

BCBP @ 30!



KAPATIRAN

M A G A Z I N E

March-June 2010

*“Rejoicing and Winning the Marketplace
for CHRIST”*



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Editor's Note

Rejoice and Win the Marketplace!

30 years!!! A reason to celebrate for all of us! And celebrate we did in Davao, April 23 and 24, enjoying a wonderful weekend of fellowship, inspiration, bonding, worship, eating, and making new friends. We decided not to have a March issue of the KAPATIRAN so we could have a larger Anniversary Issue featuring the highlights of the weekend. Thus, this issue includes the three Grand Breakfast Sharings, messages and reflections from our regular columnists Bobby Atendido, Larry Veloso, and Ronnie Caballero.

One of the significant innovations in this year's anniversary were the breakout sessions following the Grand Breakfast. The men heard three BCBP brothers talk about 'Work As Worship', followed by comments and discussion. The ladies listened to four BCBP women speak on "The Challenge of Being a BCBP Woman", followed by short comments by other women. Due to space constraints we are unable to share the rapporteurs' comments in this issue; however, you may find them on the BCBP website.

Throughout this issue there are numerous pictures selected from the more than 500 pictures taken by our able and 'masipag' Loy Judan. You may view other pictures and videos of the different events on the BCBP Community Portal website, www.bcbp-phil.com.

We encourage you to regularly visit the BCBP website for news, pictures, schedule updates, sharings and articles on a variety of subjects. Please feel free to add your comments at the end of each article, sharing, column, or news item that interests you in the space provided. We look forward to hearing from you.

– Nancy R. Catan

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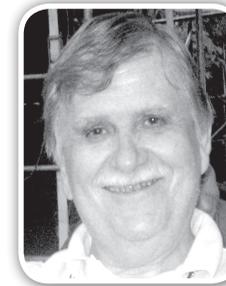
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Message

Continue the Life of Discipleship in the Marketplace



Congratulations to all on our 30th anniversary. The past thirty years have seen a tremendous expansion of the Brotherhood from a single breakfast at the Makati Sports Club to the many breakfasts throughout the country. The past thirty years have also brought to light the need for ongoing conversion to the Lord and for continuous learning and growth in our life of discipleship in the marketplace and the professions.

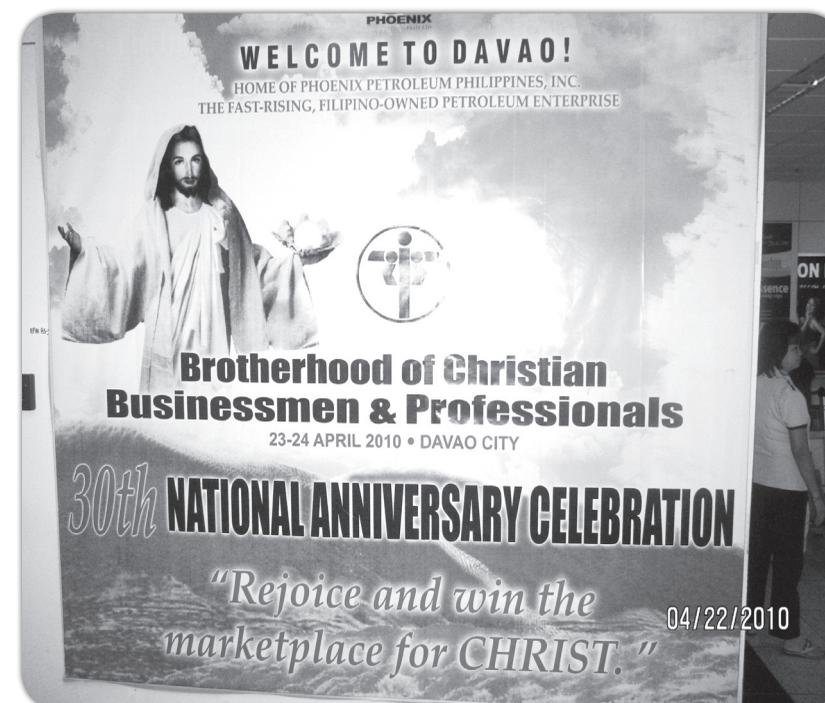
Groups that were strong and vibrant in the beginning have grown old and tired over the years. Others have lost direction and have strayed from the Vision and Mission of the BCBP. While yet others have grown in their ability to serve in line with the BCBP's Vision and Mission and are stronger and more vibrant today than when they first began. The difference, I believe, is a constant return to the basics through a life of ongoing conversion, striving for excellence in terms of integrity, transparency, and professional competence. We never graduate from the Lord's school of discipleship.

It is my hope and prayer that all of us in the BCBP would make this thirtieth year a year of going back to our beginnings to study our Vision and Mission as enshrined in the BCBP Community Manual. I believe it was Peter Drucker who said: "Do first things first and second things not at all." With the Lord's help let us again do

BCBP first things first and second things not at all in order to glorify the Lord in the marketplace and the professions, to win other businessmen and professionals for Christ and together make progress to win the marketplace for Christ.

Congratulations BCBP!

HERBERT SCHNEIDER, S.J.
BCBP Spiritual Director





Random Insights

By Bobby A. Atendido, BOT Chairman

Where to, BCBP?

The 30th Pearl Anniversary of BCBP held in Davao last month of April was a grand and joyous celebration of God's faithfulness to the Brotherhood. The worship was awesome. The songs we sang were all uplifting. Our worship leader Bro. Larry was spirit-inspired. The breakfast sharings were testimonies of Christ's victory in the marketplace. And of course, the fruits that were served we savored, sweet and even sweeter. The lechong baka and tuna sashimi disappeared as quickly as they were served. Everybody had their fill. Indeed, we all felt close to and loved by the Lord during the weekend of celebrations.

Thank you Davao Chapter for organizing the anniversary celebrations and making sure that everyone enjoyed his/her stay in your wonderful city of Davao. While durian could not be brought into the venue, many could not be denied as they went out of their way to seek and eat this awesome fruit.

BCBP must remain close and intimate with Jesus if we are to continue to grow as a community in the future.

Thirty years is indeed a long long time to be together as a community. We thank the Lord for our Pearl Anniversary and also Fr. Herb for shepherding all of us through the years. Just like the mustard seed that was planted 30 years ago by a small group of breakfasters, BCBP has grown and has spread its branches throughout the country, providing

refuge and strength to many brothers and sisters. We thank the Lord for being with us all this time. Thanks to the Holy Spirit who has been our source of power, guidance, and wisdom. It is a humbling thought to realize how the Lord has not only embraced us in spite of our sinfulness but has empowered us to go forth into the marketplace and win it for his glory.

As we ponder tomorrow, we have to ask ourselves "Where to BCBP?"

I believe that whatever direction and initiatives that the BCBP will take in the future,



we cannot deviate from the message that rang loud and clear throughout the anniversary—"Abide in Jesus and we will bear much fruit." BCBP must remain close and intimate with Jesus if we are to continue to grow as a community in the future. From the discussions we had in our action group, to the scriptures and prophecies shared during the Friday worship assembly and on to the homily during the anniversary Eucharistic celebration, the message was the same. Our Bro. Jun Saret of Bulacan Chapter even raised the question "Is the Spirit of Jesus in you?" during the Friday assembly. Indeed, we can only hope to grow if we continue to be attached to the Vine that is Jesus. Without him, all the branches that we have nurtured through the 30 years of existence of BCBP will wither and die. And so we must never forget the reason why the BCBP flourished in the first place – it was because of Jesus. He is the purpose of it all.

For those whose commitment is wavering, our advice is to go back to the basics. Ask yourself: How is my relationship with Jesus? How is my prayer time? How is my scripture reading? It is Jesus who gives us our identity as BCBP members. If this connection with Him is lost, I am not surprised at all why members fall away from the community, why some chapters are having a dry spell, why members are hesitant taking on leadership positions. Jesus is the answer, nay the only answer. Let us abide in him and He will nourish and reinvigorate our life as a community.

The answer to the question "Where to, BCBP?" then is very clear: It is to Jesus, with Jesus, in Jesus.

May our BCBP community continue to glorify the name of Jesus in the next 30 years. God bless us all. 





Listen to Him

By Larry Veloso, BCBP President

The Lord is clearly telling us to go back to the basics – the essence of being a Christian is an intimate personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

In 1980, the BCBP came into existence in response to the Lord's call to bring Christ into the marketplace and win the businesses and professions for Christ.

This year, by the grace of God, we are celebrating our 30th Anniversary as a community. We cannot help but marvel at what the Lord has done through the years- growing the BCBP from a single breakfast meeting in Makati 30 years ago into what it is today, an evangelistic community with chapters and outreaches in most of the commercial centers of our country and even in California, USA. Indeed, this is a time to rejoice and celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness through the years, a time to thank the Lord for His steadfast love and generosity.

However, while the Lord has been faithful through the years, have we been faithful to His call for us to win the marketplace for Christ? Have we gone out of our way to invite and evangelize the businessmen and professionals who can make a difference in the marketplace in our respective areas? Have we made ourselves available to serve Him when / where He called us to serve? Have we given the Lord our best in

Do You Have A Personal Relationship with Jesus?

terms of our time, talent and resources?

During our BOT/ Mancom meeting held before our 30th National Anniversary celebration in Davao City, our Area Managing Directors confirmed that the BCBP is currently having a leadership crisis in a majority of our Chapters and Outreaches nationwide. Some Chapter leaders are serving beyond their term while other leaders are just transferring from one leadership position to another due to a lack of new leaders to take over. Some Chapters that used to be strong and vibrant have grown tired and have lost the passion and zeal to evangelize. Although, there are also some Chapters that are stronger and more vibrant today than they were before.

What is the reason behind this leadership crisis in our community? One major reason is that many of our leaders, although still serving, have somehow lost their personal contact with our Lord Jesus Christ. Many of our leaders no longer have the intimate personal relationship with our Lord Jesus. We still pray, but the regular quality time alone at the feet of Jesus, to be nourished and nurtured by our Lord, has been lost.



