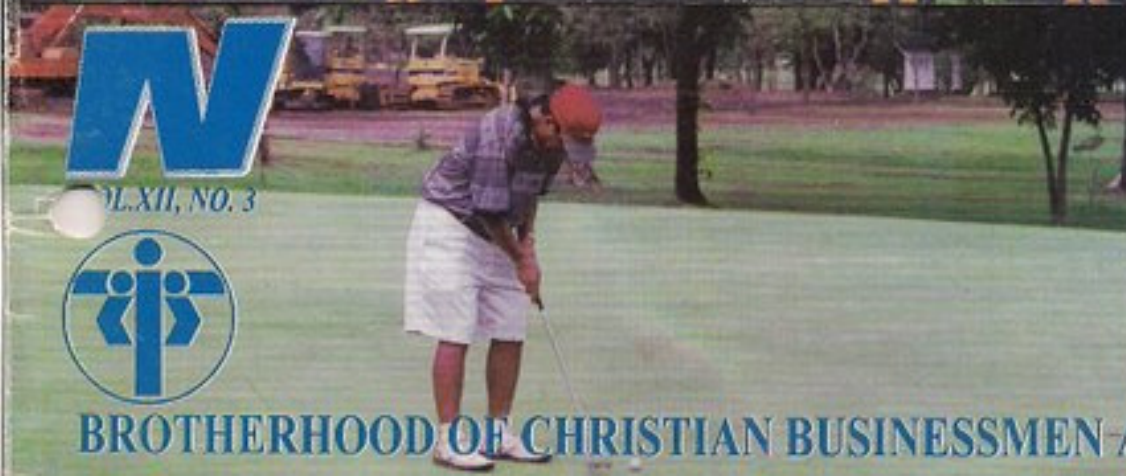


MAY - JUN., 1998

FOCUS 18th BCBP  
National Anniversary

# K A D A T I R A N

Instruments of His Righteousness



Vol. XII, No. 3



BROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN AND PROFESSIONALS



# VIEWS

- 2 **Editorial: To Fish Where the Fish Are**  
by Ronnie Caballero  
*In the face of the recently concluded BCBP anniversary, Ronnie poses the question of how we really fared in the last 18 years, and how are we to face the challenges of the present and future conditions.*
- 8 **From My Desktop Files: After the Fact** by Sammy M. Ulanday  
*An illustration of things that transpired during the 18th BCBP National anniversary celebration.*
- 10 **In the Marketplace: Confidence Limits**  
by Eddie Mendoza  
*Faith with little confidence is like seeing before believing. In all of the sharings we heard, it is clear that when we are down we have no where else to look but up. Then we discover that Jesus was with us all along.*
- 11 **One Lovely Easter Morning**  
by Gil Abejo, Greenhills  
*Gil marvelled at the work being done by two birds, building their nest on Easter morning, and much so marvelled at God's faithfulness in providing everything for us.*



# REGULARS

- 1 **Contents, Editor's Note, Up Next**
- 32 **From Cries to Kisses: "I Miss Lolo"** by Annie Salvador  
*Annie was faced with the situation of how to explain to her children the reality of death*
- 35 **Bookshelf; Letter**
- 29 **One Minute Meditation: Died, Risen, Will Return**  
by Fernando de Larrazabal
- 36-39 **News: National, Luzon, Baguio, Alabang, Ormoc, Mactan, Manila, Tacloban, Greenhills**
- 40 **Columnists Corner**
- BCBP Venue** (Inside back cover)
- BCBP Map** (Outside back cover)



Our Core Values  
**LOVE FOR GOD,  
 LOVE FOR COMMUNITY,  
 COMMITMENT TO THE LORD'S WORK**

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**"Be Instruments  
 of HIS Righteousness"**

# KAPATIRAN

The national magazine of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals  
 VOL. XII, NO. 3 MAY - JUNE 1998

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## Editor's Note...

Our BCBP turns 18! This is the focus of this issue. We have a photo coverage of the Anniversary Celebration plus the messages of the President, Bro. Manny Banigan and the Director for Luzon, Tito Larry de Larrazabal for our further personal reflection. As the BCBP comes of age, we challenge the members to assess themselves in



all aspects of community life. We issue this challenge in order to make the BCBP body a vibrant, evolving movement of the Spirit, ever faithful but flexible and adaptable to the demands of the times. We also recognize the BCBP taking responsibility for itself, for its maturity, for its leadership and its direction towards the Lord. However, we continue to see the BCBP as interdependent interacting with other church organizations blessed with other charisms meant to enrich the life in the Holy Spirit.

Together with this focus, we also included several articles dealing with specific topics of community life such as correction and a teaching on righteousness meant to illumine the anniversary theme, "BE INSTRUMENTS OF HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS" Rom. 6:13. The regular features and columnists dealt with family life, business and marketplace sharings, and the news.

The Kapatiran staff wish to start a re-examination of each members's commitment to the BCBP life and seek resolution to deepen the same. How relevant and effective are we to our marketplace, effect change in business practices and see our core values concretely practiced? Are our programs and teachings tracks still in tuned? Have we really brought the fight to the centers of business, maximizing our missionary efforts in these present times? Is our community life practical, attractive to the market and a source of growth and sustenance? Are we still radical in the ways we express our love for the Lord and His mission? Do we accept ownership of the mission and vision of the BCBP?

On the practical side of reexamination; Should we make more activities "traffic proof" such as making the quarterly general assembly (Metro-Manila) on a Sunday in order to improve attendance? Can we share more resources among chapters such as BCLP/BCMR speakers' bureau? 18 years is a lot of experience from which to speak from.

What matters is that you, the readers, our members, TELL US WHAT YOU THINK! WRITE US PLEEEAASEE! OR E-MAIL US at: ronmani@info.com.ph

HAPPY, HAPPY 18TH ANNIVERSARY and SEE YOU IN BACOLOD IN 1999.

RONNIE CABALLERO

## FOCUS

### 18th BCBP National Anniversary

- 4** **Be Instruments of His Righteousness**  
Anniversary Message of Manny Banigan, BCBP President
- 6** **Welcome!** Welcome address delivered by Tito Larry de Larrazabal, Luzon Council Managing Director
- 7** **Rightness or Righteousness?** by Nancy Koesy Parker  
How do we distinguish between righteousness and self-righteousness? Did you know that sometimes Christ call us to lay down the right to be right? Do we really need to be right?
- 12** **Am I Leading in Integrity?** by Nancy R. Catan  
As leaders of integrity, we should see ourselves principally as enablers, encouraging and enabling others to develop their own spirituality with Jesus Christ, not us, as their model. A question that needs an answer. This condensed article provides insights on how we can truly lead with integrity.
- 16-20 Anniversary Pictorial**  
Includes Anniversary Committees, Sports and Theme Song Writing Contests Winners



## FEATURES

- 15** **Sharing: God's Corporate Action**  
by Roy Calleja, BCBP Quezon City  
An inspiring story of how God truly watches over us, even in our own business affairs
- 21** **Animals in the Eyes of a Manager**  
**Leadership Vs. Management**
- 29** **Oh for a Spark of Real Charity** by Thomas Kempis
- 33** **Water Bugs and Dragonflies**
- 34** **His Pain Like Mine** by Mother Angelica 2nd of a Series



## BCBP LIFE

- 22** **Back to Basics: The Way the Holy Spirit Works in our Lives** by Nancy Catan, 3rd in a Series
- 24** **Common Spiritual Gifts**
- 26** **Correction** by Ronnie Caballero  
A never-easy situation of correcting or rebuking an erring community member and urges us to consider four key areas
- 30** **Christ, the Heart of Brotherhood**  
by Sammy Ulanday BCBP-Greenhills  
The BCBP will be as alive as we, its members, are alive in Christ and enthusiastic and willing to support BCBP activities.



### UP NEXT

JULY - AUG.

Deadline: Just keep them coming

Issue Focus:

*In God we trust,  
In service we grow.*

Readers Survey:

*Would going into service in the BCBP contribute to your growth? Why? Why not?*



### 18th Anniversary Picture Collage

An illustration of the different stages of the celebration, and an invitation for next year's anniversary in Bacolod. More on pages 16 - 20.

We wish to thank Nelson Salvador of Makati for contributing the cover picture in the last issue. The people, by the way, in the picture are Oca and Floren Ballares and their children, also from BCBP Makati.



# TO FISH WHERE THE FISH ARE

*"Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having what you need, you may have an abundance for every good work."  
2 Corinthians 9:8*



"T" in facing such challenges not only for one's personal survival but for the survival of generations, our children included and beyond. Facing such difficult times means becoming and being a people of substance and morals to weather all unforeseen twists and turns that fate may take.

More than twenty centennials ago, significant men also faced the challenge of weathering a great storm threatening to snuff out the beginnings of not just a new way of life, but the very foundations of the spiritual salvation of all men. These men were the apostles and the faith they were defending was the Catholic faith as we know it now. And the great storm threatening to engulf the birth and life of the church was the Roman Empire. One may wonder how the apostles assessed themselves against such a challenge and found themselves wanting for many things in their character and personality. But from the Upper Room where the Pentecost occurred, one could barely recognize the original individuals who entered but were transformed, commissioned, became evangelizers, succeeded and died as martyrs for the faith, that has withstood all possible factors against it.

**O**ne significant event had just been celebrated the nation's Centennial. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to savor the past, ponder the greatness of the founding fathers and to contemplate the meaning of the blood of our martyrs. It was a treat watching the floats like little children, picking out a detail or two about each one. How-

ever, as the real treat, which was the purported P17.0 million fire-works display, that illuminated the Manila Bay sky, one could not help but dream and look forward to what our nation will be facing in the next millennium. I believe that it was a time to take a hard look at the difficult circumstances surrounding our country's economy and examine whether one was fit to a



In this Year of the Holy Spirit, the BCBP having celebrated our own 18th year of faithfulness, we find ourselves forward looking and assessing what we have to give in the next 18 years in order to win the marketplace for Christ. Unlike the apostles who faced the might of the Roman Empire ready to crush them, we face a different kind of atmosphere challenging the faith. Recently in CNN as they covered the Pope's visit to Austria, they noted that there was a crowd of 50,000 greeting him at the capital but in the same breath saying that the same number leaves the church every year.

The challenge we face lies with the circumstances within which we find our marketplace. We find the ever-growing brunt of the Asian financial crisis staring us in the face. We find mass layoffs at every corner and employment uncertainty for the next so many thousands. We find nobody exempted from the travails of joblessness from CEO to supervisor, from pilot to steward, from the factory owner to simple laborer. For those gainfully employed, we find an escalation of stress factors at work. The relentless traffic jams to and from work, cost-cutting, higher workloads and expectations due to streamlining and pressures to perform and deliver as companies face situations of survival of the fittest.

We must be brave enough to stare these circumstances in the face and admit our flaws and weaknesses if we are not up to the task in this 18th year of our existence. We must be willing to be measured and evaluated against a standard meant to be of service to a marketplace facing all kinds of uncertainties and doubts. Are we flexible to a point that we can meet the needs of a marketplace seeking solutions, in need of hope and desperate for answers? Are we as commis-

sioned soldiers of Christ properly equipped, trained and committed for these times? Are members still up to attend training programs, retreats and formation talks. Are we measuring up to our own NSPR standards? Are our chapter and general assemblies full in attendance and participation? Are all members still eager in accepting service and joyful in the giving of tithes? Are we as zealous in attending and inviting first-timers to the breakfast? Are we faithful to our personal prayer time and the sacraments? Are we bolder in our office evangelizations or our Christian living in the office? Have we made decisions based on our Christian faith and really acted them out? Have we righteously faced situations of graft and corruption? Are we paying correct and just taxes? Is Christ becoming known as Lord in our business or profession?

Grace is already at our very doorstep. 2 Corinthians 9:8 says, "Moreover, God is able to make every

*Are we, as commissioned soldiers of Christ properly equipped, trained and committed for these times?*



grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having what you need, you may have an abundance for every good work." As long as our faithfulness is in place, God never fails. He will equip us for our every need. For our part we must be willing as intently listen to god, for what he wants us to do. **NO LONGER LISTENING FOR WHAT WE WANT TO HEAR FOR OURSELVES.** Just like Peter in John 21 we may at some point find ourselves ineffective, our instincts dull or lost. We may find ourselves struggling with the task of catching businessmen and professionals for the Lord. But we must remember that sometimes we must abandon our human instincts and wisdom in order to listen to the Lord because he fishes where the fish are. Then and only then will we find our nets nearly bursting with our catch of men and women from the marketplace according to where and how the Lord has told us to cast our nets. ☪



# "Be instruments of HIS righteousness"

*18th Anniversary Message: Manny Banigan, National Council President*

*"Be instruments of His Righteousness" Our 18th Anniversary theme strikes at the very core of our calling in the BCBP, a beckoning that strongly calls on our consciousness to understand that there is so much more that we can do — that we ought to do.*

At each and every anniversary that we celebrate, we cannot help but look back at our past and recognize how richly our Lord has nurtured our growth, how caringly He has carried us during our times of defeat and how kindly He has forgiven our weakness. This year, our 18th birthday is no different.

Last night, during our worship night, the first thing that caught my attention was our anniversary theme that loudly calls us to "Be Instruments of God's Righteousness". As I was staring at it, my eyes wandered and started to read each and every BCBP banner of the various chapters and outreaches that were hanging around and encircling our theme. It is as if they were all looking at our anniversary theme and saying "We embrace you and we are committed to do just what you call us to." And in a short moment of melancholy, I thought about the 20 or so men who started it all for us through that first Christian men's breakfast in Makati 18 years ago. I cannot imagine at that time that anyone of these men would ever have thought that, that first breakfast would grow into 42 breakfast venues nationwide, spanning 23 provinces, 41 cities and municipalities and 25 dioceses and composing of 17 full chapters, 2 chapters-in-training and 23 outreaches. As I was for that moment drowned in solitude reflecting on this statistical information, I truly felt some joy come to my heart for these realities have



once again reaffirmed the faithfulness and unbounded generosity of our God. And during our collective worship last night, I sincerely thanked the Lord for all these wonderful things that are happening to the BCBP.

And remembering the numerous mission activities taken by the chapters and outreaches, I also thanked Him for his inspiration that continuously motivates countless men and women of the BCBP to fly the dangerous skies, sail the rough seas and ride long bumpy roads with a single-minded purpose — to bring Christ to many more men and women and to many more places. Indeed, because of these brave missionaries of the BCBP, many families have found Christ's meaning in their midst,

allowing Jesus to be King of the family, and experiencing the beautiful fruits of Christ's love in their personal and family relationships.

To most of us, this has been the essence of discovering Christ in our lives; unceasingly seeking that which we want to happen in our personal and family life, hence the endless quest for teachings, retreats and workshops that we fervently hope will provide that much needed transformation to the environment closest to our heart — the family. Undoubtedly, this is good and this is what God wants to happen to our families.

However, if we are to be faithful to that which the Lord has entrusted us to do, there is an imperative need to go beyond our immediate vicinities. We need to see our relevance in the multi-faceted evangelization work that the Lord Jesus had started to do 2,000 years ago. We need to motivate our hearts not only to bring the good news to our families but also to aspire to excellence in our mission of Christianizing the marketplace. To be able to help re-build the world to what it ought to be, the BCBP as an institution and the BCBP members have to be more dynamic in stretching out their arms as far as possible to help inculcate Christian values into our nation's life, into each and every businessman's and professional's environment.



"Be Instruments of His Righteousness" is a fitting follow-up to our theme last year "Speak Boldly for the Lord". In a general sense, both themes are reminders of what we, Jesus soldiers in the marketplace, in the socio-economic milieu are expected to do if we are to be relevant to our calling. It means an active proclamation of the good news to people around us and the active living out of the good news — the walking of our talk. "Be Instruments of His Righteousness" means dedication to our avowed mission of Christianizing the marketplace, the players and their work environment, the systems, the culture and corporate policies.

"Be Instruments of His Righteousness" means a focused and conscious effort to give Jesus to others in a pure and unadulterated way — to give Jesus as a gift to rehabilitate our business and professional cul-



*The Alabang Music Ministry leading the members in singing during the worship assembly at the Villamor gym on the first day of the 18th BCBP National anniversary celebration.*

TO ENABLE US TO BETTER INCUPLICATE THE BCBP'S 18th YEAR THEME INTO OUR LIVES, WE NEED TO HAVE A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF THE TERM "RIGHTEOUSNESS".

## BE INSTRUMENTS OF HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS

Righteousness: O.T. — meeting the standard of Yahweh, conduct that is pleasing to Yahweh; many times equated with "justice" and being in accordance with law. N.T. — good conduct pleasing to God both morally and legally, which consists in a person's communion in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, through which he begins a new life in the spirit — a life in which he lives in Christ and Christ lives in him. *Mckenzie's Dictionary of the Bible*

### **Romans 5:13**

"Surrender your whole being to him to be used for righteous purposes." (TEV)  
 "Present yourselves to God... as weapons for righteousness." (NAB)  
 "Offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness." (NIV)

### **Romans 4:20-22**

"His faith did not leave him, and he did not doubt God's promise; his faith filled him with power, and he gave praise to God. He was absolutely sure that God would be able to do what he had promised. That is why Abraham, through faith, 'was accepted as righteous by God.'" (TEV)  
 "He (Abraham) did not doubt God's promise in unbelief; rather, he was empowered by faith and gave glory to God and was fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to do. That is why 'it was credited to him as righteousness.'" (NAB)

### **Matthew 5:6**

"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied." (NAB)  
 "Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires; God will satisfy them fully!" (TEV)

ture — to use His teachings as the basic principles by which our businesses are run and our professions exercised.

