sat)

BUTUAN CITY: Echelon Hotel (2nd and 4th Saturday)

DAGUPAN: Pinkee's Restaurant (3rd Sat.)

LAS PIÑAS: Italia Club 500 (1st Sat.)

LEGASPI: Bistro Albay (2th Sat.)

MACTAN: Flormond Hotel (2nd & 4th Sat.)

PARAÑAQUE: Center Mall, Pres. Ave. BF (2nd. Sat.)

QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill, (4th Sat)

RIZAL: Valley Golf and CC, Antipolo (3rd Sat.)

## JOINT LUNCHEON

*Saturdays* - CAVITE/LA NAVAL: Jack 'n Jill, Cavite City (3rd Sat.)

PARAÑAQUE: Center Mall - Pres. Ave. BF Parañaque

PUERTO PRINCESA: Asiaworld Resort Hotel

QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill, 119 Roces Ave. near cor. Morato

SAN FERNANDO: Rotary Skills Center, Greenville Subd.

San Fernando Pampanga (1st/3rd Sat.)

RIZAL: Valley Golf and Country Club, Antipolo

TACLOBAN: Don's Cabin, Justice Rumualdez St. (2nd/4th Sats.)

TAGBILARAN: Mel's Kainan (2nd/4th Sats.)

## MEN'S LUNCHEON (12:00 noon)

*Saturdays* - DAGUPAN: Pinkee's Restaurant



**Mactan Outreach  
music ministry  
members  
leading the  
assembly  
in a song to  
start their  
Men's Breakfast.**

**Mactan Outreach  
will be installed  
as a full  
chapter this  
February 22, 1997  
with  
Casi Nadela  
as chapter head.**



# THE BCBP COUNTRY