Our Lord must be so concerned with the current crisis in our BCBP Community that He decided to speak to us very clearly during our 30th National Anniversary Celebration in Davao. In the 22 years that I have been attending our BCBP National Anniversary celebrations, I do not recall the Lord speaking to the whole community as clearly as he did during our 30th NAC in Davao. With the whole BCBP Community coming together as one people to rejoice and celebrate God's blessings of the past 30 years and to recommit ourselves to be faithful to His call for us to win the marketplace for Christ, the Lord honored us by being with us and speaking to us clearly during our celebration: unless you have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, you cannot be a Christian businessman or professional and you cannot win the marketplace for Christ. In other words, unless you are connected to the Lord Jesus and have the spirit of the Lord Jesus in you, you cannot be His disciple and you cannot bear fruit for the Lord.

The Lord is clearly telling us to go back to the basics – the essence of being a Christian is an intimate personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. We learned this during our BCLP but many of us have either forgotten it or taken it for granted. The most basic and most important commitment we have in our commitment card is our daily prayer time and scripture reading time, our

time alone with our Lord Jesus – time to develop that intimate personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. Again, many of us have taken this for granted resulting in our becoming disconnected from the Lord.

Brothers and sisters, the Lord has spoken and has given us the direction on what our priority should be. Let us heed His voice and go back to the basics. Let us give priority

to establishing an intimate personal relationship with the Lord Jesus, remaining focused and connected to Him and becoming more and more like Jesus each day.

My prayer is that when we come together again as one BCBP Community to worship and praise the Lord on the occasion of our 31st National Anniversary, the Lord will see a stronger and more vibrant BCBP, full of passion and zeal in fulfilling the Vision and Mission that the Lord has given us.

May our Blessed Mother lead us all into an intimate personal relationship with her son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOD BLESS THE BCBP! 





Grand Breakfast Sharing, NAC Davao

By Jun Saret, BCBP Bulacan

Letting God Work On Our Farm

Maayong Buntag and Happy 30th Anniversary. Isang pong malugod na pagbati mula sa Bulacan Chapter. Thank you for this opportunity to share today.

I am grateful to my parents who strongly encouraged all their children to join them in the activities of their community - Ang Ligaya ng Panginoon. Consequently, all of us were exposed to the community way of life since 1980. Before I attended my first Christian Life Program, I thought Jesus was a distant God and Christianity was just a set of rules to keep or about living a good life so that I could go to heaven. As a young man, however, I still tried the many supposedly exciting adventures that lured young people. But, nothing could be compared to the joy I experienced when I surrendered my life to God!

Being immersed in community life, I was exposed to serving God and others first. We were trained in servant leadership and to always seek God's guidance through prayer and scripture. Unconsciously, my training here helped me grow, not only in my spirituality, but in my professional endeavors as well. God led me to apply to my work what I was taught in community and treated my job as a service to God. As I trusted Him more deeply, He developed me to go for bigger challenges. With greater responsibilities, came greater love for God and knowledge of His ways.

"I believe God wants us to experience the TRUTH of His WORD and be His agents of righteousness in our places of influence. I am convinced that being God's witness is not an option or something I must try to do over time."

My work in Pascual Laboratories and my relocation to Balagtas, Bulacan were big blessings to me. I met my wife Nancy there and became involved in BCBP Bulacan. Career wise, I rose from the ranks up to my current position as Vice-president for Supply Group (Supply Chain Management, Manufacturing, Product & Process Development, New Business Initiative and Herbal R&D) and Chief Innovation Officer. Additionally, I was designated as President of Leonie Agri Corporation, a plantation of medicinal herbs based in Nueva Ecija.

On my first promotion as Plant Manager, I sought out opportunities to bring Christ into my place of work. For example, we always started our meetings and company affairs with a prayer. Our Plant HR conducted "compulsory" Life in the Spirit Seminar (LSS) for new employees and values formation seminars and religious activities as part of our Human Resource Development

Programs in the manufacturing plant. We cleaned up all our transactions with government agencies, suppliers and contractors; we correctly paid taxes and strictly complied with regulatory requirements.

I could not forget someone who was trying to pin us down for allegedly not paying the right real estate taxes. I shared my faith and explained to him that we practice truthful business practices and dealt with him transparently. In



that particular case, our municipal assessor and even the mayor intervened for us because they knew that we declared everything correctly during annual inspections. We even discovered that our company - being a manufacturer of essential commodities, should have been enjoying a 50% discount in municipal tax. Thus, it came out that the government in fact owed us due to excess tax payments.

In order to live out Pascual Laboratories' corporate value of moral uprightness, God sends people who could help us. Our Facilities Engineering supervisor even entered politics in reaction to the threats of annoying firemen. He is also a member of BCBP and now the vice mayor of Balagtas, Bulacan.

My wife- Nancy, and I treasure our lives in BCBP. We don't only value our personal relationship with Jesus but also enjoy the new friendships that are constantly being developed. And, we have decided that our household would serve the Lord wholeheartedly. We thank God because the various programs of BCBP have been a big support in preserving a God centered family life. We dream of seeing our children- Paul, Ruth and

Andrew, love the Lord with great passion and are fired up to share their faith with others.

We try to live out the Word of God in our lives - embodied as a different '*way of life*' that we practice in the BCBP.

God is convicting Nancy and me through scriptures that we must participate in His mission as "fishers of men". During a one-to-one dialogue, the readings from Mathew 28:19 came strongly to us, that is: "*Go, then, to all peoples and make them my disciples... And I will be with you always*". Thus, when God brings people across our path, Nancy and I always consider that He wants to work on their lives. That's our partnership; she invites friends, neighbors, officemates, suppliers and customers to the Breakfasts, while I talk to them about God and BCBP. Our love for God is our greatest motivation in inviting people. Nothing else we do will ever matter as much as leading people to establish a deeper personal relationship with God. I feel privileged that Pascual Laboratories Inc has become the regular venue of BCBP activities in Bulacan. Also, together with BCBP





brothers and sisters in our subdivision, we initiated weekly masses and led the construction of a chapel at Rocka Executive Village, to bring the Church into our neighborhood.

I am convinced that our life in community is part of something bigger. **Col. 1:16** says, **“everything got started in God and finds its purpose in Him”**. When I prayed about the additional responsibilities that our top management was giving me as the president of our herbal farm subsidiary – Leonie Agri Corporation (LAC) on December 2006, in addition to my concurrently handling 6 different functions as Vice-President of Pascual Laboratories, I was complaining to God. You see, town folks called LAC’s main farm at Sta Rosa Nueva Ecija as “LUPANG ISINUMPA” because the land was very dry and unfertile. The place was far and the road going there was rough. The company also had labor problems and business was unprofitable. I prayed harder and sensed God was assuring me through the readings in **2 Chronicles 31:21** that **“He is pleased to prosper those who serve the Lord with all his heart”**. Being touched by God’s words, I resolved to love this additional work and the people God would bring to me. I offered to God these responsibilities and sought His guidance in implementing the principles I learned from the BCBP Businessmen’s Retreat.

My first order to our Farm manager was to attend the BCLP of BCBP Cabanatuan. Then, we conducted spiritual type team building

sessions and trained our staff in the concepts of Entrepreneurship and Total Quality Management. God inspired us through Psalm 23- **“the Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I want”** to continue implementing organic farming methods although it seemed impractical due to our poor soil condition. So, we relied on God!

In everything we did we started with prayer, dedicating our farm to the Lord and

declaring Jesus as our ultimate boss. We saw the transformation that no human effort could possibly do. We were able to convert our farmer cooperative into self-directed business teams that gave our management staff more time in developing new systems. We applied an integrated organic agriculture system. In between rows of Lagundi and Sambong herbs, we raised vegetables and livestock. This practice enabled us to go beyond our regular business mandate; we were able to promote biodiversity and offer healthier food to people as well.

As I sensed during a prayer time, I suggested naming the farthest end of the farm as Isaiah 43:19. It reads, **“I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland...to give to my people so that they may praise me, says the Lord.”** After doing that, we were able to afford renting a bulldozer to clean up the hard to reach arid areas. There we discovered several ugly trees lined up near our perimeter fence. A visitor told us those were Bangkal trees with deep roots that sip water underground. Hence, to address the lack of water, our employees dug and interconnected the ponds coming from those Bangkal Trees, which became almost a kilometer long man-made stream. We called the opposite end of the stream where the last Bangkal tree is located as ‘Salmo Uno’. Today, the nearby river outside has dried up due to El Nino but the water level of our stream has been maintained. We use it for irrigation.

Our employees are continuously beautifying unpleasant places of the farm. They have inscribed bible verses on rocks and wood planks, which eventually became names of roadways and rest areas thus overtly proclaiming God’s words. For example, we named the major road as Beatitudes. Our people have already memorized the verses because they could read them as they pass by. Many visitors were touched by the biblical passages and how these were presented at finely landscaped areas.

By relying on God’s promises and using organic farming methods, the barren land has become fertile and now is 10 times more productive than its 2007 level. Thus, our business became profitable (Return on Total Assets in 2009 was 159%). More importantly, LAC was able to meet the fast growing orders of Pascuallab, thereby supporting the high growth of its natural medicine products - Ascof and Releaf. We implemented a “Be a Blessing Today” program, which boosted creativity and commitment of our people. Moreover, because we are paying correct taxes and contributing to the progress of the barangay, the local government is fully supportive of us.

Praise God, the farm’s culture has been transformed into a God centered enterprise. Every Monday, our people start their work by reciting a communal prayer and the company’s mission/vision/values, which are displayed side by side at the entrance of the office. With God’s help, the once upon a time discontented laborers

are happily working to convert this cursed land to a land flowing with blessings. As a result, the Department of Agriculture bestowed on us a National Award as “Best in Organic Farming Initiative” in 2008 and a certification for “Good Agricultural Practices” in 2009. We were also nominated to the Asian Corporate Foundations’ Corporate Social Responsibility contest last year for sharing our environment friendly methods and giving livelihood to small farmers and indigenous tribes. LAC was featured in newspapers and television with high emphasis on its Godly ways of conducting business aside from its pioneering works in herbal medicine and sustainable environment and pro-poor programs.

Bros and sisters, I believe God wants us to experience the TRUTH of His WORD and be His agents of righteousness in our places of influence. I am convinced that being God’s witness is not an option or something I must try to do over time. It is an obligation, mandatory for me because I say I am a Christian. I know that at the end of time, God will ask what I did with the gifts and talents, which He entrusted to me. He won’t care about my positions. God will even look beyond my godly habits, moral lifestyle and church involvements. He will search into my heart. What a joy it will be to hear Him say: **“WELL DONE, GOOD & FAITHFUL SERVANT... COME, SHARE YOUR MASTER’S HAPPINESS”**.