Our anniversary theme is not to be read today and forgotten tomorrow. Each theme is meant to be our battle cry for the year that is to follow, the cornerstone of our life in the BCBP for at least 12 months. This is God's calling for us until we again come together to celebrate another year of thanksgiving, another time of listening and discovering what God wants us to do or to be in the succeeding year. This is the essence why we adopt an anniversary theme, why we spend time in prayer and in reading scripture in order to earnestly seek God's inspired challenge for us.

Therefore, as we engrave in our hearts God's challenge for this year — "Be instruments of His Righteousness", let us first take one step backward and examine ourselves. How have we lived our life the past year, did we "Speak Boldly for the Lord?" If we did then we can thank God that we can now truly start being His instruments of righteousness.

If we did not, then I guess, we just have to work double time. Let us not only "Be Instruments of His righteousness," let us also Speak boldly for the Lord. ☪



# WELCOME!

**WELCOME ADDRESS**  
**Fernando de Larrazabal**  
*National Council Director for Luzon*

**G**ood evening, my fellow Brothers and Sisters, my friends. To start this celebration properly, it would be right for this occasion if you were to turn around to those closest to your right and left and wish them a happy Anniversary.

In behalf of the BCBP, we welcome you to this 18th National Anniversary. We would like to first recognize the Brothers and Sisters who have come from the provinces. As we call your delegation by name, we ask you to stand up to be recognized. (All delegations were warmly applauded and welcomed.)

Brothers and Sisters, in 18 years of happy existence, there have been times of sadness. There are few who are not here with us today to enjoy this celebration. Let us all stand and in the silence of our hearts, let us have a minute of prayer, remembering all those brothers and sisters who have departed.

Turning back the finger of time, we love to reminisce with joy our early beginnings; this provides us with a page of our own history. For the benefit of our new members who may not be fully aware of how it all started, allow us to provide you with an overview of how it all began.

It seems as if it were only yesterday. It was sometime back in 1980, when a group of Christian men decided to have breakfast at the Makati Sports Club. Their intent was just to fellowship with one another, sharing experiences on what Jesus was doing in their lives. As word got around, more and more brothers joined them. It did not take long before these once-a-week meetings became a regular affair.

The Holy Spirit, who can always be counted on to get things going, got these brothers to organize this group into an out-



reach of the Ligaya ng Panginoon Community. In the early stages, this community provided the BCBP with their own teachers, pastored our members, and made available their own spiritual director to care for us. This priest is none other than Fr. Herb Schneider, S.J. Fr. Herb cannot be present here today for he is out of the country.

Brothers and Sisters, we owe much to this community, for their assistance during the early stages of the Brotherhood. Throughout the years that followed, the Brotherhood began to recognize the need to form their own distinct community, giving vent to their desire to evangelize the business sector of society for Christ. By then, we had developed a unique and rather distinct culture, quite different from those of our tutors. Like a young eagle, we were ready to take flight and leave the nest to meet the call of our mission. We have developed our own leaders, managed our own finances, gov-

erned our own organization. We are answerable to ourselves and God only.

Fr. Schneider, a man of wisdom, recognized the Brotherhood as a distinct community that had grown to full maturity. He helped us to get started on our way. It was time to get out of that cocoon and take flight to meet the challenges of our own particular mission. The circle is now complete. The independent BCBP is now in a position to give aid to our former tutors by providing them with leaders, coming from our very own ranks.

From that early beginning, the Brotherhood now operates in Luzon, Palawan, the Visayas and Mindanao. We have a total of 17 chapters, 24 outreaches, 4 of which are to be inducted as chapters soon, and 5 business evangelistic operations.

But enough has been said about our past history. We have to move forward; the challenges of the future await us.

Again, congratulations for a job well done. Happy Anniversary to one and all, and may Christ, the Lord of creation, continue to bless the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals.

Praise be the name of Jesus!

***Brotherhood as a distinct community had grown to full maturity. We have to move forward; the challenges of the future await us.***



**How do we distinguish between righteousness and self-righteousness? Did you know that sometimes Christ calls us to lay down the right to be right? Do we really need to be right?**

**W**ith painful insight, I've become increasingly aware that being right can be very wrong. If I am right but have not love, I am a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal (1 Cor. 13:1). Perhaps I am right to want to use our vacation to visit Grandma - who won't always be with us - but I'm wrong to lay a guilt trip on my husband when he'd rather take some much-needed R & R sans relatives.

There is only a razor-thin line between righteousness and self-righteousness. Righteousness promotes the well-being of, and peace with, others. Self-righteousness, on the other hand, promotes self. Self — not God — is the source of rightness. Self — not God or others — becomes that which must be pleased.

When self-righteousness steals into our lives, we usually focus on external things, not on the heart. We judge by our expectations, evaluating others' appearance or behavior without the leavening of God's grace.

When we're asked to pray for parents whose teenager has run away, we may inwardly pass judgment: They were always too hard on that kid. Like the Pharisees, we often miss the call to justice, mercy, and faithfulness (Mt. 23:23-24) preferring to criticize and gossip about what others are doing or being.

In Micah 6:8, the prophet outlines what the Lord requires of us: "to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." The justice Micah describes means to do the right thing. Its opposite is oppression, or taking advantage of the powerless (Jer. 22:3). Self-righteousness forgets that true righteousness encompasses love of mercy.

#### *Sources of self-righteousness*

The slippery slope of self-righteousness is paved with a list of rules, a concrete code of behavior (whether written or unwritten) that we delight in using as the measuring stick of our piety. We attend church regularly, tithe religiously, abstain from alcohol, wear modest clothes, refrain from watching unseemly movies and T.V. programs. What we often don't realize is that these practices become the basis for our righteousness, rather than a reflection of it. We are then pursuing the letter of the law rather than a relationship with God!

Sometimes the need to be right is rooted in the power struggle for control — over spouse, children, neighbors. We become deadlocked in a tug-of-war for power because nobody wants to give in gracefully — or otherwise. I'm right, therefore I win without regard for the wounds I have inflicted in the battle.

For me, the need to be right comes from the most basic human need of all — the need to be validated. According to the gospel of self, being right purchases credibility, value, respect. Christ, however, says something different. He says, "Find your worth in Me. Recognize that apart from Me you are, in fact, unworthy. But know that My precious blood — shed for you — makes you infinitely precious. Find your identity in My deep and abiding love, your worth in the riches of My grace."

#### *Lay down the right to be right*

Not only does Christ call us to avoid sin in being right, sometimes He also calls us to lay down the right to be right. Christ emptied Himself of all rights for my sake (Phil. 2:508).

Following Him therefore means that I must die to myself. I love Christ and yearn to be like Him. Why, then, is it so hard to take on His meekness, His humility?

We need to recognize that our goal isn't to gain the upper hand in our relationships, but to obey Christ. The name of the game here is to be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving and loving (Eph. 4:32).

It's hard to lay down our rights when we have been offended. We want retribution, preferably swift, visited upon those who have wounded us. That's normal, natural — but it is not what Christ wants from us.

The more we recognize that we are complete in Christ, the more we are made whole by His love, the more willing we will be to follow in his footsteps, to be vulnerable, to be hurt, to be misunderstood, dejected, despised — and then to rejoice, as did the first disciples, in being "counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name" (Acts 5:41).

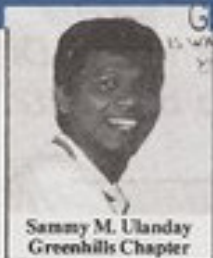
Laying hold of His love for us — and laying down the right to be right — is the foundation for true discipleship. ☪

# RIGHTness or RIGHTeousness



*Nancy Koesy Parker*





Sammy M. Ulanday  
Greenhills Chapter

**T**he two-day celebration has come and gone. And as expected, there's a smorgasbord of reactions from all corners of the country. There were congratulatory words, thanksgiving, praises, jubilation, fun, laughter, satisfaction, relief. There were also complaints, discontentment, anger, irritations, gripes, winnings, losses, exhaustion, and many many more. I will try to capsulize some of these reactions and others that I randomly heard and gathered throughout the celebration.

### Day one

The working committees. Right from the very beginning, Benru Macairap, the man assigned by Alabang to be the point man in this activity, was on his toes. He had become a permanent fixture, so to speak, in the BCBP Center for the last couple of months. I personally enjoyed working with him. I saw a man who has the true commitment and dedication for service. Sure there were some in the working committees who did not perform at par. But as Benru himself has said, this is all for the Lord. We will be responsible for all our deeds or no deeds, as the case may be.

The Sports. There were winners and there were losers. But behind all of these competitions, we in the committees marvel at how God truly showed His faithfulness. The weeks before the celebration, the rains came teeming. We prayed hard for sunshine for the days of the celebration. We even offered prayers

through Sta. Clara to intercede for us. Indeed, when I woke up at around 6:00 am of Friday, the rays of the sun were peeping through my bedroom window and greeted me with all splendor. And suddenly, I found myself uttering praises and thanksgiving.

Did you know that there were more trophies than players in the tennis competition? The bowling was real fun, both for the losers and winners. There were lots of giveaways handed out so that almost everyone went home bringing something. The



## 18th BCBP National Anniversary:

# AFTER THE FACT





*The lobby of the Villamor Golf Course, where the anniversary tournament was held.*

golf tournament teed off in glorious sun although the grounds were still wet due to smashing rains the night before. But at least no one finished the 18th hole drenched in rain. There were comments that the fee charge was more than what was announced. The explanation I gathered was that the additional cost was for the T-shirt and the Mulligan.

**The assembly.** Well, the turnout was not exactly as expected. The rains came, followed by terrible traffic. I'm sure there were many who tried to fight their way through the traffic but gave up at the last minute. There were those who arrived just in time for the final song. One member told me that he left his house in Kamuning at 5:00 pm. He arrived almost at nine o'clock. Going home from the assembly was even worse. I myself had to take the long route via Tramo, to EDSA and SSH to Vito Cruz, Mandaluyong, Pasig to reach Quezon City, all in two and half hours! EDSA Shaw underpass was flooded according to my wife when she beeped me.

#### Day Two

**The Breakfast.** A few good news and a bit of some hassle. Some of our provincial guests had a hard time going to the venues. Some had to cross through Metro Manila to go to their assigned venue. There were reports of over-crowding, though cramped but cozy according to some. But the most fascinating story was that of the Manila/Makati breakfast. According to Nancy Catan, there were about 196 attendees and they were a bit worried if their finances could cope up with the situation see-

ing that most were "first-timers". (Manila's breakfast attendance is usually around 30!) Once again, prayers "can move money" (if you allow me to say). After the activity, their collection and love offerings totaled to exactly P200 in excess of their obligations! Tumubo pa! We do have a very generous God, don't we?

**The parking.** This was a decision of the steering committee. They decided to reserve the complex's limited parking space for the working committee members so that the M. Adriatico street, immediately fronting the Sportslink, could be used for BCBP parking. For the information of everybody, there were plainclothes cops roving around that parking area during the time, through the courtesy of one of Alabang members. At any rate, the committee would like to apologize for any inconvenience.

***In all of these things that had happened, let's reflect on how we, each one of us, have lived out the theme in this year's anniversary celebration....whatever we did, were we instruments of His righteousness?***

**The intended bazaar,** bingo and games didn't fare well, for one reason or the other. Many arrived just in time for the scheduled 4:30 Mass. The Mass celebrated by Fr. Bernie Taylor was something. Many were touched and healed. I received reactions such as: "I feel great!" "I am relieved." "God certainly was there." "The Holy Spirit was strong, I could almost taste Him!"

**The food.** Unfortunately, this is another thing we did not foresee. The line was very long and many were not able to buy

their food. Others went out, and some of them may have decided to go elsewhere after dinner. This is the reason perhaps why only a few were there to witness the program.

**The program.** It took a little bit longer before the program could start because some were either lining up for food or just finishing. Congratulations to Tagbilaran Chapter for winning the BCBP Theme Songwriting contest. Congratulations too, to the two Cebu Chapter entries. And kudos to Nancy Catan for her recognition award for 8 years as Kapatiran editor! Too bad, the band played for nobody. There was no ballroom dancing either since many had gone home. The disco music and the MTV were not played. Sayang!

But all's well that ends well. In closing, please allow me to recognize and acknowledge the following in particular:

The Iligan chapter who came in with a 60 member strong delegation; the Bacolod chapter, all clad in their invitational T-shirts in preparation for next year's anniversary celebration; the committee heads and their members who all did their best for the success of this activity; our sponsors and benefactors; the bazaar participants; "Mother" Lily Morales who, I understand, had to forego an engagement to commence the program; Ed Adriano who tried to keep the program alive; the Alabang music ministry; all the sharers in the breakfasts; and all others whom we may have forgotten to mention. To all of you, "Maraming Salamat Po". See you all and more next year in Bacolod.

#### Post Script:

In all of these things that had happened, let's reflect on how we, each one of us, have lived out the theme in this year's anniversary celebration. In the two-day festivities, whatever we did, were we instruments of His righteousness? If our honest answer is in the negative, we still have the rest of the year before the 19th anniversary, and on throughout our lives, to make up. God bless us all. ☺





# CONFIDENCE LIMITS

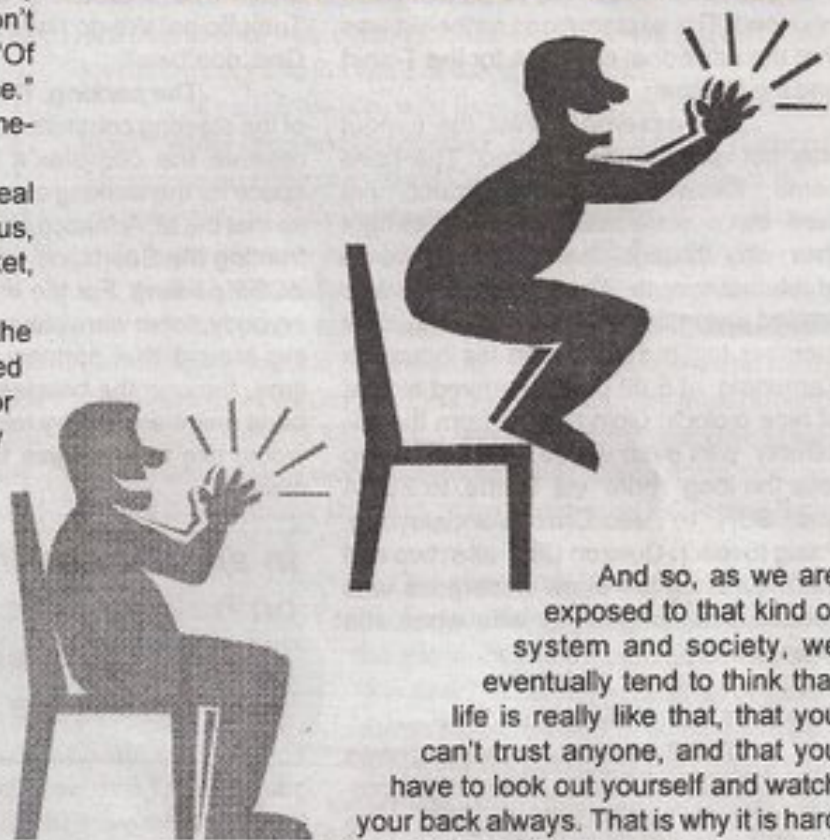
**T**he other day my staff and I were rushing the evaluation of a certain project which I was going to present to our Executive Committee the next day. Because the results of our analysis were not so encouraging, I wanted to check and double check the figures and the assumptions to make sure that it was correct and to make sure that I understood clearly what was driving the results. At one point towards late in the day, when I asked my senior staff to show me (once again) the basis for one of her computations, she said, "You don't believe me, do you?" and to which I patronizingly replied, "Of course I believe you, but I just need to gain more confidence." Immediately after I said that I knew that there was something terribly wrong with my attitude.

Faith without confidence, I realize now, is not real faith. It's as if Peter, before he walks on water to greet Jesus, would first rush back inside the boat to put on a life jacket, you know, "just in case".

As I reflected on this, I realized that throughout the major portion of my walk in faith, I have really demonstrated nothing but half-baked faith, where I do certain things, or worry about certain situations, because deep down in my heart, I am not sure that God has heard my cry, nor that God is capable or desirous of my well being.

Ours is a fallen world where our friends and relatives, our business colleagues, our customers and suppliers, government officials, the police even, have done things to us that disappoint us, and that betray our trust in them.

And so we learn to build defense mechanisms, walls around us to protect us not just from those who aim to hurt us, but even from all other innocent individuals. Notice for instance how some government institutions, and even supposedly customer-friendly establishments like retail stores, put up such complicated procedures for us to follow — as if we had all the intention to deceive them.



And so, as we are exposed to that kind of system and society, we eventually tend to think that life is really like that, that you can't trust anyone, and that you have to look out yourself and watch your back always. That is why it is hard to completely believe in anyone, not even in this man whose name is Jesus Christ.

Jesus says, "Don't worry about things and possessions that moths will eat and thieves can steal, but instead concern yourself with treasures in heaven, with God's kingdom", yet what do we do? Aren't our daily schedules so filled with meetings and appointments that we forget to set an appointment with God in daily prayer? Don't we subject








# One lovely Easter morning

By Gil Abejo  
Greenhills Chapter.