Brothers and sisters, let us win the marketplace for God. Maayong Buntag and God bless. 





Grand Breakfast Sharing, NAC Davao

By Jun Yap, BCBP Mactan

Good morning bros and sis! I am your bro Jun Yap, of BCBP Mactan, standing up for God this morning.

My wife and I joined the BCBP in 1995. It was during my renewal life that God granted my long time prayer to have my own business. In partnership with my cousin, who is also a BCBP member, we established Junrex Cellphones and Accessories, a business with very humble beginnings and with the mission of serving God by making a difference in the marketplace. We ran the company with dedication and love for God.

We were very happy at how our company was growing. We were blessed with the right opportunity at the right time. Our growth was exponential even if I was serving fulltime in the BCBP community. My partner and I always kept in mind that we are only God's stewards.

But every business has its challenges, challenges that really put one's faith to the test. While the business was growing, my partner and I started to quarrel. We began to doubt each

other. We doubted how each one managed the business. We doubted each other's motives and unreasonably questioned each other's decisions. This went on until we realized that we could not agree anymore, even on the simplest matters. Ideas, no matter how honest and brilliant, were not welcome but were met with sarcasm. Instead of being optimistic we became pessimistic. We were so hot headed and agitated that we even challenged each other to a fight.

Day after day it was becoming worse and the big possibility of closing our business was very imminent. I cried out: God, isn't this business yours? What is it that I have failed to do? What is it that I have failed to recognize? I had so many questions that sometimes I found myself staring at blank walls. It dawned on me that somehow God had brought me to the Brotherhood to prepare me for these challenges. So faced with all these uncertainties, I did my best to increase my faith and held on to God by making myself more active in the BCBP activities, trusting in God that He would lead the way for me and give me light.

After almost five long agonizing years of bickering and quarrelling, to my surprise, my partner confided that he was migrating to New Zealand. When he told me about it, I said to myself, without a doubt this is definitely God's way of solving our conflict. He also told me further about his plan to sell his shares which I agreed since trust is now a big issue between us. What followed was a year-long period of bickering between me and his in-laws even up to the point na personalan na. I felt I was accused of just about everything behind my back. Maligned and deceived, I was burning with anger. Perhaps, had it not been for my renewal and active service in the BCBP community, I could have retaliated and done worse things.

God, in His loving ways, sent a brother in the BCBP community and he suggested that I buy peace, so I decided to give-in to the demands of my partner to buy him out for I also believed that was the only peaceful way to solve the conflict. But just after I made known my intention to buy, they demanded even more. The amount was so big that seemed impossible for me to pay.

God again sent His instrument. My sister offered to help me out with the payment. Finally my partner conceded and said they would not bother me again. He asked for forgiveness for all the hurts and anger they had caused. He confessed that had been doing his best to defend me from his in-laws. I felt his sincerity and in the spirit of Brotherhood invited him to dinner at my house just the two of us before he left for permanent immigration. During that dinner, each of us said our sincere thanksgiving prayer, we reconciled and both of us enjoyed a night of karaoke and drinks at my house. I even offered him to come home and visit us once every year all expenses paid.

Soon after he left, I decided to take a one year Sabbatical leave from the BCBP community since I thought I needed a break after serving



the community for 10 years. But sadly one year turned into three years. Slowly I drifted away from the Lord into enjoying worldly life, from spiritual teaching sessions to drinking sessions and from singing in BCBP Worship assemblies to singing in private karaoke rooms. Sad to say, I enjoyed too much.

I rose to being one of the top 10 retailers in the country in the telecom industry. We were called 'The Elites' of our industry. And we enjoyed its perks – treated like royalty, booked in business class flights, given suite room accommodations, wined and dined complete with entertainment. We were treated to the best restaurants, bars and golfing destinations in Asia. I felt I was on top of the world.

Personally, I became arrogant and easily got irritated with the slightest provocation even for petty reasons. I was losing my patience and my focus on my business. I was at the right age and with right influence for evil to take advantage of. This continued until the world economic crisis hit us flatfooted and before I knew it, my company was also losing its market share. My finance manager fearfully informed me that we had millions of payables. Not only 1million, not even 10 million but more! To cut the story short, we were losing. Our suppliers were calling my attention about our mounting payables. The reason I gave that we were affected by the economic crisis was not enough for them to accept for they too were affected by crisis. Eventually, they cut our credit limits and credit terms and some even stopped sending stocks because of our big payables.

TRUSTING IN GOD MADE THE DIFFERENCE

Rumor circulated that we were going bankrupt; many thought that soon I would be selling the company. Some of my friends whom I thought were true and loyal to me started to disappear. I was getting very scared. I felt alone. Enveloped by fear, there was darkness wherever I looked. There were moments of helplessness and loneliness. I was even more scared when I looked at my family; my wife, my growing kids. I pitied them. I couldn't help but look at them with tears in my eyes. I wanted to shout in desperation. Then I remembered God.

Little by little I recalled my life when I was with the renewal, the person that I was before and the different values that I treasured most. I then promised God that I would recommit myself to serve Him, glorify Him and stand up for Him.

In trust and in faith the first thing I did was to talk to my people in the company and told them the situation and my plans. I asked them to hold on and increase their faith and help me bombard heaven with prayers. I showed them my personal changes and focused myself on running the business again. With all courage and humility that I found in me, the kind of humility

I learned from BCBP, I talked to our suppliers, visited their offices and showed them the changes we were making. I renegotiated with them. And that proved to be the big difference. It wasn't that easy, but maybe they saw my sincerity and, praise God, one supplier after the other reinstated our credit lines to help us get back into our normal operations again. We even have more suppliers now than before giving us even better deals. God is really good.

Psalm 145: 'The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.'

Those were really very painful experiences. We just can't fathom God's plans and His ways; truly He has a purpose for everything. I can now say that God brought me into the BCBP to strengthen me and prepare me for tests like these. And those challenges prepared me for growth and bigger opportunities.

I am happy to share with you that our company is getting stronger with more shops being opened. We already have 17 stores in



“I now definitely believe I cannot serve two masters at the same time. Money cannot be my God. I may not have enough of it but God provides my family with our needs and we enjoy an abundance of His blessings. The BCBP, I believe, is the community for me.”

major malls in Cebu. Just recently, we have received several citations from prestigious organizations like the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Philippine Retailers Association recognizing us as one of the Top Outstanding Cebuano Retailers.

I now definitely believe I cannot serve two masters at the same time. Money cannot be my God. I may not have enough of it but God provides my family with our needs and we enjoy an abundance of His blessings. The BCBP, I believe, is the community for me. Even knowing

my weaknesses, my shortcomings and unfaithfulness to God, our brothers and sisters in Mactan still warmly welcomed me back into the Brotherhood fold.

I now know that in every place, somebody must take a stand for God. And I firmly believe God has called me and brought me into this business and into the BCBP because He wants me to be a true Christian in the market place.





Grand Breakfast Sharing, NAC Davao

By Dondi Roa, BCBP Cagayan de Oro

Good morning guests, bros. and sis. of the BCBP from all over the country- God's Peace & Joy is among us today!

My life's journey began on the first day of June 1961. I was born to the late Manuel A. Roa and the former Marcia Arnaldo. I was named Philip, although friends and family call me Dondi, and I am the youngest in a brood of three boys and one girl.

I was brought up as a member of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines. Our family had, and still has, an active church life. Our family served in the choir where we took special pride, love and dedication to our church music because it is a major part of our worship services.

I met my wife Marie Jo when we were about to finish college. We fell in love with each other quickly, had a colorful courtship and steady period of 5 years, after which we decided to get married. Since I was a member of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), before getting married we had to get a dispensation from the Archbishop so we could marry in the Catholic Church. We had to sign a pre-nuptial contract which said, to put it in layman's terms, that I would not prevent Marie Jo from practicing

her Catholic faith and that our children would be baptized and raised as Catholics.

We were married on a warm Saturday afternoon on May 30, 1987 at the RER Sacred Heart Parish Church. There were two presiders – a Catholic priest and a Catholic priest. The Choir of our church (with my parents and siblings singing) sung during the ceremony. During the mass, I was not given communion. We both felt very sad about this even knowing the rules. I couldn't keep on thinking of the irony that I was one of two major participants of this ceremony but was not worthy to be in communion with the rest of the congregation. I felt unwelcome and an outcast.

Looking back, I realized how I was blessed with an understanding family who supported my decision at that time with no complaints.

In 1987, I decided to put up my own business making customized business software in the basement of our home. Later on, together with my wife Marie Jo, the business expanded to provide Information Technology hardware, supplies and services in Northern Mindanao. Life went on.



After a few years in marriage I underwent a crisis of faith, as I rarely went to church at the UCCP and instead attended with Marie Jo at the Catholic parish church where we lived. She was active in the parish, while I stayed home and away from church activities except for Sundays and holidays of obligation. I felt empty and devoid of a religious identity, uprooted from a way of life and worship that I was used to since I was a child.

As if adding insult to injury, a close friend of Marie Jo, invited us to a BCBP breakfast meeting. Marie Jo was looking forward to it as she knew a lot of people there, but I did not, and was not happy at the thought of going. I felt I was forced to attend, and my attitude from the very start was negative. I did not like the songs and the way the songs were sung. I found the welcoming of first timers pretentious, and it seemed to me that the book table outside the venue was taking advantage of people by inducing them to buy. I also saw an Isuzu Elf outside, owned by one of the brothers - filled with suha for sale, and I felt like "grabe gi-negosyo naman ning breakfast". That breakfast was my first and I said, my last. I was practically dragging Marie Jo down the stairs and out of the venue even before the closing song ended. Being a Protestant and joining a Catholic Community was to me remote and even impossible.

About 3 years later in 1995, we were invited to the Brotherhood Christian Life Program #8, (BCLP) of what was then the BCBP Cagayan de Oro Chapter. Hmmm. BCBP na naman - was my very first reaction to the invitation! Marie Jo was sure the invitation would just get thrown away,

so she kept quiet. But by forces unknown to me, I accepted the invitation, filled it up, and dropped it off the day before the first BCLP talk at the CLP Course Leader's home (since we live on the same street).

At the start of the BCLP, a lot of negative thoughts bothered me. But I graduated from the program without any absence!

A few months after the BCLP, in February 1996, we participated in the 4th Brotherhood Christian Marriage Retreat (BCMR). By this time we were participating actively in all Brotherhood

It has not been easy to walk the "straight and narrow path". There is still the constant struggle to stick to my BCBP commitments, and the process of personal conversion will take the rest of my life. If I look at my weaknesses and failures, I get discouraged and overwhelmed. But I am certain that in spite of all these, Christ is with me and the prayers and support of the brothers and sisters are a source of unending consolation.

activities and we felt happy being part of the BCBP family. But I did not expect to feel rejected again during the Mass held at the end of the BCMR when the priest, who found out I was not Catholic, of course refused to give me communion. It was like my wedding day all over again.

In the years that followed, I was appointed to various services in the community. Among these, would you believe, and I think God must have been laughing – was to head the chapter's Music Ministry for a few years. As such, I participated actively in the worship and liturgical activities of the Brotherhood and had

to learn the liturgy of the Holy Mass in order to plan appropriate music for the liturgical seasons and other worship services. I also was able to attend practically all teachings and retreats, as the Music Ministry where I was serving, was always present during these activities. It was a time of abundant grace for me through which I was slowly but surely being taught and immersed in the teaching of the Catholic faith.

In November 2001, after much reflection and prayers by me and for me, before the Commitment Day of BCLP 2 of BCBP EAST CDO, I finally went to confession for the first time in my life. It was a long and thorough one on one with a very kind priest, the late Fr. Francis Chapman of happy memory, who gave me not just penance, absolution, blessing and advice but also a pamphlet on raising children, a prayer book, novenas and a scapular. (I did not need to be re-baptized as my baptism in UCCP is considered valid by the Catholic church). I had the feeling God had led me back home. I am now actively participating in our parish life – and the parish priest knows me by name! Ako kasi ang



driver ng sasakyan ng sound system and choir during processions. My mother and siblings have graciously accepted my decision, and we maintain a good relationship with family and friends in the UCCP. Indeed, God is good!

During my early years in BCBP I stayed in Brotherhood mainly because Marie Jo and I derived a lot of consolation and security from being with other members of the Brotherhood. It is wonderful to come to an action group meeting, assembly, mass or teaching where we know practically everybody, and are accepted and loved as we are. I and my family, have witnessed and continue to experience God's love made manifest in this community through the love of brothers and sisters,

However, as I stayed longer in the Brotherhood I came to realize that being in BCBP means living in a certain way, guided by the commitments we made at the end of our BCLP, and the Vision and Mission of the BCBP.

Life as a Christian Businessman is not easy and is filled daily with challenges and obstacles.

Although ours is a small enterprise, we are aware that the way we deliver our products and services affects the operations of customers and other stakeholders. Encouraged and reminded by the community, we strive to put into practice the BCBP teachings and culture in our workplace. Everyday, we start and end our office staff meeting with a prayer and reading of the day's Gospel, and sometimes an explanation or exhortation from the reading. It is a company commitment to provide a decent living wage to our employees that complies with or exceeds, Labor laws and regulations. We also strive to implement appropriate health, environmental and safety standards within our office, and refuse jobs that will put our people at risk even if it means loss of income. This of course has resulted in lower profits, as there are also our taxes to pay.

Our employees know that our primary duty is to honestly and competently serve all customers, regardless of what they purchase from us. We are aware that the services and goods we provide in a timely manner are critical to the operations of our customers, so our employees know what is expected of them. In response, our employees have been faithful to their duties, even when we are not there to watch over their shoulder because we are at a BCBP meeting or event. That is a grace for which I cannot thank God enough.

We refuse to enter into deals – whether with government or private offices – that require us to give a bribe in order to get the contract. And I would like to say, that contrary to common thought, there are a lot of local government offices we deal with who do business with professionalism and integrity.

Putting good order in our finances is possible only through God's grace, as we are not assured that all our clients will pay on time, while we also have commitments to suppliers and vendors. But in all the years we have done business, the Lord has never failed us, and He never will. When we went through a particularly difficult time in our



business, so afraid we would lose everything, the Lord showed us the way to pay our business debts and to remain in business. With thanks and praises to God, we will celebrate our 22nd year in business this August.

As BCBP members we are also asked to put good order in our time and our family life. When I was asked to become Chapter Head, Marie Jo was apprehensive on how we could attend to the family, the business, and the BCBP, and do a good job in all.

Our 3 sons have been diagnosed with ADD/ADHD. It requires a lot of our time and energy and patience reminding and helping them cope with their school work, their chores and other responsibilities. This becomes particularly stressful when we are also faced with problems in the business and the chapter.

But God is indeed very good, and He has made a way for us to meet the demands of our family, community and business by putting order in our Time especially in areas over which we have little or no control. In the past months, we have seen a marked improvement in our son Matthew's behavior so that his medication has been reduced. Their teachers and tutors have been very helpful and accommodating in school.



Joachym, the youngest has also progressed tremendously, emotionally and physiologically. Our eldest, David, who is in college and who went on leave from school to obtain treatment for his type of ADHD, has gone back to school. He takes care of his younger brothers when we are away for BCBP. My mother-in-law is also always home to be with the kids. When we have BCBP activities, their schedules somehow fit around our activities, or, a holiday is declared so we can make-up for our time away from them. We also find we still have time for family prayer and Scripture before the children sleep at night, and for family mass, family outings, and even, to use my son's term, just chillin' out. For us, especially now with my major service, being BCBP, is a family undertaking.

The Lord has also blessed me with an action group/governance team and chapter members who are prayerful, cooperative, and forgiving. They help ensure that the work gets done. And we have fun too!

It has not been easy to walk the "straight and narrow path". There is still the constant struggle to stick to my



BCBP commitments, and the process of personal conversion will take the rest of my life. For those of you who are undergoing the Formation Program, or are first timers and breakfasters, I say persevere, and come into each meeting with joy and great expectation. Discover what God has in store for you as a Christian businessman and/or as a professional. In the end, I hope you will find that the BCBP is also the place where God wants you to be. Someday, I hope to hear your life sharing too.

God's Peace and Love be with each one of us. Maayong buntag sa tanan. 



Lower Your Nets

By Ronnie Caballero, BCBP Makati

WILL HONESTY BE ENOUGH?

*“I have chosen David, my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed him.
My hand will be with him; my arm will make him strong.
My loyalty and love will be with him; through my name his horn will be exalted.
He shall cry to me, ‘You are my father, my God, the Rock that brings me victory!’
Ps. 89:2-3*

At the BCBP’s 30th NAC Celebrations in Davao last April 24, 2010 there was a unique addition to the proceedings after the Grand Breakfast. The BCBP leaders decided to add the Breakout Sessions with the theme as ‘Work as Worship’ with several other subtopics with time for reactions and Q & A (for the men). They were (along with the speakers’ names):

- a. Basic Personal Preparation of the Businessmen and Professionals - Jourdan Polotan
- b. Making Our Businesses and Professions Reflect God’s Glory - Bobby Laviña
- c. Social Entrepreneurship - Bobby Atendido

It was a very fruitful session filled with wisdom, hope for the future and endless possibilities for personal growth and BCBP community-wide development.

But what really impressed me was that the whole morning taken all together, even including the 3 sharings at the Grand Breakfast was woven together as no one except the Lord could have ever predicted or intended.

With the BCBP’s Vision framing it all (Winning the Marketplace for Christ) I believe we uncovered a direction towards a plan for conquering the marketplace for Christ. Very telling was Bro. Jourdan’s talk on the Basics of a Christian Businessman. He was quite adamant on

nurturing a deep, intimate personal relationship with Jesus through daily prayer and journaling. All important discernment and decision-making in family life, business and faith matters rested on this pillar called prayer. Intimate dialogue with God could only result in the good if we persist in the disciplines surrounding our relationship with our Savior.

Gears even shifted further as Bro. Bobby Laviña discussed “Making Our Businesses and Professions Reflect God’s Glory”. This even highlighted the need for a personal conversion to Christ at such a high level that would impact one’s development of unshakeable Christian character needed in today’s business milieu.

Not too far behind was Bro. Bobby Atendido’s talk on Social Entrepreneurship. My take on this was that this was a continuation of an illustration of businessmen whose personal conversion to Christ impacted not only their personal lives or their business but the very marketplace as well.

All of this is too relevant to pass up. Our nation is in trouble and in need of a major overhaul as soon as yesterday. The oppression of poverty seeks to sow much frustration and hopelessness. Even European countries like Greece are getting swallowed up by similar concerns. The feverish electoral campaign for the 2010 Elections has brought to mind the kind of people we desire ourselves to bring about an



impact of change not only to the marketplace but to the very fabric of our Philippine society. Archbishop Orlando Quevedo already pinpointed the problem back in 2003:

The biggest culprit and major cause of our nation’s poverty and hunger is graft and corruption which has invaded all public and private institutions. Corruption is the abuse and misuse of public or private office to unlawfully enrich oneself and those close to him, or induce others to do the same (ADB). It is not only an economic and social problem but by and large a moral issue and a moral problem... Corruption is a social and moral cancer!... “In the strongest terms we condemn graft and corruption as an offense against society and sin against God. God will certainly hold the perpetrators accountable.” – Let Integrity Flow Like a Stream! (A Pastoral Statement of the CBCP), 7 July 2003, (Sgd.)+ Orlando B. Quevedo, O.M.I, D.D., Archbishop of Cotabato and President-CBCP

Simply said, the challenge has defined the person needed to meet the problem of corruption head on. In the process of selecting candidates for the presidency, I came across some candidates who professed to stop corruption based on their credentials of unstained hands. Will honesty be enough? The question seems to hound me day after day as I press myself for a decision.

The answer for me still lies at the top of this article where the Lord expresses his loyalty and affection for David, the anointed King of Israel. This reveals a person whose heart is for God and for pleasing him. A person fully converted and in intimate relationship with the Creator and Father, integrating that love into every aspect of his life.

The answer for me as to conquering the marketplace for Christ is to have an army of such persons not only imbued with honesty but

with an unshakeable Christian character ready to follow the Lord’s will for his fellowmen. We need to become an army of Christ bearing his character in every possible way also knowing that God’s love will see us through, the cost of which is dying to ourselves but attaining not only



the highest position in the land but the highest position in eternal life which is to be at the Lord’s banquet table.