The 1998 Easter vigil at the Ateneo lasted for almost three hours. The College covered courts overflowed with men and women and children of Ligaya ng Panginoon and their Partners in Mission. My whole family, Letty, Joy, Didi and Tricia joined me and thousands upon thousands of our brothers and sisters in praising and worshiping our Lord and in celebrating his rising from the dead.

The evening started on a deeply solemn note, progressing into a joyful celebration, and culminating in a festive mood of Jewish dancing and singing *The Lord has risen, Indeed!*

And celebrate everyone did. The restaurants along Katipunan Road were filled to capacity! Shakey's obviously did not expect

to overflow with people at that time of the night.

Easter Sunday was a lazy morning. We expected to oversleep but the sun shone so bright and the birds were chirping cheerfully as if in a symphony. It must be their way of celebrating Easter!

I got up, wanting to enjoy this Easter morning with them. And I beheld two small birds gingerly picking a leaf each from the Neem tree by my window, and flying upward to our roof, leaf in beak, and then coming back, again picking a leaf and flying, with leaf in beak, in the same upward direction.

I woke Letty up. I did not want her to miss this beautiful Easter scene! And together, Letty and I watched these two little birds build their nest. Together, we witnessed how God takes care of his little ones. For did not Jesus tell us, "look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. (Matthew 6:26) And Jesus went on to assure us, "Are not you more important than they?" (v.26b).

I held Letty in my arms and looked up to heaven and together we praised God and thanked him for his faithfulness and most especially for Easter.

Villa Firenze, Quezon City  
Easter Sunday, 12 April 1998

## CONFIDENCE...

all our business decisions to great scrutiny, and work with consultants and lawyers and specialists? But how many of us actually scrutinize our business decisions through the eyes of God? Don't we already know what we want to do with our profits and earnings once we receive them? But how many of us ask God each payday what He wants us to do with our paycheck?

Faith with little confidence is like seeing before believing. Jesus says to the doubting Thomas, "Blessed are you who have not seen and have believed."

Brothers, today at work, and each day, our faith will be tested. During the many sharings that we have heard in this breakfast, we would listen as brothers turn to Jesus in moments of desperation when they have no one else to turn to, nothing else to back them up, moments when they are

down on the ground and have no where else to look but up. And they discover that Jesus has been with them all along and that Jesus truly loves them.

Perhaps therefore it will really help, as Jesus suggested, if we had a childlike attitude of faith, where — as a child — we have no reason not to believe completely in what Jesus says, and we follow His will confident in His assurances. Perhaps it will help if we maintain an attitude of poverty of mind and wisdom, and trust in the Lord at all times, as if each moment was a desperate moment and that we really have no one to turn to but to Jesus.

And as we surrender our very lives to Jesus this way, we will discover what it means when he says, "I am the vine, you are the branches; apart from me, you can do nothing." ☪



# Am I Leading With INTEGRITY?



*8 questions for people involved in discipling people*

*Another anniversary for the BCBP rolls around with all its attendant ceremonies, reviews of the year just past, and exhortations to do better in the coming age. In this regard Scott Morton's thoughts about how to become a leader of integrity in discipling people are very relevant to our commitment to the BCBP's evangelistic mission.*

*Whatever our level of ministry or service responsibility, our integrity is too important to go unexamined, and this is a good time to do it. Morton invites us to rate ourselves against Jesus' checklist for ministry integrity.*

## **I**ssue 1: *Does my behavior match my teaching?*

*The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. So you must obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. -Mt. 23:2-3*

- Are we subject to the same accusation? For example:
  - I encourage others to have a daily prayer time — but do I have a regular daily quiet time with the Lord?
  - I challenge others to share their faith — but how actively do I share my own faith?

Albert Schweitzer, legendary missionary doctor to Africa, said, "Example is not the main thing in influencing others...it is the only thing."

To lead with integrity means we practice what we preach. In the words of Fr. Herb, we must "walk our talk."

## **I**ssue 2: *Do I lay heavy loads on my followers?*

*They tie up heavy loads and put them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them. -Mt. 23:4*

Sometimes we throw out too many stiff challenges "to obey God" and exhortations to get the members in our action group or service ministry to "do something!" Perhaps some words of encouragement would achieve a better result. And yet it's easier to challenge than to genuinely encourage.

Jesus doesn't say it's *never* right to challenge those you lead. He only asks that we help carry the load. When we serve the Lord with integrity, we make sure we are not asking others to do things that we find difficulty in doing, things that we ourselves know should be done but avoid doing them. We must make sure we are not putting undue burdens on those we are supposed to be helping.

## **I**ssue 3: *Am I trying to impress people?*

*Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long. -Mt. 23:5 (see also vv. 6-12)*

**Nancy R. Catan**

Condensed and adapted from "Leading with Integrity" by Scott Morton, published in Discipleship Journal #104, 1998.





*As leaders of integrity, we should see ourselves principally as enablers, encouraging and enabling others to develop their own spirituality with Jesus Christ, not us, as their model.*

To announce their holiness, the Pharisees lengthened the tassels on their garments and enlarged the small leather boxes worn on the arm or forehead containing Old Testament texts. The more showy, the more holy.

Many times our acts of ministry, generosity, service, caring or sharing are done less as sacrificial acts of love and more as ways to gain acclaim or acceptance from others. How do you feel when you are not recognized for what you said or did? If you are resentful, chances are you were trying to impress somebody.

We become leaders of integrity when we learn to serve without concern for recognition.

#### **Issue 4: Do I delight when my group members surpass me?**

*You shut the kingdom of heaven in men's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to. -Mt. 23:13*

As a music ministry leader, how do you feel when one of your new members turns out to be not only a good singer and guitarist but also can train and lead the group better than you can? What do you do when one of your action group members that you introduced to bible reading last year is able to memorize and remember more scripture passages than you and shows off his/her knowledge in every action group meeting?

If we are not careful, we can be like the Pharisees, holding people back from spiritual growth because we don't want them to surpass us. As leaders of integrity we should not dominate the people we lead, rather we must encourage them to blossom and help them experience joy.

#### **Issue 5: Am I molding people in my image or Christ's?**

*You travel over land and sea to win a single convert, and when he becomes one, you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are. -Mt. 23:15*

It is true that we must be examples for others. But we must be careful not to become a substitute for the Savior. We can look to Mary as our model in this. Instead of glorying in her purity and holiness, she always downplays herself and directs our attention to her Son Jesus.

We need to avoid building people in our image, spoon feeding them with our own

opinions, training them in the way that we want them to go. As leaders of integrity, we should see ourselves principally as enablers, encouraging and enabling others to develop their own spirituality with Jesus Christ, not us, as their model.

#### **Issue 6: Am I majoring on the majors?**

*You give a tenth of your spices — mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law — justice, mercy and faithfulness. -Mt. 23:23*

What about us? Are we meticulous in minor, measurable things but neglectful of important issues that are not so measurable? We are all familiar with the favorite example of the Christian who is very zealous in attending daily mass and regular novenas but once out of sight of the church reverts to his/her habit of shouting at the maid or employee for the least little infraction or oversight. And what about the BCBP member who impresses everyone with his breakfast testimony, but who secretly browses the "soft porn" channel on cable or the Internet.

Our journey with the Lord should not be an on and off thing; we cannot turn our spirituality on and off like we can the TV. Our priorities in life need to be put into proper order and our Christian witness lived out moment by moment. We cannot be Christians only when we feel like it.

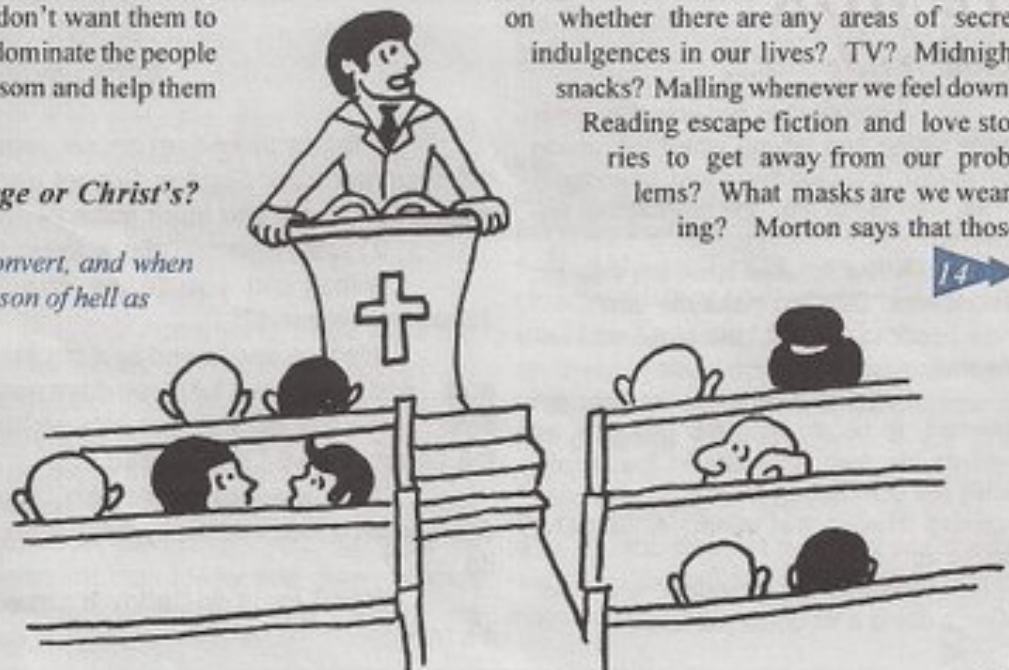
To lead with integrity means to place the highest value on issues of character and the heart, not on outward conformity and performance.

#### **Issue 7: Am I keeping up appearances to cover indulgence?**

*You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. -Mt. 23:25 (see also vv. 26-28)*

The word *indulgence* in Greek means "want of self-restraint."

Good leaders are followed in public because they can lead themselves in private. Here we need to reflect on whether there are any areas of secret indulgences in our lives? TV? Midnight snacks? Malling whenever we feel down? Reading escape fiction and love stories to get away from our problems? What masks are we wearing? Morton says that those





**INTEGRITY... from page 13**

areas in which we allow ourselves indulgences are the areas in which we are silent in ministry.

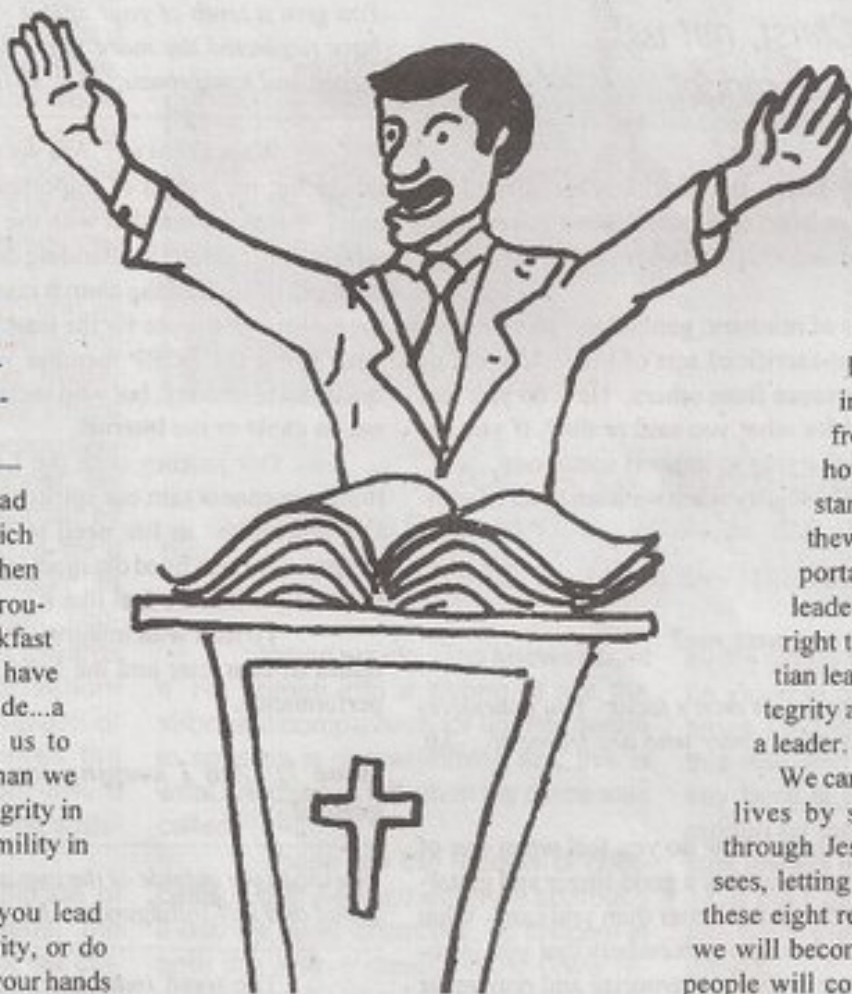
The essence of integrity is to be on the inside what we appear to be on the outside. Secret indulgences undermine integrity, Morton believes.

**Issue 8: Do I consider myself superior to others?**

*You say, "If we had lived in the days of our forefathers, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets." -Mt. 23:30 (see also vv. 31-36)*

The Pharisees had a bad case of spiritual pride — from which you and I are not immune. When there is a snafu in the breakfast routine we look askance at the breakfast head and think, "I never would have done that!" That's spiritual pride... a sense of superiority that causes us to think more highly of ourselves than we ought. We need to remember integrity in leadership is inseparable from humility in leadership.

Do you observe those you lead from a lofty position of superiority, or do you walk alongside them, getting your hands dirty with them, gaining similar calluses



from hard spiritual work? Are you willing to be accountable to your support group (action group, governance team) for both your personal and your leadership integrity? Remember that sometimes it's easier to lead others than it is to be accountable for your own spiritual growth and personal integrity.

**Using Jesus' checklist**

As leaders in the BCBP (and this means all of us since even as members we must consider ourselves leaders-in-waiting or leaders-in-training) we should pause from time to time to reflect on how we are living up to Jesus' standards of leadership. Matthew 23 is only one of the important scriptural passages on leadership but it is one that points right to the core of being a Christian leader — our integrity. Our integrity as a person. Our integrity as a leader.

We can improve this aspect of our lives by starting to pray regularly through Jesus' checklist to the Pharisees, letting Jesus speak to us through these eight reflection points. As we do, we will become leaders of integrity, and people will count it a privilege to follow where we lead. ☪

**HUMOR****God made me...**

A grandfather and granddaughter were sitting and talking when the young girl asked, "Did God make you, Grandpa?" "Yes, God made me," the grandfather answered.

A few minutes later, the little girl asked him, "Did God make me too?"

"Yes, He did," the older man answered.

For a few minutes, the little girl seemed to be studying her grandpa, as well as her own reflection in the mirror, while her grandfather wondered what was running through her mind. At last she spoke up.

"You know, Grandpa," she said, "God's doing a lot better job lately."

**THE STORY OF JONAH**

A father picked up his six year old daughter from Sunday School and asked, "What did you learn today?"

"Daddy, I learned about Jonah."

"What did you learn about Jonah, sweetheart?"

"He was swallowed by a big fish and... and lived there for three days and then... then the big fish spit him up on the beach... alive," she replied.

"Now, sweetheart," he said, "you don't believe that that really happened, do you?"

"Yes, yes... I do Daddy, it's true, it's true."

"Why do you believe it's true?"

"Because the Bible says it is ... so it's true, it's true, Daddy."

"Well, sweetie, what if you're wrong and it's not true?"

"Daddy, I'll just have to ask Jonah when I get to heaven."

"But, sweetie, if it isn't true, maybe Jonah isn't in heaven. What if he is in hell?"

"Then, Daddy, you will have to ask him!"

*Contributed by BCBP Quezon City*



# GOD'S CORPORATE ACTION

**W**ho would ever think that God would manifest His presence in corporate matters? Especially if you belong to an industry that has been hard hit by the downtrend in the economy. With the high cost of construction materials creeping in your cash flow, and your resources dwindling by the day, all that gets to you is "pressure". The pinch in your financial resources turns into a blinding blow. And more often than not, you'd think God would never dwell in such corporate matters. Better yet, you think that God may be too "small" (or too "large") to handle such situation.

After working for 5 years in a company that builds Mass Housing units, God has somehow made His interventions felt in ways that have awed me beyond my expectations. Consider this: after several years of growth in our industry, funding problems started to work their way up starting in 1996. The source of the problem was the growing "apprehension" among financial institutions. Funding institutions like SSS, GSIS and HDMF were tightening their belts in providing additional funds in view of the poor payment performance of the buyers. Part of the reasons include poor development quality of housing units, fake buyers or unqualified persons whose loan privileges were bought or acquired spuriously. What made matters worse was the suspension of loan deliveries to buyers whose loan folders were received previously.

As our company was heavily involved in the industry, I had a lot of fears as to the future of the company, especially for the staff and the management team, majority of which were BCBP members. Likewise, in one way or the other, our company also shares in the burden of the above mentioned problems as we may have contributed even in a small way to their cause. This problem was further aggravated by the present situation of a depressed market, increase in the cost of materials and big interest rates.