**BE JESUS, EVEN IF OTHERS ARE NOT
BE JESUS, EVEN IF OTHERS WILL NOT
BE JESUS, EVEN IF OTHERS CANNOT**

And Emmanuel Pelaez once said, “Public service is an apostleship of sacrifice and service. You must give of yourself unsparingly in the service of your people, not to make something for yourself.” ✠

Work as Worship, NAC Conference for Men

By Jourdan Polotan, BCBP Cebu

Building on Personal Prayer as a Foundation

The BCBP has a clearly defined mission to bring Christ into the marketplace, and win the marketplace for Christ. It is not the easiest thing to do. In fact, it sometimes seems an impossible goal to attain. Where do we start?

For those who actually practice their one-on-one with their members/action group leaders, one question is very familiar – how is your prayer time? It is a common question, but it must be answered seriously and honestly.

For us to win the marketplace, we must build on a very good foundation, the best foundation. That is, the person of Jesus Christ. Many times, we forget that God we serve and follow is living, loving and ever-present. Our Christian faith is not founded on a philosophy or belief system or mathematical and scientific principles. It is not founded on rules and regulations, activities or meetings. It is first and foremost founded on the person of Jesus. We must strive to build and strengthen that relationship with the one person for whom we want to win the marketplace - Jesus.

There are many places for us to encounter Christ. Yet, one of the most invaluable places to encounter Him is in our personal prayer time. It is in personal prayer that we develop our sense

of listening to the voice of Christ. Having our daily conversations with Christ in personal prayer helps us to become attuned to how His voice sounds. Does anyone remember ancient days before cellphones and caller I.D.s? If it is a frequent caller, someone we love and regularly communicate with, we immediately recognize their voice just from one word, "hello".

It is only when we constantly commune with Christ that we begin to recognize how He sounds, how He looks and how we works. How will we know it is already Him we encounter in the marketplace when we don't how his voice sounds, His ways, His Modus operandi? It is in becoming familiar with His voice, His face, His ways that we recognize Him in the situations of our businesses and professions.

It has become cliché to hear the question "What would Jesus do?" Yet, it is impossible to find the true answer to that question in different situations in our businesses and professions if we have not been encountering Christ on a day-to-day basis. How can we win the marketplace for Christ if we do not know Christ?

There have been, and will be, many situations in my life, wherein I wouldn't know exactly what to do. Towards the end of my college years, I seriously considered becoming a Jesuit. It took 3 semesters of praying, discernment and working with a spiritual director for me to determine that God was not calling me to the priesthood. It was not in the study of what it takes to become a Jesuit, that I made the decision. It was in quiet, private and personal prayer that I began to see where God was leading me. It was not in the accumulation of knowledge that I discerned God's will. Rather, it was in the experience of His presence, the recognition of His voice that I found His leading.

From 1993 to 2001, I worked and lived in Indonesia. Try living a Catholic life in a predominantly Muslim country! We have it sooo easy here in the Philippines. There's a church within walking distance from wherever we stand in

the Philippines. Or within a few minutes car ride. There are so many Christian communities with varied missions and callings, shapes, size and form.

For some Filipino Catholics in Indonesia, it was easy to fall out of the church. Yet for some, and for my wife and I, the eight years we spent there was like a long spiritual retreat. Why? Because we kept our prayer time and community! Prayer time was something that was literally written in our daily schedules, and it allowed God's grace to flow into our lives.

We can humbly say, that by God's grace, we became better Catholics in a muslim country. Yet if we look around us in Philippine society today, we wonder if all the cheating, lying, corruption, crime and even selfishness and apathy are the marks of a Christian country.

It was a long but not a difficult decision to leave the company I was working for 8 years. The job, pay and perks were great! But I knew I was no longer an agent of change in the company. In prayer, I was sure that the direction the company was taking would not allow me to live out my Christian faith. I aired my views and opinions, but no one listened. Should I just shut up and continue enjoying the pay and perks?

It was only in personal prayer that I found the clear answer. In Matthew 10: 14 If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake the dust off your feet when you leave that town. It was time for me to leave.

In 2002, I started my own company as a paper agency representing various paper mills from around the world. Everyone makes the same opening line of treating customers and suppliers as partners, yet when push comes to shove, it is to each man for himself. Do anything just to make the sale. Misrepresent Products. It's not lying, it's withholding the truth. Wine and dine the purchasing manager. Allow him to overprice or undervalue. But I decided to walk away from these practices and shake their dust off my feet.

We face so many situations in our businesses and professions. If we are to win the marketplace for Christ we must know Christ first. I am of the belief that it is our collective individual spiritual lives that makes us an effective instrument of God in the marketplace. If we are not building a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, we cannot bring Him into the marketplace much less win it for Him.

For us to win the marketplace, we must build on a very good foundation, the best foundation. That is, the person of Jesus Christ.

PRACTICAL ADVICE

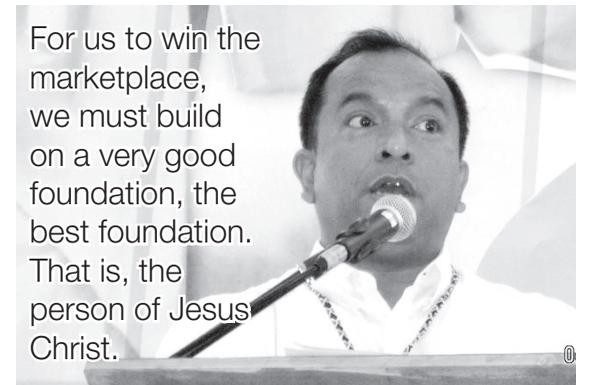
How do we build or strengthen our prayer time? Here is a very practical advice. Put it in writing. Start a prayer journal.

Look at our businesses and professions. Everything and anything important is in writing. Contracts, Memos, Purchase Orders, Invoices, Delivery Receipts, Financial Statements, Mission and Vision statements. Imagine for a moment if we filed our Income Taxes by going to the BIR and dictating our financial statements to a revenue officer, who doesn't take notes.

In one of our businesses, we refused to pay for deliveries apparently made by a supplier. He kept billing us for items he said he delivered, and started charging us interests/penalties for late payments. When we asked him to show proof that the deliveries were made, he later realized that his people were not issuing delivery receipts for our people to sign! He apologized, cancelled the penalties, and got paid.

Closer to home. What if nobody bothered to write down the teachings of Christ? Or how God revealed Himself to the Jews? What if Paul's letters were never put in writing? Thank God, somebody put it in writing.

For the past 8 years that I have my own business, I've always looked at the incoming year with concern and anxiety. Each year, I seem to be able to come with more reasons, both real and imagined, to be anxious about how things will go in the coming year. When I look at my prayer journal, it is actually laughable how it is the same year after year. And how by the second or third quarter, the Lord proves my anxieties to be unfounded. After the 5th year of being on my own, I have stopped worrying. Now, I am on the 8th year of running my paper trading business. Praise God. 



Work as Worship, NAC Conference for Men

By Bobby Laviña, BCBP Greenhills

“THE OTHER SIX DAYS”*

What we have just prayed is, I think, the meaning of Work as Worship: to help bring the kingdom of God to this world and to have God’s will done here on earth in everything we do as laymen. This is our task as Christians in the marketplace. However, we all know that not everyone who prays the Lord’s Prayer or who calls himself “Christian” really acts as one, especially not in the marketplace.

In his book *Anointed for Business*, Ed Silvoso describes four types of “Christians” in the marketplace. Let’s look at these with a view towards evaluating ourselves:

TYPE #1: Christians who are simply trying to survive. They have no purpose or zeal for integrating their faith at work because they have not seen the power or presence of God in their work lives. Such Christians segment their faith life from their work life. They leave their faith and values at the office parking lot, so to speak. They lack purpose and meaning and they have little direction.

TYPE #2: The second type of Christian in the marketplace includes those who are trying to live by Christian principles by learning more about it. They attend all the teaching nights and read books on improving how they behave. Of course, these are beneficial in changing negative patterns in their lives, however, these people have Christianity in their heads more than in their hearts.

TYPE #3: Christians who are living by the power of the Holy Spirit. They understand the importance of developing a heart toward God through prayer, study of the Word of God and obedience. They realize that these are the three core ingredients to

This then, is how we should pray: “Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

Matthew 6, 9-10

experiencing the power of God in their lives. These people exhibit the fruits of the spirit i.e. by their lives, they show love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control.

Christians who are TYPE #4 enjoy a wonderful by-product of living by the power of the Holy Spirit: They become empowered to work for the transformation of the marketplace for God. These are Christians who passionately seek the manifestation

of God’s kingdom here on earth. They strive to be honest at all times and under all circumstances. They also care enough for the wellbeing of their co-workers that they try to bring them closer to God. They know that by doing so, by transforming people to accept the kingdom of God, they will be able to realize transformation in their workplaces and, eventually, in society.

* *Ed Silvoso, Anointed for Business (Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 2002), p.123.*

I know, however, that these Christians in the 4th Category (or working to get to the fourth Category) have to pay a price for this effort. If we are to be one of them, we have to exemplify a minimum set of behaviors to make sure our Work is Worship.

What is that price we have to pay?

Professionalism / COMPETENCE

In general, except for a few exceptions, the competent person is listened to and admired. For us to affect the marketplace, we therefore have to exhibit professionalism and competence. More importantly, as Christians, we believe that we have to show professionalism and competence in our work because we take to heart St Paul’s admonition to the Colossians:

“...do it in the name of Jesus giving thanks to God... work at it with all your heart , as if working for the

Lord...” - Colossians 3, 17, 23

We believe that the Lord’s work is worth more than a mediocre effort.

2Timothy 3,17: **“So that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work.”**

Integrity / Ethics:

Integrity or ethics is not just honesty in paying correct taxes and following the laws of the land. It is also about-

1. Choosing to sell products that deliver more good than harm (hybrid vs. gas-guzzler vehicles / or products of companies who recycle heavily or who exercise responsible business practices)
2. Choosing customers to sell to (i.e. selling cigarettes / liquor / DVD’s / computer games to minors)
3. Making decisions like:
 - a. I want to make a sale but should I encourage people to buy something on credit or installment when I know their cash flow is already thinly stretched?
 - b. Should I invest in a company that does not care for the environment?

Charity / Caring for the other: Charity must be exhibited in all our thoughts and actions.

1. This is not just about being nice vs. being nasty but more about caring for the enrichment of the life of others --- about helping them discover and achieve their true potential.
2. It’s not just paying a just wage but also teaching our employees how to manage their finances.
3. We do not just avoid gossiping and slandering others. We use our time and our influence in our organizations to help train those who are not as competent. We go for doing good not just avoiding the bad.

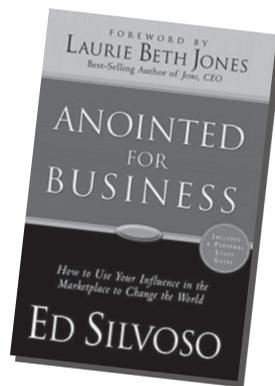
WE EVANGELIZE: We evangelize through our personal habits, by working with a heart and a soul, by behaving in such a way so others can more easily see the Lord’s presence.

1. Exemplify the basic principles of Professionalism ... Integrity ... Charity ...in your workplaces.
2. Fill our work day with Prayer
 - a. Begin the week or the day with workplace prayers together with your officemates. For us personally, start the day requesting God to give you eyes to see where your heart and soul can be an asset in the workplace.
 - b. And having so prepared, Open your eyes to see

We need to understand that failing does not make us failures. It makes us experienced. It makes us more prepared for God’s kingdom --- if we have learned from it.

where God is leading you. Pray for somebody who needs special attention (difficult personalities / problematic performers / superstars who need to be guided).

- c. Pray before special meetings and
- d. Stop several times a day to say a prayer to ground yourself especially when you find yourself getting irritable or anxious.
3. We LISTEN and we share faith experiences. Talk about your faith experiences at work with others and encourage them to talk about theirs. These informal conversations will eventually lead to something more formal like a prayer meeting. At the very least, you’ll be helping to raise the consciousness of your fellow employees.
 - a. When they are faced with a problem, WWJD.
 - b. Invite your officemates to the BCBP or to any other faith-based group that will help them develop a relationship with God.
4. WORK WITH THE CLERGY: Yes, WORK WITH THE CLERGY.
 - a. When you have office masses, invite priests to your offices who agree that the workplace is the layman’s ministry place and priests who will not just talk about family issues and personal holiness but will highlight the sacredness of this calling to work.
 - b. Convince your parish priests to preach and affirm that working in the marketplace is a ministry and encourage them to develop parish programs and ministries that will help businessmen and professionals in their workplace discipleship. Lay people are not just for church committees, particularly fund raising. Our priests must constructively address the issues we face regarding integrity, evangelism and charity at work and if they express a need, we must be the first to help



* Title of a book by R. Paul Stevens on vocation, work and ministry

them in these effort.

- c. Be prepared to share in your church. This is no different from what we do at the breakfasts. If a teacher shares with others how he tries to live out his faith in the classroom, if a lawyer shares his struggles and victories with others, and so on through out the professions, this will have a huge impact on the church, clergy and laity alike.

I am sure that you will have many more and better examples of how you can evangelize. In the end, anyone who wishes to expand this practice of work as worship must be prepared to do so, with or without the help of the clergy. We have the power to do this as members of the BCBP. We have the resources in-house e.g. BCBR, breakfast format, 7 Steps and other sharing formats, even prayer meeting formats.

David Miller in his book **God at Work**, says:

“Indeed, active participation in the transformation of individual employees, their workplaces and the overall marketplace may be one of the most powerful means we have to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and welcome the stranger.”

Just a short note on **ADVERSITY and FAILURE**:

We will not always be successful. There will be times of failure and famine in our lives. Solomon tells us that God makes everything beautiful in His time and that there is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven. (**Ecclesiastes. 3. 1. 11**)

- These seasons of famine have a divine purpose in our lives accomplishing things that only adversity can accomplish.
- Sometimes, these are periods of preparation, particularly for those whom He has specially called. The depth and width of your faith experiences will be directly proportional to your calling. (e.g.



Moses crossing the Red Sea ... Christ feeding 5,000 ... / Marite's near death sickness when I was about to take over as President of BCBP...business setbacks when we are about to take over a major service for the Lord in the BCBP)

- During these times of adversity, Our Lord builds a firm foundation for the high calling He has in store for you. In faith we accept these times and pray that God will reveal Himself to us during these times.

We need to understand that **failing does not make us failures**. It makes us experienced. It makes us more prepared for God's kingdom --- if we have learned from it. And that is a most important ingredient for what God wants in His children.

After the seasons of famine have accomplished their purpose, the Lord will restore. This is when we will, once again, understand how good and gracious He is. How he guides us through the difficulties of this world and that He has the BEST plan for us.

CONCLUSION:

AVODAH is a Hebrew noun used in the Bible. It has two distinctive yet intertwined meanings: **WORK** and **WORSHIP**. The dual meaning offers powerful wisdom for modern times on how we are to view our work lives.

In the Hebrew context, **Work**, if done with integrity and unto God, is a form of **worship**. I read somewhere that the Jews do not have any concept of segmenting work life from faith life. It is in the realm of the sacred to bring God into their everyday life. Jews do not set aside a “day of worship” such as a Saturday or a Sunday. Everyday is a time for worship. What they do set aside is a Sabbath, a “day of rest”.

Work was God's loving idea from the very beginning, in and through creation. We share in creation when we prepare the accounting books or develop a farm or build a home or develop a business or ensure peace and order or clean the house or practice any other profession. We exercise our dignity as creatures made in God's likeness when we work. Our work should not to be a place of sweat and toil, but an expression of our love, faith and adoration of Jesus Christ. When we do so, our work is already worship for us. We will no longer be saying, “Salamat at natapos din ang linggong ito!” No longer “Thank God It's Friday!” Instead, we will be exclaiming, “Thank you Lord that you are giving me another chance to worship you at work!”

“Thank God, It's Monday!”

Work as Worship, NAC Conference for Men

By Bobby Atendido, BCBP Alabang

TODAY'S CHALLENGE: SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Thank you for attending this Conference on **WORK AS WORSHIP**, a novel addition to our anniversary celebrations, an idea suggested during one workshop with the Senior Members and Leaders of our VIZMIN areas. As time is limited, allow me to jump in immediately into the topic, “Social Entrepreneurship”.

The past few years have seen the distortions created by the traditional capitalistic model of profit maximization. This driving force of greed for more and more money has overridden every consideration in doing business. The resulting havoc is deplorable, causing intense sufferings and hardships particularly on those least capable of managing the harsh effects of too much greed. The mindless pursuit of wealth by many entrepreneurs is a pursuit of an idol, a false religion, something that our Lord Jesus Christ has warned us against. Jesus said “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

If our work is to give glory to God, if it is to be our worship to our Lord, then our businesses should relate sensitively to the needs of people especially those who have less to begin with and should ultimately create the kind of Christian

change in the marketplace. Our work and businesses must be the instruments of our Lord to bring about the realization of the Kingdom of God right in the center of the business milieu. When the fruits of business are spread out to all, it will bring a smile to our Lord Jesus Christ and he will then say, “Well done my good and faithful Steward”.

The purpose of this talk is to present the concept of “Social Entrepreneurship” in order to challenge and inspire all of us in the BCBP community, because social entrepreneurship is a real Christian response that aims to

create businesses that address the plight of the poor, environmental problems, and other social issues that our present system has so far miserably failed to address.

The concept of social entrepreneurship has been around since the 60's where an entrepreneur uses entrepreneurial principles to organize, create, and manage business ventures that

address social problems in order to create social change. Social entrepreneurs are people who harness their skills and experience in business – to make things work – so that products and/or services are delivered efficiently, up to market standards and provided on a sustainable basis.

If our work is to give glory to God, if it is to be our worship to our Lord, then our businesses should relate sensitively to the needs of people especially those who have less to begin with and should ultimately create the kind of Christian change in the marketplace.

There are no shortcuts, no getting around quality standards, no excessive price points, but an honest to goodness use of business sense with a fundamental difference – an intent to serve the common good and spread around the fruits of capital.

Whereas a typical capitalist entrepreneur measures his success by generating the highest profit and return on investment, a social entrepreneur however focuses on measuring return on investment as a “social return” on capital. Thus, the main aim of social entrepreneurship is to further advance social and environmental goals even as it makes money to sustain and expand operations.

The concept of a social business has taken on an acute sense of urgency given the excesses seen in the last few years as well as the continuing wide-spread poverty all over the world. Its main voice is Prof. Muhammad Yunus, the visionary founder of Grameen Bank and a Nobel Peace Awardee for his life-long work in microfinance that has helped millions of poor families out of poverty. Even Bill Gates of Microsoft has jumped into the fray. In a speech he delivered at the World Economic Forum on January 24, 2008, he said that the great advances in the world have often aggravated the inequities

in the world. The least needy see the most improvement while the most needy see the least – in particular the billion people who live on less than a dollar a day. In what he termed “Creative Capitalism”, he said that the aspects of capitalism that serve wealthier people must serve poorer people as well. While controversial, his idea and message remain true – there has to be a system that “draws in innovators and businesses in a far better way than is done today, a system with a twin mission – making profits and also improving the lives of those who don’t fully benefit from market forces.” The reality today is that half of the world’s population owns less than one percent of its assets. In the Philippines, the stark reality is approximately 25% of Filipino families do not earn enough to satisfy their most basic food and non-food requirements.

What is Social Entrepreneurship?

In its purest form, Prof. Yunus defines social entrepreneurship as creating ‘for-profit’ businesses capitalized by shareholders whose goal is to preserve their investment but not to earn financial dividends or profits in the traditional sense. Rather, they seek a return in terms of a social profit in the form of positive, measurable impacts on societal problems such

as poverty, ill health, illiteracy and environmental degradation. Profits are expected to be earned in order to sustain the business but these profits are plowed back into the business to do more good for society. The belief is that social businesses are sustainable structures that can address societal issues, a view borne out of the collective failure of the State, of business and NGO’s to alleviate the plight of the poor.

Prof. Yunus is single-minded in his belief that if allowed to compete in the marketplace with the right institutional supports and removal of obstacles that prevent them from doing so, the poor can very well handle themselves and compete effectively. He yearns for a more humanistic but no less competitive, economic system. His alternative view of the capitalist world sees that instead of one motivating factor - greed – that spins the wheels of the market, there is another force that can drive businesses – social consciousness.

The question is whether a social business as defined by Prof. Yunus in its purest form feasible and practicable. Are there investors willing to invest money as a social investment that only earns a social return? Can one really take out greed as a motivating factor and still see a company operate competitively? Are social businesses only “feel good” corporate ventures? Are they sustainable? Will social businesses have enough scale as to have an impact and cause meaningful change in society?