Roy Calleja, Quezon City

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*"It was the only  
sensible thing to do ---  
pray....."*

---

As things began to move for the worst, I found myself interceding in prayer more and more for our industry and for a God-given solution to this problem. And God intervened. It was the only sensible thing to do — pray that the Lord help us. Out of nowhere, the HDMF came out with a cure for the collection and funding cancer in the industry. It came out with a circular that directs that all developer originators, whose buyers had a collection efficiency of below 80%, would not be allowed to obtain loan releases from HDMF.

At first it didn't strike me that this directive would benefit our company immediately. Then as our management team got together and analyzed the situation properly, we realized that our past efforts would be of a great advantage in view of HDMF's new ruling.

First, our company practiced strict policies in choosing our buyers. We wanted to discourage unqualified buyers. Aside from this, we also wanted to develop and construct quality houses and lots. Because of this, the Lord granted us the grace to have a "collection efficiency" that is above 80% and receive a passing rank from HDMF, one of the few in the industry to make it to date.

The real miracle was not our company's accomplishments but the grace that God gave to the industry specially HDMF to come out with the right solution even if there was a lot of pressure on them from all sides of the fence. Praise God!

Source: May 1 issue of the BCBP Q.C. newsletter



### DAY ONE

The rains gave way to the sports competitions, and the golf teed off, the bowling rolled on and the tennis smashed off - all to win the numerous trophies and titles at stake.

And the winners are!!



And then there were winners.



The putt...



The strike...



and the players and cheerers from all over the country



Night came in time for the worship assembly at the Villamor Gym. Early birds took time out to rest after battling through Metro Manila traffic and floods.



Part of the 60-strong contingent from Iligan Chapter



Then the prayer assembly went on.





DAY TWO

Throughout Metro Manila BCBP chapters had simultaneous breakfast just as at Greenhills where Peter and Sarah Dejaresco shared.



The Alabang ladies prepare the registration table for the afternoon activities at the Sportslink Entertainment Plaza.



Fr. Bernie Taylor celebrated a spirit-filled healing Mass



BCBP members from the different chapters nationwide started to arrive, some brought along their families. The bazaar opened while the games had a hard time getting off the ground.



**The tandem of Lily Morales and Ed Adriano - program emcees**



**The BCBP Cebu choir - finalist in the theme song writing contest.**



**The BCBP Tagbilaran choir belting their winning piece.**



**Nancy Catan being congratulated by BCBP president Manny Banigan for her dedicated work as Kapatiran managing editor.**

**The BCBP Bacolod delegation led by Bacolod South chapter head Art Legarde inviting everyone for next year's anniversary celebration. They came clad in specially designed T-shirt to drum up the forth coming activity. They have already started making preparations. We'll see you all in Bacolod!!!**



**The things we sweep under the rug have a disconcerting habit of creeping out on the other side**



## WORKING COMMITTEES

### Steering Committee

Overall Chair: Benru Macairap  
Members: Amante Caronongan,  
Jun Dioquino, Noel Talosig

### Sports Committee

Chairman - Amante Caronongan  
PR & Publicity - Lito Abelarde/Tony Serrano; Finance - Oscar Lopez;  
Golf - Boysie Rosales/Jan Golez;  
Bowling - Oscar Ballares;  
Tennis - Doy Nunag;  
Prizes - Rudy Bondoc/Alex Tan

### Liturgy

Jun & Marissa Dioquino, Bobong & Marian Labad, Rene & Beth Espiritu, Mel & Lorette Ferrer, Koko & Vivian Santiago

### Budget and Finance

Nena Espiritu, Danny Perez

### Bazaar Committee

Rhane Reyes, Edith Gutierrez, Bel Reyes

### Programs & Games

Boy Bombais, Bombais Action Group

### Secretariat

Chairman - Noel Talosig  
Members:  
Juliet Talosig, Joel Talosig, Dalins Macairap, Johnny & Tere Borra, Aton Pellicer, Arman & Mher Amante, Delma Abundo, Jeanette Pantaleon, Boy Tayag, Butch Estrera & Co., Angel Sabas, Rene/Alice Pantastico, Mel Rebotica, Eugene de Guzman, Marcie Lantican, Monet Tolentino, Nancy Catan, Ed/Mel Cosico, Nunag Unit Members, Sering Unit Members, Rizal Chapter Members, Parañaque Chapter Members, Manila Outreach Members, Calamba Outreach

### Physical Management Committee

Chairman: Serge Dela Fuente

### Physical Arrangement

Manny Florendo, Florendo Action Group

### Traffic Management & Security

Col. Jun Manaog, Boyet Paredes, Paredes Action Group



*Benru Macairap, the man of the hour.*

### Worship

Ted Diaz, Col. Ike Abad, Major Bernie Bautista

### Music Ministry

Grace Parrenas, Alabang Music Group

### Food

Telet Migriño, Marissa Rongavilla, Francis Nishikawa, Mat Calamlam, Lito Enriquez, Tetang Sandejas

## SPORTS COMPETITION WINNERS



### GOLF

#### Overall Low Gross Champion:

- Junie Bantug (Bacolod South)

#### Overall Low Net Champion:

- Willie Langit (Dagupan)

#### Class A category winners:

- Cocoy Perez (Greenhills), champion.  
- Teddy Siapno (Dagupan), 1st runner up.  
- Peping Sano (Las Piñas), 2nd runner up

#### Class B category winners:

- Punch Mamonluk (Greenhills), champion  
- Robby Samson (Dagupan), 1st runner up  
- DJ Franco (Greenhills), 2nd runner up

#### Class C category winners:

- Dinky Dumuk (Alabang), champion  
- Bert Dulay (Villamor), 1st runner up  
- Ed Lising (Cebu), 2nd runner up

#### Class D category winners:

- Ed Limccango (Alabang), champion  
- Danny Legaspi (Makati), 1st runner up  
- Gerry Geronimo (Villamor), 2nd runner up

### BOWLING

#### Mixed Team Champion:

- Oca and Floren Ballares, Makati  
- Vic Agustin, Makati  
- Ed Garcia, Alabang

#### Mixed Team 1st runner up:

- Dhey Guce, Adolf Ortiz and Leo Sanchez - Makati  
- Lilia Guirrey, Alabang

#### Mixed Team 2nd runner up:

- Pacita Filart, Greenhills  
- Raymund Canalita Alabang,  
- Larry de Vera, Makati  
- Jack Tolentino, Rizal

#### Individual championship:

- Beth Ginete, Makati Ladies High Game Category champion  
- Leo Sanchez, Makati Men's High Game Category champion



- Dhey Guce, Makati High Series Ladies' champion

- Larry de Vera, Makati, High Series Men's champion

### TENNIS

#### Class A category winners:

- William Turalde and Dong Ordonez (Villamor), champion  
- Makati-Rizal team of Jun Catan and Manny de Jesus, runner up

#### Class B category winners:

- Fely Quina and Myrna Ong (Iligan), champion  
- Jose Clar and Jess Rosco of Iligan, runner up



**BCBP THEME SONG WRITING CONTEST WINNERS****ONE FAMILY\***

*Composed by:  
Soc Saletrero, BCBP Tagbilaran*

We are a group of Christian people  
Sharing the love of our God our Savior  
Praising Him and giving Him thanks  
For the trials and the blessings

As we grow from day to day  
He is there to guide our way  
Anything we do and anywhere we go  
We're our brothers keepers we're happy too

**Chorus 1**

The Lord our God is the center of our businesses  
The Lord our God is the giver of our professions too  
Let's join our hands in thanking Him  
And praising His name  
'Cause we are one family, the BCBP

Let us spread the Good News to the market places  
Let's invite our partners in the businesses  
The Lord our God our Savior is the center of our lives  
So, let us start the day of work with Christ.

**The Winning Song**

*\* Slight changes in the lyrics will  
be made in the final version*

**Chorus 2**

The Lord our God is the center of our businesses  
The Lord our God is the giver of our professions too  
Let's sing and praise and feel the spirit of Christian unity  
For we are one family, the BCBP

(Repeat Chorus 2)

For we are one family, the BCBP  
For we are one family, the BCBP, BCBP

**The Runners Up****THE GREATEST IS LOVE**

*Composer: Lemuel Arrogante, BCBP Cebu*

**I**

Here we gather Lord  
Renewed by Your Spirit  
Leaving our past behind  
We race to the prize  
Of our salvation

We do Your will  
With so much delight

**II**

We ride the wind  
Of the Holy Spirit  
And find the wonders  
Of your care  
Your words fill our hearts  
With the love of Christ  
With the love of our fellowmen

**Chorus I**

We are ready  
Dressed for service  
Our lamps shine day and night  
We are happy  
To give You glory

To serve You all our lives  
So many reasons  
To lay our lives down  
The greatest is love

**III**

Bless your people Lord  
Lifting hands together  
To praise and worship our King  
One love, one spirit in unity  
To fight the good fight of faith.  
(repeat chorus I)

**Chorus II**

Glory to the Father  
Glory to the Son  
Glory to the Holy Spirit  
Come and bless the land

(repeat chorus II)

**Coda**

So many reasons  
To give glory to Your name  
The greatest is love 2X)

**WE WILL LIFT UP YOUR NAME**

*Composer: Manny Lapingcao BCBP Cebu*

O Lord our God we come to you  
You are the one who'll see us through  
You ease us from our pains, and heal the wounds within  
You are God of love, God of all... You are.

May all the people come to know  
About the love You want to show  
Please let us bring You there; we'll show them how you care  
Make us instruments of Your truth and love

And we will be Your servants Lord  
And we will tell them Your word  
And we will love them as You love us all

(Chorus)

We're gonna lift our hearts and sing to you our God  
We're gonna lift our hands in praise for you our God  
We will lift up your name ... our God

(Bridge)

Please let us bring you to the marketplace  
We are living witnesses to your grace.  
(repeat chorus 2x)



*Lessons from the animal world for managers*

**A manager should be a:**

**LION** - fearless after acquiring knowledge, facts, experience, smartness, confidence.

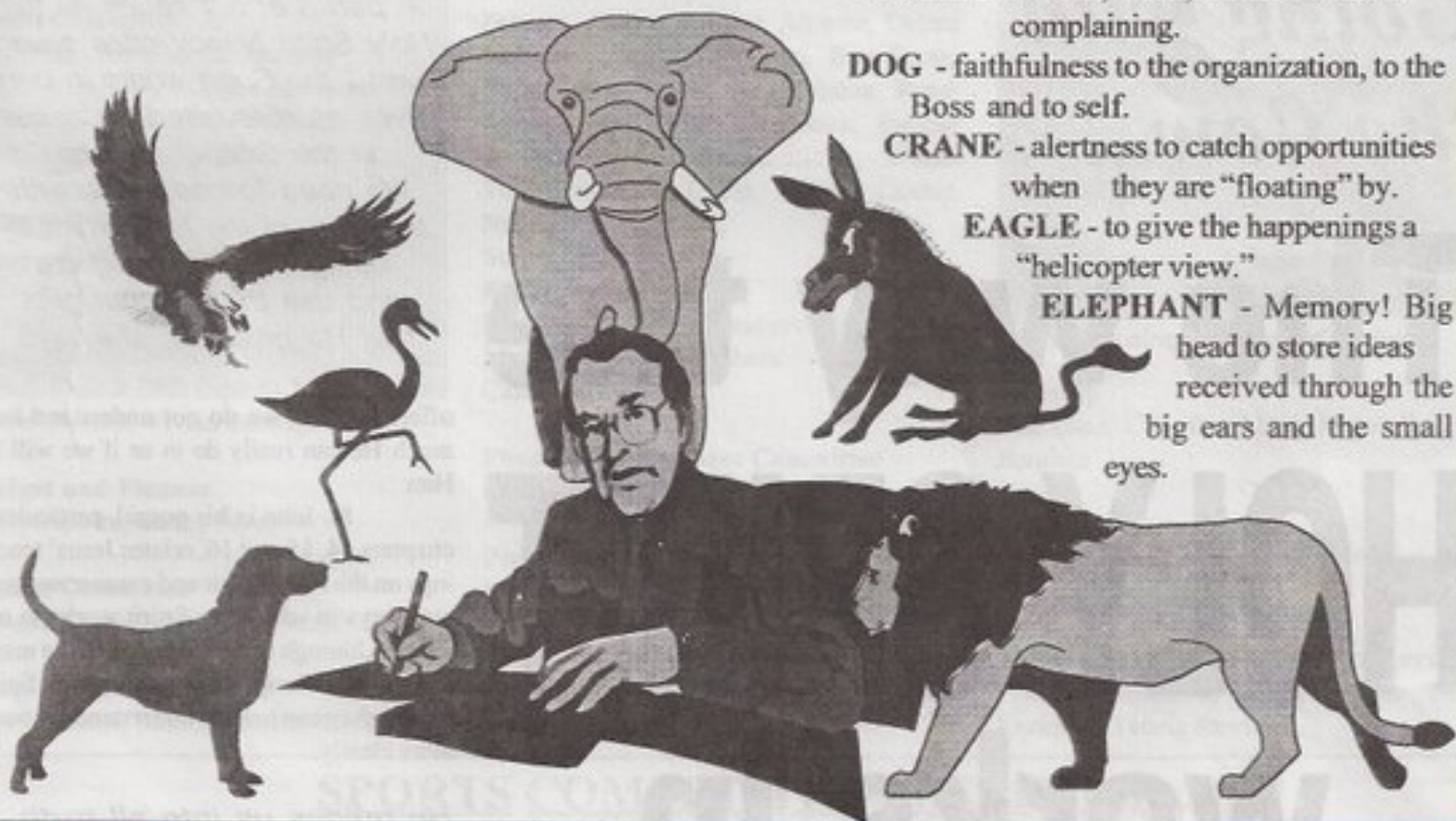
**DONKEY** - Work, work, work ... without complaining.

**DOG** - faithfulness to the organization, to the Boss and to self.

**CRANE** - alertness to catch opportunities when they are "floating" by.

**EAGLE** - to give the happenings a "helicopter view."

**ELEPHANT** - Memory! Big head to store ideas received through the big ears and the small eyes.



# Leadership vs. Management

**Leadership is ...**

- innovating and initiating.
- creative, adaptive and agile.
- looking at the horizon, not just at the bottom line.
- doing the right things, which implies a goal, a direction, an objective, vision, dream, a path.
- about effectiveness.
- the what and the why.
- about trust, about people.
- the ability to create a compelling vision that takes people to a new place and translates that vision into a reality.
- the ability to embrace error and learn positively from mistakes.
- the ability to encourage "reflective back talk".
- telling the truth.
- being married to the same spouse throughout one's career.
- doing what needs to be done and teaching others to follow your example.

**Management is ...**

- copying and managing the status quo.
- climbing the ladder without first finding out if the ladder is leaning against the right wall.
- about efficiency rather than effectiveness.
- about the how, instead of the what and the why.
- working with systems, controls, procedures, policies, structures rather than with people.
- avoiding errors.
- trying to perfect the art of compromise.
- directing other people to do things.



Warren Bennis, "Managing People Is Like Herding Cats". (Executive Excellence Publishing, Utah, c1997)



*Going with  
the flow...*

# The way the HOLY SPIRIT works in our lives

*Nancy R. Catan*

*Third in a series*

In the early 1990's when I traveled to the States to visit my relatives and help my Mom through a knee replacement operation, I took my granddaughter Bianca, then around 8 years old, with me. As we were flying over the U.S. mainland during the clear night, she excitedly exclaimed, "Look at all the lights! Don't they have any power shortage and brownouts?"

On the ground far below us we could see the streets and the plazas of the towns and cities outlined in lights like a lighted grid map. We had just come from

Manila where at that time we were experiencing power brownouts up to many hours a day, so to Bianca who had been taught to conserve electricity, seeing towns and cities all lit up even during the wee hours of the early morning was an amazing sight!

When we talk about the Holy Spirit, we invariably talk about "POWER". It is the Holy Spirit who gives us the power we need to light up our lives with His energy and inspiration, yet many times we fail to turn to Him and ask Him to turn on this power source. God has given us the power of His Spirit to fulfill His mission in the world, not to place in it a safe place because it is too valuable a treasure to use, yet too few of us miss out on much of what the Spirit

*As Christians we all desire the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. But what exactly is the work and role of the Spirit? In part 3 of our series on the Holy Spirit Nancy cites seven ways the Spirit works in our lives as discussed by Jesus in the Gospel of John. We need to cooperate with the work of the Holy Spirit by being able to recognize and use the spiritual gifts that He gives us, she says.*

offers because we do not understand how much He can really do in us if we will let Him.

St. John in his gospel, particularly chapters 14, 15 and 16, relates Jesus' teachings on the Holy Spirit and enumerates several ways in which the Spirit works in our lives. Although these are not all of the many teachings in Scripture about how the Spirit works, they can help us understand his work more clearly.

*He guides us into all truth.*

The Holy Spirit will be with us forever as a Spirit of Truth, and as such, he guides us into all truth (John 14:16-17; 16:13-15).

The Spirit not only brings us into full understanding of the truth that God has revealed about himself but he accompanies us step by step throughout our journey of faith with the "light from within" (The Word Among Us, June 1998). He directs us in the correct interpretation of scripture and encourages us to spread the Good News of salvation. He gives us the divine grace to enlighten our minds in the exercise of the spiritual gifts, particularly those of knowledge and wisdom, prophecy and discernment.