I think the reality is that social businesses will most probably lie in a spectrum between the pure capitalistic model where greed is the driving force and a social entrepreneurial model as defined by Prof. Yunus. I think there are enough socially-conscious people and companies who are prepared to invest in social businesses where the fruits of the enterprise are shared among stakeholders and not just the shareholders. There are well-known strategies that can be employed in order to create momentum and achieve large scale impacts on society. However, it is not my purpose to discuss them today.

What I want to present today are two living examples of a social business whose owners I

have interviewed for this presentation. It is an inspiring story of entrepreneurs and socially conscious people who decided to do something for the poor and the environment.

Gandang Kalikasan Inc.

Gandang Kalikasan, Inc. is the brainchild of Gawad Kalinga volunteers – a British national by the name of Dylan Wilk, his wife Anna Meloto-Wilk and Camille Meloto. Their early GK exposure to poverty inspired them to do something for the country through a social business, Gandang Kalikasan, Inc. which they established in November 2008 with a starting capital of only P 500,000. GKI produces and markets a whole range of natural beauty products that do not use any harmful chemicals under the brand name of Human Heart Nature. An interesting information I gathered is that by December 2008, barely two months of operation they have already sold P 1.0 million worth of products.

What makes GKI a social business?

According to Anna Meloto-Wilk who is the President of GKI, their three core philosophies are as follows: Pro-Philippines; Pro-Environment and Pro-Poor.

1. Pro-Philippines means all their products are 100 % manufactured in the Philippines. They source as much as possible all raw materials locally even if from time to time they may be more expensive. They believe that the Philippines can produce world class products if given the right institutional support.
2. Pro-Poor means their goal is to work with community-based suppliers and cooperatives and pay them just prices rather than to squeeze them to the barest margins. GKI believes in helping farmer cooperatives come up with world class raw materials by providing technical services.
3. Pro-Environment means they are committed to protecting the environment by using only eco-friendly ingredients and materials.



What I admire most in the short time that I spoke to Ms. Anna Meloto-Wilk are their socially responsible business practices as follows:

1. They pay their laborers P 500/day which is significantly above the minimum wage. Anna explains that a minimum wage only takes care of the basic daily needs of a family and so nothing is left for other requirements such as health, education and other necessities. The higher pay is meant to cover the other needs of the family.
2. They sell their products through a network of 5,000 dealers rather than through traditional distribution outlets like SM. While it is easier to retail their products through the big retailers, they believe that employing dealers casts a wider net to make more people become entrepreneurs themselves. This means that if each dealer employs say only 2 people, 10,000 people are actually benefited.
3. They source their raw materials from two cooperatives – one based in Bicol and the other in Negros. They convinced the farmers in Bicol to switch from their traditional crop to citronella and in Negros to lemon grass, and paid them 20% higher for their produce. As a result, farmer income increased from P 40,000 per ha./year to P 200,000 per ha./yr.
4. To address the issue of technical know-how, GKI hired field consultants to teach the farmers modern methods and best practices in order to assure raw material quality.
5. GKI has also started to provide interest free loans so that the farmers can begin to own their land. As a result, the farmers in Bicol are aiming to expand from the current 7 has. to hopefully 70 has.
6. GKI recently engaged a social consultant to assess the impact of higher income on the lives of the farmers to find out if the higher income was used productively or did it lead them to vices and bad habits (gambling, sabong, etc.). Of real concern to GKI is that the higher income should have a positive effect of their lives.

7. They provide value formation workshops to the people they work with.
8. They aspire to be a world class Filipino business. At present, they are already exporting their products to the US and have established many dealers I believe in at least 10 states. That is also the reason why they hire the best people and pay them market-based compensation. For example, their marketing director used to be the marketing director for Avon.

Salon de Ayala Service & Credit Cooperative (SASCC)

SASCC is an interesting example of how a simple beauty salon and barbershop can be transformed into a social business. Alabang Country Club used to contract out to a concessionaire its beauty parlor and barbershop. When the contract of the concessionaire expired, a group of socially conscious members led by Sen. Jun Magsaysay, Cesar Sarino, ex-GM of GSIS and several members decided in 2003 to reorganize the employees of the salon and barbershop into a cooperative, SASCC. To jumpstart the operation, they donated the initial seed capital of P 260,000. SASCC then entered into a contract with the Club to provide the said services. The Club agreed to try out the new arrangement.

What has been their experience?

This is what Ms. Chit Cadayona, Vice Chairman of SASCC has to say:

1. Under the cooperative set-up, their total compensation has increased. Their current basic salary is P 400/day a rate higher than when they were employees.
2. In addition, they receive the full commission of 62% of the service fee unlike before when the commission is further divided between the employees and the owner.
3. Since 2003, SASCC has accumulated a cash surplus of P 2.6 million which is after distribution of regular annual dividends.

4. From one parlor in Alabang, the cooperative now has two additional branches. They now have 33 members.
5. The group of Sen. Magsaysay continue to help them with technical training, value formation workshops as well as general management advise. They helped the SASCC management learn financial controls and cash management.
6. SASCC is quite profitable with revenues consistently exceeding expenses.
7. The members of the cooperative are very happy with the set-up, having been transformed from being employees to now owners of the business.

Time does not permit me to cite other examples of social businesses that I have come to know about as a result of this paper. For example, I found out that a classmate of mine organized some coastal families and fishermen in Negros and taught them how to grow “Tahong”. He arranged microfinancing for the fishermen and also accessed technical help from SEAFDEC. The last he heard was the fishermen have expanded their operations to more than 50 has. I also found out about a cooperative in Payatas (garbage dump) that went into the water business and now sells clean water to 1,500 squatters at more reasonable, socially-based prices. My reasonable guess is that there are many of such businesses all over the Philippines that we still do not hear about.

These examples illustrate that it is possible to create social businesses that go beyond the traditional model. I will not be surprised to see in a few years GKI as a large enterprise with its brand Human Heart Nature becoming a well

established brand not only here but abroad as well.

Social Entrepreneurship of course faces numerous challenges. Critics say that social businesses will never achieve a large enough scale as to cause meaningful wide-spread change in society. Financial resources will remain limited for social businesses. Banks and capital markets are inaccessible. And so many other obstacles.

That said, I believe that Christian Businessmen should not be deterred by the difficult hurdles that a social business has to overcome. There is no better time than now for people, investors, institutions whose hearts are in the right place to respond to societal problems. The two cases I described illustrate how people with the right heart and passion coming together can achieve something good in spite of so-called obstacles. It was not greed that motivated them. Rather, their keen social consciousness convinced them to cast their net for the common good. I think that is the spirit that underpins a social business – the drive to be socially relevant, the motivation to improve the state of those less privileged, the passion to help out others.

Let me close by calling to arms all of you brothers, you who are businessmen and professionals, to come together action group by action group, unit by unit, chapter by chapter, region by region, area by area, to organize and create innovative social businesses that will uplift those who are less privileged than us, those who are poor and struggling, those who are being dispossessed by environmental concerns. Only one’s creativity and grit are the limits to what the BCBP community can do by way of social enterprises. 



Meeting the Challenge of Being a BCBP Women, NAC Ladies Forum

By Nancy Russell Catan

Sisters in Christ, women of the BCBP, let us celebrate today! This activity, this forum for ladies only, on BCBP Ladies' Concerns, is a FIRST in the history of our community. Truly it is a milestone and we are all so blessed to be here today as participants in the making of Brotherhood history. We look forward to and we pray that this is the first of many more such meetings among BCBP ladies.

Our overall main topic this morning is "Meeting the Challenge of Being a BCBP Woman". My task this morning is to widen our horizons by picturing for you what it means to be a BCBP woman in terms of the ministry of our womanhood, our roles and responsibilities in the BCBP community, and our relationships with each other and with those in authority over us.

As Christian women we are given a unique ministry, the ministry of being a woman, a woman after God's own heart. What does this

mean? The woman after God's own heart is one who knows who God is intimately and trustingly, who knows without doubt that He loves her. Hers is a heart enriched by joy in, and with, the Lord.

She thirsts after and pursues spiritual growth, is teachable and willing to learn what God wants to teach her. Her heart is committed to prayer and rooted in God's Word because she understands the importance of spiritual gardening, that one's life will only bear good fruit if one's root system is strong and healthy.

This woman has a heart not only for God but also for His people; hers is a heart that cares, that loves, that forgives, that shares. Like Mama Mary, she is present when needed, she serves with a smile and a helping hand, she encourages others with her generosity of soul. She values herself as a woman and goes out of her way to be in right relationships with others.

"... the character of the Christian woman: she should be clothed with "...the hidden character of the heart, expressed in the imperishable beauty of a gentle and calm disposition, which is precious in the sight of God."

This Ministry of Womanhood is expressed in our everyday lives in everything we are and in everything we do. Each one of us lives out our ministry in different ways: being a wife and mother, in having a career or profession, through our hospitality and our stewardship, in community, in service and mission activities, by our joy and contentment in the roles God has blessed us with.

In the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals, we women have a very special role to live out. Not only are we to live out our ministry as Christian women, but we are also tasked with the important and key responsibility of providing the necessary anchor of love in positively contributing to upbuilding a vibrant and caring BCBP community. I repeat ... we, the BCBP women, are tasked with the important and key responsibility of providing the necessary anchor of love in positively contributing to upbuilding a vibrant and caring BCBP community.

Last year 2009 during the National Leaders Retreat, the concern about the focus of BCBP ladies' breakfasts was brought out into the open. What was said during the National Leaders Retreat was that the purpose of the Ladies' Breakfast was never meant to be for evangelization, but more for fellowship and personal growth among the ladies. Unfortunately there has been a lot of misinterpretation about this statement that needs to be clarified.