*He teaches us all things.*

The Holy Spirit helps us hear God's voice. When we are too busy or our life is too cluttered with noise and anxiety, it is the Holy Spirit who tweaks our conscience and reminds us of everything Jesus has said. He also teaches us about some issues Jesus did not cover directly while He was here on earth. How does He do this? Through private revelation and inspiration, through the Church,



through inspired writings of holy men and women, in our meditations and our interactions with other Christians.

But I have found that no matter how sensitive I try to be to the voice of the Holy Spirit in my life, the Bible remains the ultimate voice of the Spirit for me with a veritable abundance of messages from God. And it is the work of the Spirit to let the words in the Bible come alive for me.

I have read and re-read the gospels, especially the gospel of John many times. And yet several months ago as I was re-reading it for the nth time, verse 34 of chapter 3 seemed to jump right out of the page and dance before me. "God does not ration his gift of the Spirit." All of a sudden I realized that the Spirit who is in me is truly the fullness of God and that everyone receives the same fullness of God. Therefore we are all equal in God's eyes, no one of us is more holy than another, or more pious than another.

Why then are we so different from one another if we each have the same fullness of the Spirit in us? We are like elementary students in the classroom of our teacher. Each one of us responds differently to what the Holy Spirit teaches us. As in an elementary classroom, we each respond to our teacher in our own unique way. Some learn easily, others goof off and refuse to pay attention to the teacher, still others fall asleep over their lessons, while some don't attend class at all. Some are disciplined and disciplinable, others are not. But the teacher is the same for all students in the class.

*"The law tells us about God's righteousness, but by itself it cannot change our hearts..."*

With the Holy Spirit as my teacher, this means that I should be able to hear God as clearly as the disciples did 2,000 years ago. Isn't this a mind-boggling thought?!

#### *The Spirit comforts us.*

He brings us the peace that Jesus gives us, and He comforts us (John 14:26-27). He says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

It is the Spirit who unites all believers in Christ and is the source of unity for all the charisms, roles and ministries within the church. No matter what gifts we exercise, no matter what ministry or service we are called to, all these are inspired by the

one and the same Spirit (1 Cor. 12:11). St. Paul also tells us that the manifestations and gifts of the Spirit have but one purpose — to build up the body of Christ in peace and in unity (Eph. 4:12).

When I am faced with discerning what kind of spirit is present in an assembly, I rely on this un-failing principle. When the Holy Spirit is present, a sense of peace and joy abounds — individually and in community. Any other kind of spirit is usually disruptive and disturbing, sowing disharmony and uneasiness. The Spirit of God only brings peace, harmony and a sense of God's presence in our hearts.

#### *The Spirit convicts us.*

When I do something wrong, I begin to feel uneasy and remorseful. I look for ways to make recompense. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. Many times during periods of reflective contemplation a long buried grudge or hurt surfaces that demands my attention to correct. This, too, is the work of the Holy Spirit.

He shows us the areas of our life that are sinful and calls us to repentance (John 16:7-11). He also provides us the grace to forgive others who have hurt us and the grace to love them.

#### *He reveals God's righteousness.*

In John 16:7-11 Jesus speaks of the standards of the world in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment. He points out that because men do not believe in Him, they become afflicted with unrighteous values. Then He says that because He will send the Holy Spirit to us, even though we see Him no longer, the prince of the world will be

condemned and God's standards will prevail. All this will be done through the Holy Spirit. God's standards of righteousness are being continuously revealed to us today in the writings of the apostles and holy men and women of the Church.

The Holy Spirit helps us to be holy. The law tells us about God's righteousness, but by itself it cannot change our hearts; but the Spirit comes and writes God's law in our hearts. St. Paul writes throughout his letter to the Romans that this means that when the Spirit comes into our lives He gives us an entirely new way of thinking (Romans 7, 8). From merely obeying the law out of obligation, we are moved by the Spirit to follow Jesus because we love to please our heavenly Father.

#### *The Spirit helps us lead victorious lives.*

He demonstrates Christ's judgment and victory over Satan (John 16:7-11). Not only now but He also helps us anticipate what the world to come will be like (1 Cor. 2:9-10).

One of my favorite chapters in the Bible is the 8th chapter of Romans wherein St. Paul expounds in detail what living a victorious life in the Spirit is like. He describes the future glory that is ours and assures us that the Spirit helps us in our weakness by praying with us and for us. It is He who leads us to intercede for others in need, and gives us the words to say when







we are tongue-tied. Similarly the Spirit can guide and empower our worship, it is the Spirit who synergizes our praise assemblies with his presence and energy. Romans 8 concludes with the declaration that we are more than conquerors through the Holy Spirit in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### *The Holy Spirit gives us the power to witness.*

When I am talking to someone about the goodness of God in my life, I can sense the Holy Spirit directing our conversation. Last week as I was giving a Steward Leaders Training workshop to a community of about 50 religious sisters I found myself including a topic that I had originally decided to exclude due to time constraints. After the session ended, several sisters approached me and thanked me for the insights they gained on that topic. I can only say that this was the work of the Holy Spirit. This is what my spiritual director terms "going with the flow", being open to the leading of the Spirit, without objection, with expectant faith, with a sense of childlike wonder — waiting for what He is going to surprise me with next.

According to Scripture, empowerment for witness is one of the main purposes for which Jesus sent the Spirit and why He insisted that we depend on the Spirit's power (Acts 1:4-7). Jesus even promised that as we witness for Him, we will do even greater things than He did, all through the power of

### *His gifts are ours*

The Spirit empowers us with his gifts (see sidebar detailing some spiritual gifts). In the book of Acts we can read how He empowered the early Church disciples and workers with his gifts and how as they grew stronger in faith, they were able to bring thousands to Christ.

Vatican II's "Dogmatic Constitution on the Church" urges every Christian to fully use the gifts of the Spirit.

Each one of us, and all of us collectively, then have the great responsibility of knowing what gifts the Holy Spirit has given us and of using these gifts not merely for our personal gratification but

*It is not only through the sacraments and Church ministries that the Holy Spirit sanctifies and leads the people of God and enriches it with virtues. Allotting His gifts "to everyone according as he wills", He distributes special graces among the faithful of every rank. By these gifts He makes them fit and ready to undertake the various tasks and offices advantageous for the renewal and upbuilding of the Church... These charismatic gifts, whether they be the most outstanding or the more simple and widely diffused, are to be received with thanksgiving and consolation, for they are exceedingly suitable and useful for the needs of the Church (no. 12).*

for the strengthening of the Body of Christ — the Church, our parish, the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals.

### *What is your gift?*

God wants every Christian to discover his or her gift. How do we do this? There are various kinds of questionnaires one can use to help in the discernment process. But I find the simplest way is this: try out several kinds of Christian service, then ask yourself these questions:

a. Do I feel comfortable using this gift?

b. Have others said that I seem to have this gift? Sometimes others recognize

## COMMON SPIRITUAL GIFTS

**Administration** - the ability to direct God's people and manage God's work wisely; giving direction and control to the work of the Church (Rom. 12:8; Exo. 18:13-27)

**Apostleship** - the ability to preach the gospel and set up Christian communities; being a pioneering missionary (Eph. 4:11)

**Counsel** - giving advice, direction and guidance, particularly in moral and spiritual matters (Isaiah 11:2-3)

**Discernment** - being able to distinguish truth from error; the ability to know if a prophecy or message in tongues really comes from God or not (1 Cor. 6:1-5; 12:10; Heb. 5:14)

**Encouragement** - encouraging and persuading people to follow God's Will; may be used to challenge, to rebuke, to urge and to comfort (Rom. 12:8; 2 Cor. 1:3-4)

**Evangelism** - being able to effectively communicate the gospel and to witness to others about Christ (Acts 1:8; Eph. 4:11)

**Faith** - trusting God to meet the needs of His people and His work no matter what obstacles there may be; includes the gift of intercessory prayer (1 Cor. 12:9; Heb. 11; James 5:15)

**Fear of the Lord** - having an awesome, and sometimes all-consuming, love and reverence for the Lord and for His mercy and justice (Isaiah 11:2-3)

**Fortitude** - courage in pain or adversity; stout-heartedness; the ability to endure adversity while remaining steadfast in faith (Isaiah 11:2-3)

**Healing** - being able to cure physical and emotional illnesses (1 Cor. 12:9; James 5:14-16)

**Interpretation of Tongues** - the ability to translate the spiritual truths uttered by a person speaking in tongues (1 Cor. 12:10; 1 Cor. 14)

**Knowledge** - the ability to study, learn and organize spiritual truths so that they'll be useful in God's work, does not necessary include teaching (1 Cor. 12:8; Isaiah 11:2-3)

*"..... it is the Spirit who synergizes our praise assemblies with his presence and energy."*

the Holy Spirit, ours when we ask in His name (John 14:12-14).



# COMMON SPIRITUAL GIFTS

**Miracles** - performing special works that can't be explained by laws of nature (1 Cor. 12:10; Mark 16:17-18)

**Piety** - the quality of being devout, holy and dedicated to God; fidelity to one's religious duties and to harmonious relationships with one's fellowmen (Isaiah 11:2-3)

**Prophecy** - speaking the Word of God clearly and persuasively leading people to obey God; speaking to men for edification, giving help, encouragement and comfort; giving a special revelation or new truth from God (1 Cor. 14:3, 24)

**Serving** - helping others in the practical work of the Church; showing spiritual responsibility to fellow Christians (Rom. 12:7; Acts 6:1-6; 1 Peter 4:11)

**Sharing** - earning and giving money and possessions for the needs of God's people and God's work; the gift of being sensitive to the needs of others and generous in helping meet these needs (Rom. 12:8; 2 Cor. 8:9; Luke 6:34-38)

**Shepherding** - the ability to lead people into a life of Christian service (John 10:1-16; 1 and 2 Timothy)

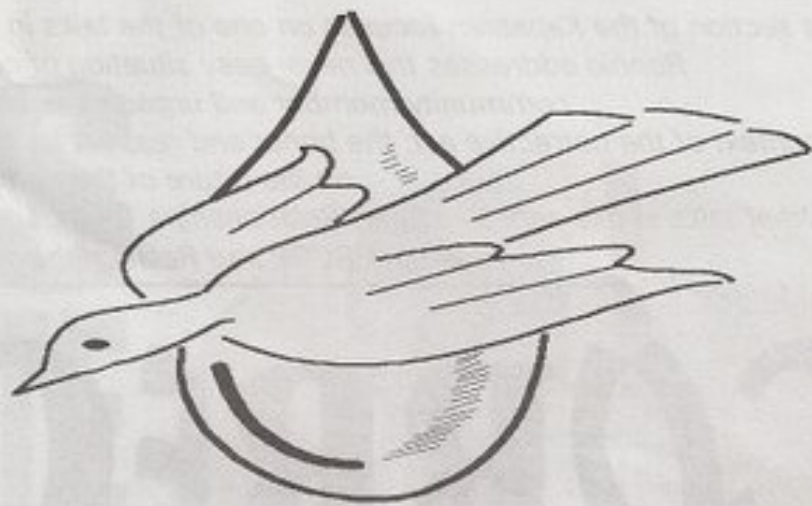
**Showing Mercy** - comforting and helping those in need, especially in a physical way like nursing the sick, feeding the poor (Rom. 12:8; Luke 10:30-37)

**Teaching** - being able to understand and explain God's word clearly to others (Rom. 12:7; 1 Tim. 4:11-16)

**Tongues** - the ability to express spiritual truths in languages or sounds not understood by the speaker, this gift is exercised together with the gift Interpretation of Tongues; almost always praising God rather than preaching or prophecy; considered different than praying in tongues (1 Cor. 12:10; 1 Cor. 14)

**Understanding** - being able to understand clearly the meaning of things, events and portents; is related to the gift of Wisdom (Isaiah 11:2-3)

**Wisdom** - the ability to apply the knowledge of God's Word in specific situations in the work of the Lord (1 Cor. 12:8; Prov. 8 and 9; 1 Cor. 2:1-16; Isaiah 11:2-3)



*Above all, what is needed is our strong and unwavering faith that the Holy Spirit will provide us the gift that we most need exactly when we most need it.*

our gifts sooner than we do.

c. Does God bless others when I use this gift?

d. Does use of this gift bring me a feeling of joy and peace?

If you can answer "yes" to all four questions, then you have discovered your gift! And remember, that most of us receive more than one gift (1 Peter 4:10, 1 Cor. 12:7,11). We should also remember that some gifts are for everyday use (evangelism, serving, showing mercy, etc.) while others may be for a particular or special use (prophecy, tongues, miracles, discernment of spirits, etc.).

### *Use your gift!*

Above all, what is needed is our strong and unwavering faith that the Holy Spirit will provide us the gift that we most need exactly when we most need it. We need to pray every morning when we awake that the Holy Spirit will make his gifts manifest in our lives during the day in a way that will build up and strengthen us personally, and, more importantly, the Body of Christ present in our families, our marketplace, our parish and in the BCBP.

During Christmas we received gaily wrapped packages. Did we open them immediately, or do we still look at them jumbled under the Christmas tree wondering what is in them? During our baptism in the Holy Spirit, we received the gifts of the Holy Spirit in full; remember, God does not ration his gift of the Holy Spirit. Are we using these

gifts, or are we still wondering if we really did receive any gift or not?

Receiving a gift is one thing. Opening and using the gift is another thing. Are we opening and using the spiritual gifts that the Holy Spirit has given us?

### *Don't forget the Giver of the gifts.*

But, brothers and sisters, it is not the gifts we need as much as the Giver. St. Paul wrote to the church at Rome, "For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable" (Rom. 11:29). The gifts will never leave but the Giver's power can be withdrawn — and will be withdrawn if the Giver is neglected and his gifts gather dust and cobwebs in the shadows under our bed.

Let us always remember that the Holy Spirit has been given to us out of the great love of the Father and the Son. It is the Holy Spirit who implants and nourishes a holy and divine love in our hearts. It is this love that is the key to opening and using His gifts. And it is this love that empowers the Holy Spirit to light up our lives. ☪

### *References:*

*Vatican II documents and the Catechism of the Catholic Church*  
*The Word Among Us, June 1998 issue*  
*Discipleship Journal, Issue 91, Jan/Feb 1996*  
*Good Morning Holy Spirit by Benny Hinn*



*This section of the Kapatiran focuses on one of the talks in the Christian Personal Relationship Series. Ronnie addresses this never-easy situation of correcting or rebuking an erring community member and urges us to consider four key areas: the context of the corrective act, the honor and respect involved, how Jesus would do it, and its impact on the future of the community.*

*Other talks in this series include: Relationships Today, Loving One Another, Working out Conflicts within the BCBP, and Relationships outside the BCBP.*

# CORRECTION

Ronnie Caballero

**"S**cripture tell us how Jesus continuously corrected his apostles. It was through these corrections that they became models for others."

One of the hardest aspects of Filipino Christian community life is giving and accepting correction. The Christian Personal Relationships Series outline just speaks straight-away about accepting correction gracefully, avoiding anger if we are corrected, etc. However, as a leader I have found that this aspect of Christian living is one of the most difficult to live-out. Neither should we avoid it because of its great importance. Let's attempt to examine it a little closer to see if we can come to grips with the reality of correction.

**1. Context**

The context is that we are doing it out of love for the good of our Christian community. If it was in a corporate or business context, for example, if it meant the survival of our company or business, many of us will not hesitate in applying the needed correction.

*Discernment before sharing, Greenhills chapter assembly*

If it meant horrendous losses in profits or capital or property, we would very well find ourselves speaking out clearly and decisively, formulating the right response to avoid disaster.

The difficulty in applying ourselves the same way in a Filipino Christian community context lies in the depth of our commitment to nurture the very community that God gave us to love, the BCBP. I speak here from both the side of the leader and the member both of whom are constantly confronted by the issue. This time though, the 'horrendous losses' are not so apparent as in the business sense as the losses are

quantified, if I may use the term, in spiritual value. We all must realize and reflect upon the spiritual value of the community that the Lord has entrusted us with if we are willing to take pains in preserving it. Our realizing this point will be the turning point of our courageousness in calling "a spade a spade" for the good of community.

One comforting thought is that no one is perfect, even in the first Christian community where there were so many mistakes and corrections. St. Peter himself denied the Lord three times and the Lord in correcting him with three identical questions of "Do you love me?", brought St. Peter almost to tears in realizing his folly. Not only that, but in that brief lesson, the Lord moved Peter from phileo, which means heartfelt affection to agapao, which (translated from Greek) implies "enough to lay your life down for me?" (The Word Among Us-26 April). This shift in love was the formation of the very rock, which became the foundation of the greatest church ever,





the Roman Catholic Church. And how did St. Peter lay down his life for us? The very place which is now called St. Peter's Square is the very place where the first pope gave up his life, crucified upside down in total humility, as he felt himself not worthy to die in the same fashion as the Lord did.

Correction results in greatness which is why we must never give up. The Doubting St. Thomas himself received almost immediate correction in having the Lord put his hand into Jesus' side to settle the issue. This resulted also in beginning that great apostolic work that Thomas had in him but would have not seen the light of day had it not been for that correction.

The deeper context of all this was that the Lord was laying the foundation of a community from which the church would be born. If that community and its members had not persisted in loving each other in community, then the church would have been short-lived and fizzled out. The very thought that the first community even grew in leaps and bounds under the threat of total persecution by the most cruel leaders of the supposed greatest civilization, the Roman empire, is itself the model by which we in the BCBP are to build ours.

*"...the best check to apply is if it were Jesus who was giving correction, how would he come about it, how would he give it."*

## 2. Honor and Respect

Part of that context lies in another pillar of community, which is honor and respect for each other — members with other members, members with leaders and vice-versa. The work that we do in community building is an honorable one, almost parallel in honor to the raising of our own families which is clearly a God-given mandate. Even though we see our children sometimes from a clear point of view of unquestionable authority, we must remember that we raise them as God's children, not ours. And it is with this dignity that we



*Music ministry workshop: venue of correction, musically, that is.*

must regard them and not just step over them with abusive authority.

In the same way, our responsibility is to raise them to be part of God's community, who also will perpetuate his church, its beliefs and practices, espousing the imitation of the person of our Lord, Jesus Christ in their very lives. So, even our correction of them must be tempered in the same manner

are on the very same road of dying to themselves as Jesus has similarly called all of us. And so neither is it a quality that we do today and are rid of tomorrow, but rather it is a quality that is to stay with us in constant motion of "anticipating each other's need". It is the core of the very person of Jesus alive, in humble service but bearing the authority of the Father.

Earning this respect is crucial as the BCBP calls its members from among 'worldly' leaders, owners of businesses, hardnosed executives and shrewd managers. Hence, the submission to authority tempered by this honor and respect must be in place for genuine correction to take place and bear fruit.

that they may live and act as citizens of the heavenly kingdom, the new Jerusalem. They also must learn to respect the authority that we use is as such, that they may live, in the fullness of God's kingdom.

Our community must bear the same marks of honor and respect to perpetuate itself in God's light, but the leaders in order to carry that authority must die to themselves in service to the community. That authority is earned and must be proven in order that its members may follow and give respect, knowing fully well that they themselves

This is so because sometimes the correction may be about controversial issues or sometimes simply small issues. But whatever the issue the next principle applies. Correction takes place only if the authority has established clearly who is at fault or who is wrong. It would be a grievous error to proceed with an 'investigative' correction wherein one is still verifying the facts while beginning the process of correction. If we are guessing we can hardly be recognized as an authority in applying the correction. In fact, there is a strong possibility we may be refuted and end up doing harm than good.



**CORRECTION... from page 27**

**3. Always Jesus, Only Jesus**

Just like the title of Msgr. Soc Villegas' book this next principle is most important in applying the giving and receiving of correction. If the leader's character is truly that of agapao, unconditional love, the best check to apply is if it were Jesus who was giving correction, how would he come about it, how would he give it. Almost immediately, the don'ts of correction come to the fore because we just do not see Jesus doing it by complaining, nagging, sulking or making one feel guilty.

Jesus is THE SAVIOR, and as such he was completely focused on the types of people he was saving, mainly the sinners and the dead, the Pharisees. For the sinners his correction was done in a direct but gentle manner. My favorite scene is that of the woman by the well where he casually asks for a drink of water, introducing himself as the possessor of the living water, confronting her sin and turning her towards salvation. What a model correction! There was no nagging or complaint or even a sulk. He simply pointed the woman towards her salvation, where she would thirst no longer and be satisfied.

Another wonderful episode of correction was that of Zacchaeus, the tax collector. The reputation of tax collectors as sinners was a foregone conclusion as always during those times. Pharisees would actually be ritually 'unclean' if they simply entered the household of these tax collectors. But in Zacchaeus' case, the Lord did not set any conditions. He did not say if you admit your sin, do repentance etc. then I will forgive you. The Lord simply said, "Zacchaeus, hurry down; I mean to stay at your house, for this is what it means to be a son of Abraham. The Son of Man has come to search out and save what was lost."

Bo Sanchez, in his reflection on this episode says that the power of this correction comes from Jesus, as God, having knowledge of those he saves, the sinners. He saw Zacchaeus on top of the tree and called him by name because as Jesus had said he had come into his world for the sick, the sinners.



*First Friday Assembly, BCBP - Greenhills*

*"...the focus of correction is our relationship with Jesus as brothers and sisters in community."*

When we sin, God knows about it. He comes into a strong, if not the strongest compassion for us. His desire to save us is overwhelming and this is what Zacchaeus felt when his name was called.

These are the models of compassion that we need when we approach those we need to correct. To criticize in both the above cases would have resulted in ineffective and fruitless correction.

The other wrong ways of correction such as silent treatment, beating around the bush and correction by consensus, "the gathering of others' opinions to bear down on the one to be corrected", are really non-corrections. By our own indecision or lack of boldness to apply the correction we resort to these three ways if only to let the correction give birth to itself without our own involvement. However, this way is fruitless. Because correction is about love and not about pride, or superiority. Almost always the way of love is the most effective.

There were also times when the Lord took the hard way when his correction was a hard-hitting, direct rebuke. This kind mostly he addressed to the Pharisees, or to the types of living dead

as he called them who really needed to be jolted in order to save them. Sometimes, God forbid it, we may have to play this role and we have to be firm. The key here is prayer. Jesus was always guided by the Father and any action he took always had the support and authority of the Father. So, too, if we pray we can have the strength to rebuke if necessary.

**4. It's The Relationship (Discipleship)**

To conclude, the focus of correction is our relationship with Jesus as brothers and sisters in community. Our final motive is to please the Lord with the direction our community takes toward him. If certain actions and behavior of our brothers and sisters draw us away from the Lord or divide us then we have the obligation to study the situation, find out who is wrong and pray for the courage to apply the correction. With our inaction, we will find the deterioration of our community, and our march towards the Lord will be hindered. But with Jesus as our focus we will always find if we seek his will, he will indeed draw all of us to him. Always Jesus, only Jesus.

Amen!



# Oh for a spark of real charity

Thomas A Kempis

The performance of an action is worthless in itself,  
if it is not done out of charity.

Charity must be our motive; then everything we do,  
however little and insignificant, bears a rich harvest.

After all, what God takes into account is not so much  
the thing we do, as the love that went  
into the doing of it.

It was a great thing you did, if great love did it;  
well done is greatly done.

Act for the public good, not for your own pleasure;  
then you act well.

But too often, the motive we mistake for charity ought  
rather to be described as a merely human motive.

How hard it is to banish those other motives —  
natural propensity, self-will, the hope of getting  
something in return, an eye to our own advantage!

Whereas true charity, charity that goes the whole way,  
leaves no room for self-seeking; it is God's glory  
that must have everywhere the preference...

Oh, for a spark of real charity! That would be enough  
to make man realize the hollowness of  
all earthly things.



## One Minute Meditation



Larry de Larrazabal  
Makati Chapter

# Died, risen, will return

*"Remember what he said to you... that the Son of Man  
must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be  
crucified, and on the third day rise again."*

(Luke 24:6-7)

An observation made by Catholic parishes indicate that parishioners remember and are more involved in the activities of our Lord's passion and death during Good Friday than in the celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. The multitude of the faithful present during the Good Friday activities greatly surpasses the attendees during Easter Vigil. What could be the cause of this disparity? Could it be that Filipinos identify themselves more with the suffering Jesus than the joy associated with the glorified Christ? Something to consider, wouldn't you say!

While the death of Jesus was the redeeming factor in man's salvation, it would not have constituted anything of value and importance without the final proof of his resurrection. It is through the resurrection of Christ that the promise of everlasting life was made manifest for us. The greatest celebration in Christendom is, without doubt, Easter Sunday, the resurrection of Christ. This is the sacred truth that is repeated in every celebration of the mass - "Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again." This truth ties up the three important features of Christ's redemption and the promise that is to come.

Christians who have been redeemed should not be relaxed, just awaiting the Lord's promise. Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he instructed us, "Teach them to carry out everything I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:20). The gift of redemption carries with it the obligation to bring the good news of Jesus' death, resurrection and his final coming to all you come in contact with.

## Prayer

Dearest Lord, this work of self-purification  
is not the work of a day, nor is it easy.  
I long to make whatever daily effort is necessary.  
I yearn for the day when my thoughts  
will turn to the higher things in life.  
I desire to give you my loyalty because  
you deserve it. Help me  
to do more for you.

Amen.



*The BCBP is not a retirement institution nor a pleasure complex. Christ is the heart of the Brotherhood. Therefore, Sammy says, the BCBP will only be as alive as we, its members, are alive in Christ and enthusiastic and willing to support BCBP activities.*

# CHRIST, the heart of Brotherhood

Sammy M. Ulanday, Greenhills Chapter

Someone once told me: "Sam, you can not expect everyone to give the same amount of time to BCBP as you do. You are a full time employee of BCBP, the rest are not."

Up to a point, I agree with this statement. BCBP is my livelihood, so much so that from the moment I wake up to the time I retire in the evening (and even in between) my mind and heart are filled with BCBP things. I'm being paid for it. But just for the record, and for the purposes of discussion, I, too, many times, have worked even beyond the usual 8-5 shift, unremunerated. I'm a full time BCBPer, as we might say. It is perhaps because of this situation that somehow I expect the rest of the BCBP's 8,000 members to fill their days and nights with BCBP matters just like I do.

On the other hand, I'd like to venture on the notion that BCBP is a symbol of something far greater for its members. As we always say during commitment, "we do not just commit to BCBP per se but to the Lord". In fact, in all the things that we do around here, Christ is the center of it all. One time I was asked why is it taking so long for the National Council to make up their minds about such a simple matter as choosing an anniversary theme? The procedure goes this way. The chapter-in-charge is asked to make a list of several possible themes based on their discernment, the current situation, and prayers. Then this list is presented to the Council, and again undergoes another stage of discernment and prayers. With this example, the focus is on what the Lord would want us to do, and not on what we want to do.

This is the reason why I can't accept the idea of a separation of BCBP from Christ, and that the amount of time we give to the BCBP is distinct from the things we give to the Lord. The Brotherhood represents Christ, that whenever we do something for the BCBP we do it for Christ. Consequently, what we fail to do for the BCBP, we fail to do for the Lord.

Thus, an opportunity to do something for BCBP is a privilege given to us to do something for the Lord. As true Christians, we must always crave for every opportunity where we can offer ourselves to Him, in whatever capacity, and on whatever

occasion. And as true Christians, can't we not expect then for everyone to give, not just their spare time, but their full time to God through the BCBP whenever the opportunity arises?

But what about my livelihood, my family, we ask? As long as the values espoused by Christ are practiced in these areas, we are doing God's work. But this is not the aspect of contention. The point is that when an opportunity to serve God through the BCBP comes, do we dilly dally and tag it as a second rate priority? It is during these times, when we are caught between BCBP matters and the "others", that the enemy plays his tricks. He makes all other things appear greater than BCBP matters. This is where profound prayers and discernment are necessary. We have to listen very carefully to what God wants us to do. Unfortunately, some of us fall into the enemy's trap. Sometimes our thoughts bring us to the conclusion that BCBP is simply a matter of meetings, conferences, fellowship, and association duties. Let us remember that these meetings, conferences, fellowship, or simple association matters are avenues through which we can serve God.

BCBP is not a retirement institution nor a pleasure complex. Christ is alive in Brotherhood. He talks to us, listens to us, guides us and blesses us. Therefore, BCBP itself is not the center of our lives but Christ, Himself, is. Christ is the center of the entire BCBP organization and its programs and activities. Whether you're a secgen, a chapter head, an AGL, a member or the president, we do anything and everything for the Lord through the BCBP.





That's why we are called. We can not afford to just sit around and watch the world go by and let others do it. If we do, we're missing a lot.

Sometimes it pains me to see some members and leaders alike, apparently evading chances to serve God or to be part of a BCBP activity. Or when they do accept the responsibility, it is more out of obedience rather than surrendering themselves at the disposal of the Lord.

Consider the very basic activities of action group meetings and assemblies wherein we see a dwindling number of attendees. I hear members saying: "Wala namang nangyayari dyan." "Yun na naman ang Bible verse niya." "We're starting very late." "Wala naman ang AGL ko, bakit pa ako a-attend?" "Boring."

These statements are basically self-centered. If we are among those who utter these comments, then we are missing the point. I believe that in all sharings, no matter how boring, no matter how many times you've heard it, we must always search for God's righteousness in the words He puts on the lips of the sharer. Unlike that of the enemy's, God's words are inspiringly positive in spirit, and these are what we must ever be sensitive to.

Also, it is through these moments, when we find fault rather than the positive things,

that the enemy is most active. He inculcates in our minds that nothing good will ever come out of these activities. Clearly this is a divisive attempt to discredit BCBP and Christ who is truly active and alive in it. And before we know it we have totally forgotten why we are in the BCBP in the first place.

I'd like to borrow the inspiring words of Mike Joseph when he spoke in one of our assemblies. He quoted Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, they shall be filled." Mike explained that we should always crave for God in every opportunity. AGMs and assemblies are among the ideal occasions where God is dynamically present. The focus is Christ, not ourselves nor the other members. The problem is that we always look for "what is in it for me" rather than "what does the Lord want from me." If we are always on the lookout for something for ourselves, we shall never find Christ and never be filled with His love and the love of brothers and sisters.

In one of our meetings, the discussion focused on the attendance in the assemblies. One member commented on one charismatic community that is able to gather hundreds of thousands of believers in their weekly assemblies

held in an open field come rain or shine. One answered that this is the only time that they can gather together, or maybe this is the only time they can see their leader in person, even at a hundred meter distance. They don't have pockets of prayer meetings such as our AGM.

So? Is it the frequency or the leader that we go for? I believe it is not so much the frequency or the personality of the leader but rather the word and presence of God that bring this throng of humanity to their assembly. I think we're better off with 2 general assemblies and 2 AGMs a month. We are blessed with several leaders allowing us to have a diverse yet unified source of wisdom and guidance. And so long as we are focused on the inspiringly positive spirit of God, the frequency, time and location shouldn't matter anymore.

On several occasions we have to call for a meeting to tackle some projects. It is so frustrating that in many instances the response is quite anemic. Moreover, once the project is set into motion, the participation is far from enthusiastic. Reasons are varied, and everyone would claim their reason is valid. But as I have pointed out previously, there's just got to be one reason - God!

And if He is not reason enough to drive us into action, I don't know what is.



THE SYMBOL OF THE BCBP

*The logo of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals captures the very essence of the organization. The cross in the middle of the logo symbolizes Christ, who is the heart of the Brotherhood. Christian tenets and values are central to all endeavors of the organization. The arm of the Cross - indeed, Christ's outstretched arms - welcome all who come under His salvation and love. It symbolizes too, the mission of the group to increase its members by evangelization. The twin figures on the logo's foreground are the two active groups of the Brotherhood - businessmen and professionals. They are bent in adoration, typifying the brothers' acceptance of Christ as Master and redeemer. Finally, enveloping all the elements of the logo is a circle. It represents the unity of the Brotherhood - one in purpose, one in spirit, one in Christ.*

On the other side of the coin, there are those who truly feel a sense of fulfillment once they have responded to a call, and virtually and eagerly await for their next assignment. I believe that our service to our Lord is just like that in a corporate world but more spiritual in nature. First we are given a small task, say, simply of being a member. If our boss (God in this instance) is satisfied with our performance, we are promoted and given a bigger responsibility, perhaps becoming a discussion leader. This process continues and along the way we get rewards and merits (blessings from God) for our tasks and accomplishments until such time that we shall be honored with the greatest reward of them all — seeing God face to face in heaven.

So, is it right to expect everyone to give the same amount of time to BCBP as I do? The answer is right there in our hearts. Let us look back and imagine where would we be now if not for the BCBP. And let us not forget that Christ is alive in the Brotherhood. He talks to us, listens to us, guides us and blesses us. BCBP itself is not the center of our lives but Christ Himself is. And Christ is the center of the entire BCBP organization and its programs and activities. **Christ is the heart of the Brotherhood.**





Annie Salvador  
Makati Chapter

# "I Miss Lolo"

When my father-in-law died, Nelson and I had no idea how to tell the children. They knew he was sick and in the hospital, and were asking how he was. It was a good thing that neither of us decided to give them any stock answers like, "He's okay." From the start of Papa's week-long hospitalization, things hadn't been going well for him and that was what we told the children. We asked them to always pray for their Lolo, and that many people all over were praying to Jesus for him. Among the many other things we discussed in that connection were how diseases happened, the value of seeking medical help and even different ways we can safeguard our health.

But Papa's death was a shock, to say the least. To complicate matters, Anton was in another hospital for pneumonia. It was the second day of his confinement and I was staying with him. It didn't seem likely he would be sent home soon, and we wanted to gather all the children together to tell them. Logistic - as the least of our concerns - we were already juggling ourselves between hospitals, driving the other kids to school and getting some office work done - we simply didn't know how to tell them their grandfather was gone.

Two days later, Anton was still in the hospital. That morning, driving Nico, Tono and Marga to school Nelson told them. He started by asking them if they understood how ill Papa was, then told them that his body had gotten so tired fighting his illness that his heart stopped beating - God had decided to take him already. That evening, Nelson told Anton, in much the same way. Initially, the children took it silently, and then, gradually, the questions started coming.

What happened when his heart stopped beating? Where is Lolo now? Did angels fetch him? Can he see Jesus now? Can he still see us? Is he never, NEVER coming back? Did his brain/voice/tummy die too? Did he turn into angel? Where is heaven, really? How did God decide to take Lolo? How come Anton got well and Lolo didn't? What about you, are you gonna die too?

I am amazed at my children's grasp of things. I was nine when my little sister died, and I don't remember much awareness of what was going on, except the dreadful fear of seeing her ghost. My children have no qualms about staying in my in-

laws' house at night, watching TV or playing. Not one of them has ever expressed fear or spoken of ghosts. Their curiosity is for the facts: they are exploring the concepts of disease, death, grief and immortal life. Of course, we try to answer their questions as honestly as we can. Often though, I have to stop for a second or two and try to find the words that can most appropriately and most fairly address them.

As parents, this time in our lives is opportunity-filled for Nelson and myself. We can use our shared grief to draw closer to each other, honestly seeking and openly offering comfort and love. We can use our children's curiosity to explore the mysteries of our faith: the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. We can use our answers to open their eyes to the realities of life and death, of God's love and mercy and the value of using time well.

My sister-in-law, who lives in the States, sent a book entitled "Water Bugs and Dragonflies" by Doris Stickney, (Dear editor: can we print the story also? I've attached it, just in case), which is subtitled "Explaining death to young children." It's a beautifully simple story of Faith, and one evening, I read it to the children. Then we talked about their Lolo and other people we know who have died, like a classmate's brother, even Princess Diana, and how we don't know where they are now, but that surely, because we can rely on God's plan for us, they must be happy wherever that is. I didn't know how much the thought had sunk in, until about a week later. Marga and I were in Papa's car, and she turned to me and said, "Gee, Lolo must be having fun in heaven!"

One afternoon, I fetched my boys from school, again driving Papa's car. Naturally, the questions came again: So whose car is this now? What happens to all of Lolo's things? Does he still need clothes? Suddenly, Anton, who has always been a sentimental one, said, "I miss Lolo! What can I do?"

My heart skipped a beat. Here was a six year old, feeling grief for someone he loves! I was composing a reassuring response in my mind, when Tono blurted out, "Whenever you miss him, close your eyes and think of him. If you love a person, he will always be in your heart!"

What can I say? My children are coping. They will be all right. ☺

"If you love  
a person, he'll  
always be  
in your  
heart."



**D**own below the surface of a quiet pond lived a little colony of water bugs. They were a happy colony, living far away from the sun. For many months they were very busy, scurrying over the soft mud on the bottom of the pond. They did not notice that every once in a while one of their colony seemed to lose interest in going about with its friends. Clinging to the stem of a pond lily, it gradually moved out of sight and was seen no more. "Look!" said one of the water bugs to another. "One of our colony is climbing up the lily stalk, where do you suppose she is going?"

Up, up, up it went slowly. Even as they watched, the water bug disappeared from sight. Its friends waited and waited but it didn't return. "That's funny!" said one water bug to another. "Wasn't she happy here?" asked a second water bug. "Where do you suppose she went?" wondered a third. No one had an answer. They were greatly puzzled.

his old body. His movement revealed four silver wings and a long tail. Even as he struggled, he felt an impulse to move his wings. The warmth of the sun soon dried the moisture from the new body. He moved his wings again and suddenly found himself up above the water. He had become a dragonfly.

Swooping and dipping in great curves, he flew through the air. He felt exhilarated in the new atmosphere. By and by, the new dragonfly lighted happily on a lily pad to rest. Then it was chance to look below to the bottom of the pond. Why, he was right above his old friends, the water bugs! There they were, scurrying about, just as he had been doing some time before.

Then the dragonfly remembered the promise: "The next one of us who climbs up the lily stalk will come back and tell the others where he or she went and why."

# Waterbugs and Dragonflies

## Explaining death to young children

By Doris Stickney

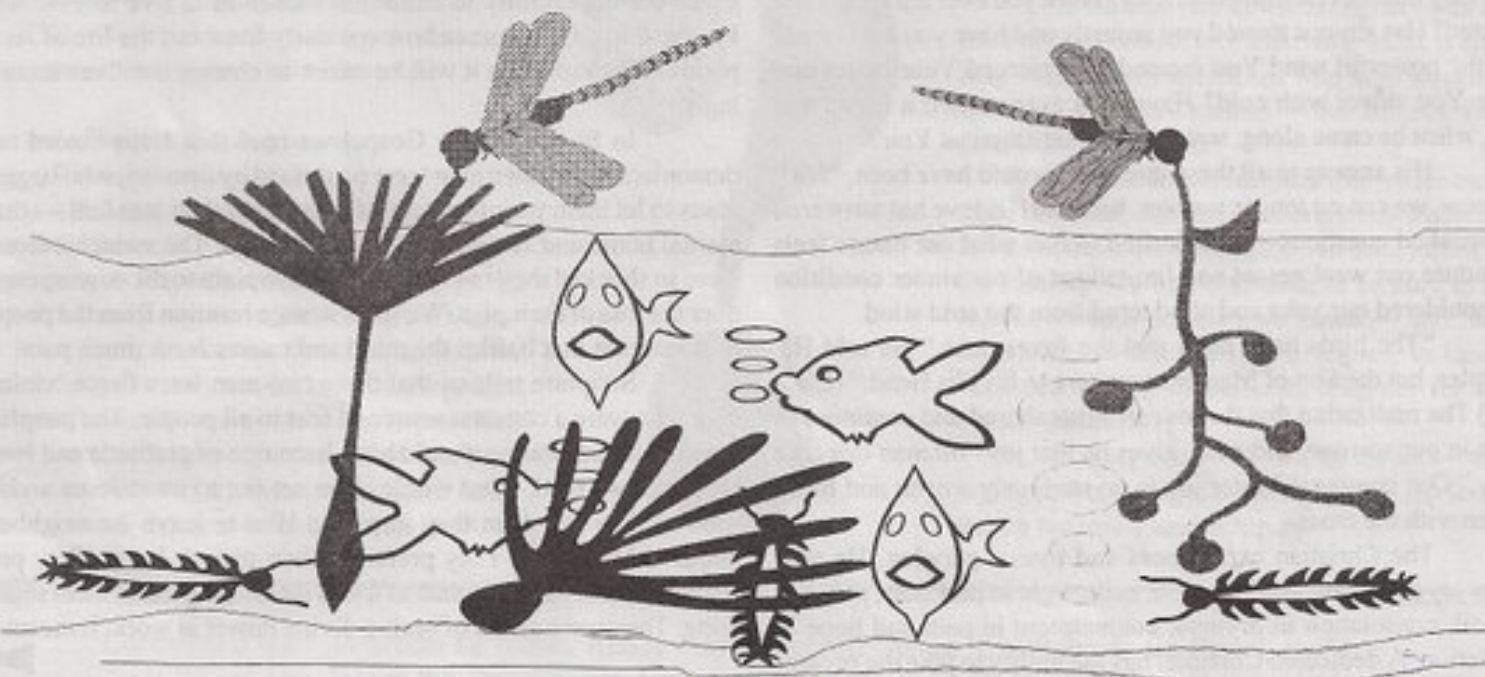
Finally one of the water bugs, a leader in the colony, gathered its friends together. "I have an idea. The next one of us who climbs up the lily stalk must promise to come back and tell us where he or she went and why. "We promise," they said solemnly.

One spring day, not long after, the very water bug who had suggested the plan found himself climbing up the lily stalk. Up, up, up he went. Before he knew what was happening, he had broken through the surface of the water, and fallen onto the broad, green lily pad above.

When he awoke, he looked about with surprise. He couldn't believe what he saw. A startling change has come to

Without thinking, the dragonfly darted down. Suddenly he hit the surface of the water and bounced away. Now that he was a dragonfly, he could no longer go into the water. "I can't return!" he said in dismay. "At least I tried, but I can't keep my promise. Even if I could go back, not one of the waterbugs would know me in my new body. I guess I'll just have to wait until they become dragonflies too. Then they'll understand what happened to me, and where I went."

And the dragonfly winged off happily into its wonderful new world of sun and air.





Second  
of a Series



# His Pain Like Mine

By Mother Angelica

(Reprinted in serial form with permission given by Rev. R. Wm Staltemeir, president of EWTN (see p.35, Mar.- Apr. 1998 Kapatiran)

**B**efore redemption we may well have asked Him, "How do you know what it means to suffer, Oh God? Did you ever feel hungry or thirsty? Have Your nights ever been full of fears and your days long hours of painful endurance? Have you ever felt lonely and rejected? Has anyone treated you unjustly and have you ever cried? Has the powerful wind You created ever pierced Your bones and made You shiver with cold? Have You ever needed a friend and then, when he came along, watched him turn against You?"

His answer to all these questions would have been, "No." But now, we can no longer wonder, because His love has answered our unasked questions — has desired to feel what our nature feels — endure our weaknesses and limitations of our sinner condition — shouldered our yoke and shuddered from the cold wind.

"The birds have nests and the foxes dens," He told His disciples, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His Head." (Luke 9:58) The realization that the love of Jesus shared and continues to share in our sorrows and pain, gives us that joy "no man can take away." Our continual Easter joy is mysteriously woven and interwoven with the cross.

The Christian experiences and lives a paradox. He possesses joy in sorrow, fulfillment in exile, light in darkness, peace in turmoil, consolation in dryness, contentment in pain and hope in desolation. A dedicated Christian has the ability to take the present

moment, look at it head on, recall the spirit of Jesus under similar circumstances and act accordingly. It is difficult, but He told us it would be, for the happiness He promised is beyond this life. We are given the opportunity to condition ourselves to live forever with Holiness Itself. Let us see how our daily lives and the life of Jesus parallel. Perhaps then it will be easier to change our lives accordingly.

In St. Matthew's Gospel we read that Jesus healed two demoniacs. These two men were possessed by demons, who begged Jesus to let them go into a herd of pigs rather than into hell — their eternal home and Jesus permitted them to go. The swineherdsmen were so shocked they ran into town to complain to the townspeople over the loss of their pigs. We see a strange reaction from the people — a reaction that baffles the mind and causes Jesus much pain.

Scripture tells us that these two men were fierce, violent men who were a constant source of fear to all people. The people's reaction to the healing should have been one of gratitude and love. However we read, "that whole town set out to meet Jesus and as soon as they saw Him they implored Him to leave the neighborhood." (Matt 8:34) They preferred their pigs to Jesus. They preferred that everything remain as it was if changing it cost them something. They were afraid of seeing divine Power at work. It meant





giving up their selfish ways and they preferred that God leave them alone.

There are many occasions in the life time of a Christian when acts of love and sacrifice are not appreciated — when the aged are made to feel they are in the way and when loved ones make one feel unwanted. When these occasions arise, the soul should relate that feeling to the deep hurt in the Heart of Jesus as He was told to go away. He felt as we do hurt and crushed, and He desires us to unite our pain to His and give it to the Father for the salvation of souls.

Prisoners too can relate to this incident in the life of Jesus in a special way. The two men who had been delivered from so many demons were ready to enter society once more — they paid dearly for their indulgence — they suffered from lack of dignity, respect and a total loss of hope — yet the joy they expected from the crowd was lacking. No one was impressed by their conversion. There were only complaints over the cost of that conversion.

The two men delivered by Jesus were delivered of violent, hateful demons, but were not the townspeople under the influence of the quiet demons of greed, ambition, self-indulgence and selfishness? We cannot imagine the state of each soul who pleaded that God's Son leave their town. It is ironic that the two who were so visibly possessed were freed by the power of Jesus and accepted His love, while those who were respected citizens asked the God of Mercy to leave them alone.

Can it be that we are all in a kind of prison? Is it possible that those who are in prison today, publicly punished for their violence and crimes, have the opportunity to change and turn to Jesus, accept His love and end up more free in heart and soul than those outside prison walls?

Repentance can make the rejected ones acceptable to God, while pride makes those accepted by the world and its standards, rejected by God. When we begin to build walls of prejudice, hatred, pride and self-indulgence around ourselves, we are more surely imprisoned than any prisoner behind concrete walls and iron bars. There are many imprisoned in this way for their entire lives — they never experience the freedom of the children of light — only the comfort of the false protection of darkness. The pain of changing frightens them and so they prefer their selfishness and complacency to Word of God or the healing power of His Cross.

*to be continued in the next issue.*

## LETTER

Dear Ronnie and Sam,

*I was just reading the latest issue of our Kapatiran (March & April '98). When I read about Ronnie touching base with EWTN, I was thrilled by this because I too, am a regular viewer of EWTN's show "Our Father's Plan". The show provides its viewers with a kit called the "Bible Time Line Band" which contains a diagram and a color guide on how to better understand the bible and this is of course explained by hosts Jeff Cavens and Dr. Scott Hahn.*

*Knowing now of our connection with EWTN, perhaps it would not be a far-fetched idea for Kapatiran to secure EWTN's permission to replicate and/or market the said kit for our BCBP members. This is because I have difficulty relating and linking the Old Testament books with each other and altogether with the New Testament. I can be certain that others too have this difficulty. Making the kit available will help us better appreciate our Father's plan for His people and salvation history.*

*Thank you and God bless you both and Kapatiran.*

In Christ,

Gina Esposito  
Greenhills Chapter

## BOOKSHELF

Some suggestions to read on your journey with Jesus

*Swatting the Mosquitoes of Marriage* by Marian V. Ljautaud, Editor. (Zondervan Publishing House, Michigan, c1994)

Subtitled "How to Keep Little Annoyances From Becoming a Big Deal" this highly interesting book contains short, easy-to-read selections from the pages of the magazine Marriage Partnership that can point the way to a happier and healthier marriage.

Main sections include the topics of Communication, Expectations, faith, Children, In-Laws, Individual Differences, Money, The Home, Romance, Sexuality, Work and Resolving Conflict. With issues discussed like 'What's your minimum daily faith requirement?', 'How do you feel about your in-laws?', 'Coming to terms with your differences' and 'What to do when sex isn't fun any more', you can be assured of time well spent whether in serious reading or in browsing for just a few minutes.

*The Truth About Trouble* by Michael Scanlan, T.O.R. with James Manney. (Servant Publications, Ann Arbor, Michigan, c1989)

Fr. Scanlan believes that your everyday problems can lead to greater maturity and intimacy with God, especially in the areas of discerning God's will for your life, discovering an inner peace, making real change in your life possible, and knowing what's important, even in busy times.

This short book, a most practical, realistic help to ongoing victorious union with Christ, should be MUST reading in combating that dry period which sometimes comes after the first burst of enthusiasm. It is also recommended for action group leaders, service team heads and parents, in fact, for all of us who deal with people — in the BCBP, the family, the parish, and/or the marketplace.



 NATIONAL

# Mission and Chapter Life directors' retreats zero in on specifics

Retreats for mission and chapter life directors were held on June 19-21 and July 3-4 at the Blessed Joseph Marella Retreat House in Tagaytay, respectively, which enabled both major service areas to zero in on their specific chores.

Fr. Herb Schneider, BCBP Spiritual Director, and who facilitated both retreats, gave the directors meditation spiels anchoring on Scriptural passages and establishing correlations with their respective jobs as provided for in the BCBP policy directives.

In the mission directors retreat, Fr. Herb discussed the meaning of evangelization from the perspective of both the Scriptures and the BCBP and then defining how this fits in the MD's responsibilities. This was followed by the outlining of evangelistic events and how these are to be addressed by the mission directors. Discussions were focused on the two BCBP evangelistic activities, the BCLP and the Breakfast, and how these two can be further enhanced in order to make it more meaningful and get quality recruits.

Fr. Herb moved in to elaborate on the mission directors gifts as potent instruments in the fulfillment of their job.

The chapter life directors on their part enumerated the essential elements of their position as they see them. Next was to formulate means to achieve these essentials, and among these, they identified their biggest challenge which in the past, present or future situations is posing as a deterrent in their function.

In connection with this, the directors identified as their foremost challenge is the matter of keeping members and providing them with quality community life. Towards this end, they drew up a picture of a mature BCBP member as their target model, and then identify which among the existing programs are to be prioritized in order to achieve this model target. On top of this, the chapter life directors agreed that the action group, as BCBP's fundamental unit, had to be strengthened and should be the initial concentration of efforts.



Mission directors from all over the country converged in Tagaytay for a retreat and discussed the specifics of their responsibilities.


 BAGUIO


Photo shows the members of the newly organized Baguio City Ladies Breakfast with Lally dela Cruz (standing at the center second row) as first sharer. The breakfast is held every 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month.



The Baguio City Outreach male members posing for a souvenir with Art Dela Cruz (standing 2nd from right) Outreach Mission Head. Photo was taken after one of its breakfasts which are held at the Baguio Prime Hotel every 2nd and 4th Saturdays.





## 2nd Luzon Confab checks on "Dagdag-Bawas"



The Second Luzon Council Conference rolled off last June 26-28 at the Star Plaza Hotel in Dagupan City with the theme "Dagdag-Bawas": a BCBP Scenario.

According to Tito Larry, Luzon Council managing director and who coined the conference's theme, the conference was aimed at addressing one of the BCBP's pressing concern, that is, to get quality recruits (dagdag) and address the prevailing exodus of (bawas) some members from the community.

He specifically noted that some members have come to join the BCBP not knowing specifically what we are here for, which eventually results into fall outs. In relation to this, the issue of retention comes into fore which necessitates a review of our existing programs.

The conference, facilitated by Manolet Siojo, former BCBP-Greenhills chapter head, started with a mid-year review of chapter and outreach activities. The exercise was to determine if the key priority areas (KPA) established in January during the first Luzon confab in Baguio, were being put in place.

These key priority areas were enumerated as: leadership development, sense of mission, sense of community, integration of family, and inter-chapter synergy.

Then the Luzon chapter and outreach heads proceeded by formulating action plans to address the "dagdag-bawas" issue. In the process they defined retention of members, evaluated the existing programs and advocated the development of more thorough leadership program.



It was established that the strength or weakness of the action group predisposes the retention factor. This means that right at the level of the action group the intensity of awareness of specific and general thrust of the Brotherhood had to be clearly defined. This has to include evangelization process, growth programs, leadership development and involvement in service. A synchronization of mission and chapter life activities within the chapter and with other chapters had to be likewise established.

The conference participants enjoyed the hospitality given by the host chapter led by its head, Teddy Siapno. A get-together fellowship with a short program entertainment culminated the activities on Saturday night.

*Top left. Tito Larry delivering his welcome address. Top right. Manolet Siojo facilitating the confab. Below. Participants in discussion. Bottom, Ted Siapno briefing the participants*



## Alabang marks 14th anniversary

BCBP Alabang celebrated its 14th anniversary with a joint breakfast last April 25 at Alabang Country Club Ballroom which featured former chapter heads Louie Morales and Pete Padre as sharers.

Louie and Pete, who played key roles in the birth and early growth of the chapter, recalled some memorable and interesting events that took place since the birth of BCBP Alabang. They were later followed by current chapter head, Charlie Carballo who then continued the "walk through memory lane" up to the present.

The joint breakfast was preceded by a Eucharistic celebration officiated by Msgr. Luigi B. Balquedra of the St. James the Great Parish Church.

Former and old timer members of Alabang, together with some members of the National Council and other members from Metro chapters were in attendance to grace the occasion.

In commemoration of the centennial year, attendees were required to come in Filipino attire. The event was capped by a musical program.







WHO IS JESUS CHRIST?



## ROTHERHOOD OF CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN & PROFESSIONALS ORMOC OUTREACH 'LETS PUT JESUS IN THE MARKET PLACE'



Ormoc Outreach started their BCLP-4 last February 21, 1998 at Pongos Hotel and were blessed with 55 participants with course leader Jun/Mila Capahi and Dr. Ansing/Perla Malazarte as head servants.

## Ormoc outreach head at Mactan breakfast

Taking a cue from a subtle invitation to share, as published in Taytayan, Ormoc Outreach Head Mayong and Jenet Rodriguez willingly took some precious moments from their family, business and busy work schedules to answer the call and shared at Mactan Breakfast last June 20 at Flormont Hotel.

Mayong, a medical practitioner and businessman, Jenet, likewise a businesswoman; were proudly introduced by Ted Oliva who served as the couple's course leader of BCLP #2. in Ormoc. The Mayong couple were the first sharers from the Ormoc Outreach.



## Centennial commitment

The day after the Philippines' Grand Centennial Celebration, 95 BCLP 8 participants of Mactan, Mandaue and Single's Groups simultaneously signed the white and yellow cards during a Commitment Ceremony on the evening of June 13, at the Sacred Heart Center, Cebu City.

The 95 newly-committed members were made up of 22 couples; 21 missing links; and 30 singles.

The ceremony opened with a celebration of a Mass officiated by Rev. Fr. Ely Santos, after which the commitment rites followed. Mission Director, Nelson Dauz, officially welcomed the new brothers and sisters to the BCBP. The new members were received and escorted by the action group leaders to specifically assigned dinner tables where other members were graciously waiting for them. This new welcoming tradition received a rousing acceptance by all.

The evening festivities was spiced up by presentation of numbers from the different groups.

### MACTAN GROUP

Eton and Veronica Apao  
Michael and Lanie Berdin  
Tex and Julie Bulambot  
Mario and Virgie Campanon  
Ted and Aida Castillo  
Iggy and Fe Enerio  
Einer and Letlet Ganir  
Mon and Leila Lapina  
Elflido and Brenda Obach  
Mer and Chuchi Quijano  
Harry and Monique Rodriguez  
Romy Labayan  
Calvin Mercado  
Art Paalisbo  
Jun Pusta  
Juliet Apacible  
Joy Calayag  
Gemma Leyva

### Singles' Group: (Men)

Joel Casilan  
Mandy Diaz  
Macky Padul  
Ferdie Vano  
Jun Abellanosa  
Jun-Jun Torre  
Nestor Diana  
Chris Chan  
Gerard Mapare

### MANDAUE GROUP

Rey and Aida Amora  
Butch and Marilyn Bascar  
Chito and Flora Cabaron  
Maning and Miriam Conejos  
Rene and Belen Hermoso  
Dodong and Ida Mencias  
Lloyd and Reina Perez  
Ricky and Tess Sanchez  
Dodong and Dylene Samillo  
Mar and Bebot Sequino  
Roy Allan Bongbong  
Riel Cana  
Joe Dabon  
Nilo Despi  
Richard Loren  
Gino Yap  
Jo Dajao  
Villa Croonen

Helen Herrera  
Linda Oliva  
Stella Vemaiz  
Irma Bautista  
Al Bacalso  
Gaga Galindez

### Singles' Group: (Ladies)

Jewel Alipala  
Rose Amado  
Lorme Baay  
Alice Bollozos  
Ging Ging Cole  
Dotie Echavez  
Gina Gamica  
Jade Go  
Namay Gonzales  
Jimadel Jimenez  
Raisen Jimenez  
Beth Lenares  
Riza Navera  
Susan Paquibot  
Liza Rebusa  
Sarah Recla  
Sel Reseloza  
Wena Reseloza  
Joy Sagarino  
Dalou Salitrero

## Welcome!



## MANILA



Left. Manila Outreach had its first birthday as a full-pledged outreach after a very long wait last May 30. Photo shows Manila Outreach joined in by its mother chapter Makati in prayer just at the start of the celebration.

Right. Still in Manila, their first anniversary celebration coincided with the 18th national anniversary. Mactan Chapter Head Casi with wife Emma Nadela sharing. Simultaneous breakfast all over Metro Manila BCBP venues were held during the national anniversary with members from the provinces as sharers.

## TACLOBAN

## It's 4th for Tacloban

BCBP Tacloban celebrated its 4th anniversary on March 14 with a breakfast at their new venue, Casa Anson, with the outreach's first head Noling and Deling Cordeta as sharers.

The members of the outreach then proceeded to MacArthur Park Beach Resort where a Mass was held celebrated by Fr. Gerry de los Reyes, outreach chaplain. Some members gave testimonies of their spiritual growth and maturity in the BCBP.

A sumptuous lunch was served for everybody followed by a program participated in by several members.

A mock-rally of presidentiables with notable mimicry, peppered with punchlines was presented by Unit I followed by a medley of Christian Music, Oldies, and Waray songs by Unit II accentuated by spontaneous dancing and Tinikling exhibition by Sis. Nena Ramo.

Community singing, games organized by Sis. Peachy Cinco, and awarding of prizes capped the day-long celebration.

## GREENHILLS

## Ladies Luncheon's 13th year

The Greenhills Ladies Luncheon celebrated its 13th anniversary at Camp Aguinaldo Officers Club last May 21, 1998.

Catching on with the centennial fever, the occasion was dubbed as "Ika 100 taon alay sa Iyo Panginoon". Everyone was requested to wear Filipino attire. Furthermore, attendees were "prohibited" from

speaking the English language which proved to be too hard for Johnny Filart, who spent a good number of years in the States, and his mother, Pacita, to cope with during their "couple" sharing. The event was attended by some members of the National Council led by BCBP president Manny Banigan.







**Ronnie Caballero.** Accessing the resources of Internet cyberspace opens up exciting new dimensions for the Kapatiran, believes Ronnie as he begins serializing one of Mother Angelica's mini books. Ronnie has now fully gotten into the Kapatiran action, and is completely at the helm particularly in this issue where his editorship, leadership and knowledge are manifested in the pages. He encourages BCBP members to send in their comments on how Kapatiran can be further improved. It is, after all, your magazine. "Let our members, our readers, have their presence in the Kapatiran", Ronnie says.



**Nancy Catan.** After relinquishing editorship of the Kapatiran where she served for eight years, Nancy felt she needed a good break. She didn't get a break, she got a vacation! All of three months and won't be back until mid-September. She now enjoys the company of her mother at northern New York State, USA. Nancy wrote that she "doesn't do much but catch up on all the news, cross stitch, do crossword and jigsaw puzzles." Now that's what I call a va-ca-tion. Like a true-blooded Kapatiran, Nancy said, "I have collected several bits and pieces that perhaps we can use for future Kapatiran issues." She's still at it, and that's great!



**Eddie Mendoza.** A prolific reader and writer as well as a busy business executive and BCBP Greenhills chapter head, Eddie enjoys sharing his faith and marketplace experiences with others. A truly gifted man in many respects, Eddie shares these blessings with everyone he meets, especially to brothers and sisters in the Brotherhood. And in spite of his already very tight schedule, Eddie together with wife Daisy still find time to be at every BCBP function including speaking engagements with different chapters and outreaches.



**Fernando de Larrazabal.** At his age, one wonders where Tito Larry gets his energy attending to all the needs of the Luzon Council where he serves as its director. "Where else but from God, the absolute source of energy", he confidently answered. Just recently, he and wife Tita Olga, motored up to Dagupan where the Luzon Council conference was held. Although he aired some health concerns after the two-day activity, he nevertheless expressed happiness and gratitude for God has not "retired" him from his service and still finds ways to make use of him. Hallelujah!



**Sammy M. Ulanday.** A "permanent fixture" at BCBP activities, as one might say, Sammy can be seen in most community-wide occasions in the Brotherhood. Wearing two hats, he doubles up as a "support group" to the National Council and Chapter heads being the BCBP SecGen, and acts as the official photographer and reporter for Kapatiran where he serves as the associate editor. With Nancy enjoying her vacation, would Sammy gets his soon? Maybe not, not after the president, Manny, gets his.



**Annie Salvador.** After taking off with husband and 5 kids and 8 other families into the unknown "wilderness" and surviving joyfully and serenely, Annie finds herself back into reality again. In this issue, she tackles one of the most sensitive chores every parent would have in the profession of rearing children. Annie found herself explaining the reality of death to her children. But as a truly gifted mother, she used the most potent solution to the situation - love, and hopes that her children will cope up and will be alright soon. More power and love to you Annie!



**Nitz Butao.** A member of the Butuan BCBP outreach, she writes a weekly column for the Northern Mindanao Chronicle. We missed Nitz's sharing of bits and pieces from her scrapbook of inspiring thoughts and quotations in this issue. Maybe her piece got caught in the traffic somewhere. We'll hear from Nitz again in the future issues.



**Cynthia Matas.** We likewise missed Cynthia's "Musings" in this issue. Her four children and husband Dioko, an active military officer, has inspired her to write and has kept a personal reflection journal for years. Based in Sangley Point, Cavite she and Dioko are unit leaders in the Cavite City outreach where she also serves in the teaching and formation ministry of the outreach. Hopefully, she won't be too busy to enable her to send us her article for the next issue.

# At the feet of Love

Like Martha  
reason is  
troubled  
and complains  
of many things:  
like Mary  
faith sits silent  
and listens  
at the feet of  
love.

E.A. Gloeggler



Have you an inspiring episode with the Lord?  
Send it to us.  
Who knows, your narration could be  
someone's salvation.



# The BCBP Breakfast

## THE SPIRIT OF THE BCBP BREAKFAST

*The Breakfast is unique to the BCBP. 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 breakfast" evolved a potent renewal organization, the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals.*



*The Breakfast is a basic entry point for personal renewal. This is an important objective of the breakfast. It must continue to be the easiest way to a person's search for spiritual renewal. The simplicity of form and the effective delivery of the Gospel message through the "sharing" are key to the painless introduction of a businessman or professional to the door of Christian renewal.*

*The Breakfast is a means to continue upbuilding the members of the BCBP. The breakfast attendance is not an "option" for BCBP members but rather a commitment to the evangelistic culture of the BCBP. As members we are bound to not only evangelize in the breakfast but equally important to "fellowship, share and upbuild" our brothers and sisters through attendance and participation in the breakfasts. This is an inherent part of the BCBP culture which we have sworn to propagate in the marketplace. Every breakfast where we share our work experience with one another strengthens and upbuilds our members. This confirms the support that they are not alone in the resolve to actively bring Christ to our marketplace.*

### MEN'S BREAKFAST (7:30 A.M.)

Wednesdays - MAKATI: Makati Sports Club

Thursdays - GREENHILLS: Club Filipino, Greenhills VILLAMOR: Villamor Golf Club (1st & 3rd)

Fridays - MANILA: Racks, Remedios Circle, Malate, Manila

Saturdays

ALABANG: Ayala Alabang Country Club, Mustinlupa

BACOLOD NORTH: Roli's La Salle, Bacolod

BACOLOD SOUTH: McDonald's

BAGUIO: Prime Hotel, Session Rd., Baguio (2nd & 4th Sat.)

BAYBAY: Angelicum (1st & 2nd Sat.)

BUKIDNON: Tacpan Restaurant, Valencia (1st Sat.) Hotel Malibu Malaybalay (3rd Sat.)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Paulo's Restaurant, Cagayan de Oro

CALAMBA: Max's Restaurant

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

DAVAO: Terraza Millesa (1st, 2nd & 3rd Sat.)

ILIGAN: Sunburst Restaurant

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel

LAS PIÑAS: Italia Club 500, BF Resort, Laís Pillas

LEGASPI: Albay Hotel, Legaspi City (2nd Sat.)

LUCENA: Halina Hotel & Rest., P. Gomez, Lucena City (1st & 3rd Sat.)

MACTAN: Flormont Hotel, Cebu City

PARANAQUE: The Village Restaurant, Cabarus cor. Palanca, BF

PUERTO PRINCESA: Seafont Restaurant

QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill, 119 Rocas Avenue cor. Morato

RIZAL: View Square, Sumulong Highway, Antipolo

ROXAS: Kanami Restaurant



*The Mission Directors on retreat. Breakfast, like BCLP, is their responsibility.*

TACLOBAN: Don's Cabin, Justice Jimenez St. (2nd & 4th Sat.)

TAGBILARAN: La Roca Hotel

MEN'S LUNCHEON (12:00 NN)

Saturday - DAGUPAN: Celebrity House, Arellano St.

MEN'S MERIENDA (4:00 P.M.)

Saturday - TUGUEGARAO: Marilyn's Restaurant (2nd & 4th Sat.)

LADIES' BREAKFAST

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

Thursdays - GREENHILLS: Club Filipino, Greenhills San Juan (3rd Thurs.)

Saturdays

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

BACOLOD NORTH: Jollibee, Bacolod City (3rd Sat.)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Tri Nanang, Corales St. (2nd & 3rd Sat.)

CEBU: Ding Qua-Qua Restaurant (3rd Sat.)

DAVAO: Terraza Millesa (4th Sat.)

ILOILO: Amigo Terraces Hotel (last Sat.)

LAS PIÑAS: Italia Club 500 (3rd Sat.)

LEGASPI: Albay Hotel (4th Sat.)

MACTAN: Flormont Hotel (2nd Sat.)

PARANAQUE: The Village Restaurant (4th Sat.)

QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill (2nd Sat.)

ROXAS: Kanami Restaurant

RIZAL: View Square, Sumulong, Antipolo (1st Sat.)

TACLOBAN: Don's Cabin (2nd Sat.)

TAGBILARAN: La Roca Hotel (3rd Sat.)

JOINT BREAKFAST (7:30 A.M.)

Wednesdays - MAKATI: Makati Sports Club (1st Weds.)

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

Fridays - MANILA: Racks Restaurant, Malate, Manila

Saturdays

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

BUTUAN: Echelon Hotel (2nd & 4th Sat.)

BACOLOD NORTH: Roli's La Salle (4th Sat.)

BACOLOD SOUTH: McDonald's (4th Sat.)

BAYBAY: Angelicum Parish Hall (2nd & 4th Sun.)

CAGAYAN DE ORO: Silver Court, Capt. Vicente Roa St., CDO (3rd Sat.)

CAVITE: Emperor Restaurant, Cavite City (3rd Sat.)

CEBU: Ding Qua-Qua Restaurant (3rd Sat.)

DAGUPAN: Celebrity House, Arellano ST. (3rd Sat.)

DAVAO: Terraza Millesa (2nd Sat.)

DIPOLOG: Top Plaza Hotel (2nd & 4th Sat.)

DUMAGUETE: Bethel Rest House (1st & 3rd Sat.)

LAS PIÑAS: Italia Club 500 (1st Sat.)

LEGASPI: Albay Hotel, Legaspi City (2nd Sat.)

MAASIN: Valtevan Restaurant, Leyte (1st, & 3rd Sun.)

MACTAN: Flormont Hotel (4th Sat.)

ORMOC: Pongos Hotel (2nd & 3rd Sat.)

OZAMIZ: Supremix Restaurant (1st & 3rd Sat.)

PARANAQUE: The Village Restaurant, BF (2nd Sat.)

QUEZON CITY: Terrace Grill (4th Sat.)

RIZAL: View Square, Sumulong, Antipolo (3rd Sat.)

SAN FERNANDO: Cafe Rustico, Olongapo-Gapan Rd.

SAN JOSE: Regina's Restaurant (1st & 3rd Sun.)

TACLOBAN: Don's Cabin (4th Sat.)

TAGBILARAN: JF's Seafood Village (2nd & 4th Sat.)

TAGUM: Molave Restaurant (1st & 3rd Sat.)

TUBIGON: Parish Palao Hall (1st & 3rd Sat.)

TUGUEGARAO: Marilyn Restaurant (2nd & 4th Sat.)



# THE BCBP COUNTRY