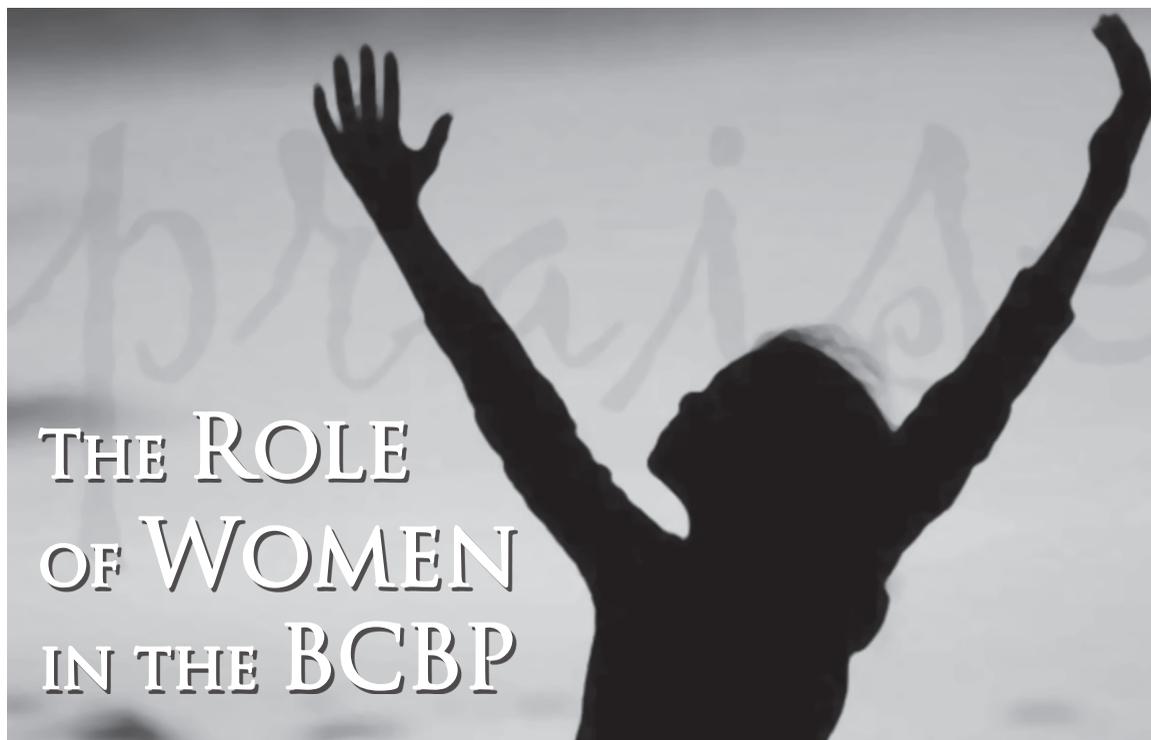
It is not true that the BCBP Ladies activities, particularly the Ladies Breakfasts, have been

cancelled. The breakfast is now optional. If your chapter wants to continue the breakfast, ok; if not, that's ok too. But this does not mean that we ladies have become second class citizens of the BCBP. Just the opposite is true! This actually frees us, sisters, ladies, to design our activities in a way that will cater to our womanly interests and needs, not necessarily in the form of a breakfast. Our activities can be directed to addressing women's issues, to strengthening ourselves as Christian women, wives and mothers, to being in right relationships with others and with God, and in doing our share in providing support and a strong anchor of loving relationships and service for our BCBP community.

So, how exactly do we live out our role as women of the BCBP? BCBP ladies support, encourage, enable and complement our BCBP brothers. We honor, respect, trust and pray for our community leaders; whether we like them or not, we must remember that God has placed them in authority over us. We actively work to guard and upbuild unity and harmonious relationships in our action groups and in the larger community. We continuously work at building loving working relationships with our brothers and sisters in community, always remembering Jesus' commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you." We should have a servant's heart. As BCBP sisters, we must strive to live peacefully with and among our brothers and sisters, remembering that we can agree to disagree without being disagreeable.

We are tasked with creating and maintaining a spirit-filled environment in BCBP gatherings. For instance, the venue should be welcoming, inspirational, and conducive to the BCBP activity. Whether on the service team or not, we should mix with everyone in the spirit of fellowship with a "welcome, happy to see you here" smile.

Each one of us has some leadership abilities, or we would not be here today. However, this does not mean that we boss everyone else, or that we always insist on having things our own way "because I know better than you". As BCBP women, we must learn to be flexible, to know our limits, and try not to outshine our husbands





or those in authority over us. Granted, this is a hard lesson and sometimes difficult to learn, but once learned, you will enjoy freedom from the responsibility of the hard decisions, and so be free-er to be a “woman”. And I speak from experience, since from birth I had been taught to be independent and think for myself. It has taken me these 47 years of marriage and 25 years in the Brotherhood to learn that submission as a Christian woman and wife is what God wants to teach me...and I am still discovering how wonderful are God’s ways. I am certainly much happier and fulfilled as a woman, a wife, a mother, a grandmother, and a servant of God in the BCBP now that I have internalized more or less (I am still a work in process) these values of humility, submission, and spirit of service.

One of my favorite verses on this subject of womanly behavior is 1 Peter 3:1 that says: “Wives should be subordinate to your husbands so that, even if some disobey the word, they may be won over without a word by their wives’ conduct.” If we apply this to us BCBP ladies, we might paraphrase it this way: “Sisters, we should be humble and subordinate to those leaders in authority over us so that, even if some disobey the Word of God or the BCBP Commitment Card, they may be won over without a word by our conduct as Christian women.” The

Scripture passage in 1 Peter 3 continues in verse 4 by describing the character of the Christian woman: she should be clothed with “...the hidden character of the heart, expressed in the imperishable beauty of a gentle and calm disposition, which is precious in the sight of God.”

You may be commenting at this time, this is all very well and good in principle, but what specifically are some activities that we BCBP women may now engage in. Let me cite some actual examples. In our original action group, under AGL Vic and Rita Cuna, we ladies decided to declare one day a month as our “ladies day out”. Sometimes we would meet for lunch and then explore a new shopping mall, just window-shopping, not buying. For several years we spent our “ladies day out” meeting for lunch in one of our homes and discussing Women of the Bible, what these women had to teach us. Several years ago our Manila chapter held a very successful, inspiring and empowering out-of-town weekend retreat for Manila ladies called “The Feminine Face of God” facilitated by Sis Annie Salvador and myself.

This year in our Manila Chapter, we ladies under the leadership of CH wife Mila Cabayu decided to keep our 2nd Friday breakfast date but focus on a different topic each month. The

year’s schedule includes livelihood sessions on Flower Arrangement, The Art of Beading (rosary bracelets, etc.), Food Preservation, one or two life sharings, a teaching on Mama Mary, with several months being set aside for mini-sharings on Women of the Bible. Needless to say, all of us in Manila are really looking forward to the year’s activities!

So the bottom line is that we ladies are now free to plan our activities, teachings, bible studies, etc. focusing on ladies’ concerns, according to our felt needs. This, however, does not mean that we can operate independent of the chapter governance; the ladies’ programs and activities should be approved by the chapter. But as long as the planned activities meet the basic requirements of addressing women’s issues, of strengthening the chapter’s women as Christian women, wives and mothers, of nourishing right relationships with others and with God, and of enabling the chapter women to provide support and a strong anchor of loving relationships and service for the BCBP community, I am sure that the chapter will wholeheartedly approve and support such activities.

It was during the “Feminine Face of God” weekend retreat for ladies that we learned from Sis Annie the qualities of the BCBP -- BMW Woman. Who and what is a BCBP BMW woman?

The BCBP BMW woman has a BEAUTY that does not fade, she has a BEAUTY that is both internal and external, natural and loving. The BCBP BMW woman is clothed in MYSTERY that allows the invisible GOD to be visible through her. The BCBP BMW woman exudes WISDOM, wisdom anchored on Jesus and His Word, and the leadings of the Holy Spirit.

When this woman walks into a room, or into a gathering, others see her internal BEAUTY reflected in her face and in the way she walks, they are intrigued by her MYSTERY, and are awed by her WISDOM. In other words, the BCBP BMW woman reflects the love, peace and spirit of God in herself, her thoughts, her words, and her actions. She shares Christ Jesus with all she meets just by being a BCBP woman after God’s own heart.

Sisters in the BCBP, women with a heart for God, let us all strive to be BCBP BMW women, women of Beauty, Mystery and Wisdom, women who delight in being women, women who accept the responsibility of our unique God-given Ministry of Womanhood, women who find freedom and peace and spiritual nourishment in the BCBP, women who are not afraid to accept the responsibility of and the role of being a BCBP woman.

AMEN. 



Meeting the Challenge of Being a BCBP Women, NAC Ladies Forum

By Linda Tuason, BCBP Cebu North

Preparing a Place for His Presence in our Hearts, our Home and our Service

From John 14:23:

“Anyone who loves me will be true to my word, and my Father will love him; we will come to him and make our dwelling place with him.”

In the article of Fr. John Bertolucci entitled “Hermitage of the Heart” he says:

“In the midst of all the hustle and bustle of our very active life or in the midst of the uncertainty of our life’s situation, we possess a sanctuary into which we can enter. There we can find refuge any time of the day or night, at an instant’s notice. It is the hermitage of our heart.”

2 Cor. 6:16-18: **“I will dwell with them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be my people... I will welcome you and be a father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”**

We can always encounter our Lord within the person that we are, beyond the feelings and conscious awareness of our sinfulness, inadequacies and fears. Our intimate, internal relationship with Jesus needs to be consciously and deliberately cultivated on a daily basis no matter what the external circumstances of our life are. We need to just close our eyes, listen to our breathing, ignore the thoughts that would be coming our way, breathe in Jesus by saying “Maranatha,



come Lord Jesus”, and breathe out the negatives (ex. anger, anxiety, depression, etc.) in our life and be in His presence.

I began my personal prayer time when I started in the Charismatic renewal in Nov. 1978. From 15 minutes a day, it has now evolved into a daily hour and a half of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament wherein I enjoy the presence of the Lord by just being there, enjoying his presence, talking with him, listening to him, praising him, singing to him, asking for forgiveness and for healing of relationships, interceding in behalf of the needs of our people. From a simple request of taking over the activities of the day to more serious requests such as life and death situations, these daily encounters with our Lord give me the answers, the assurance, the peace, and the wisdom, that can only come from a relationship of trust with our Lord who knows our needs even before we ask of them. There I pour out my dreams, my desires, my petitions, my supplications, my pains to a God who is a friend, a Father, a savior, a healer, a counselor, and my companion in my life’s journey.

Psalm 46:10 says: **“ Be still and know that I am God.”** Such a daily time of being still, in meditative prayer, in addition to other spiritual exercises, helps me deepen an awareness that God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, are present within me. Our Lord wills that each one of us experience that peace that is beyond all understanding (Phil. 4:7) and encounter the Father, Son and Holy Spirit within.

Within us dwells the triune God who

is actively loving, healing, inspiring and enabling us to bear abundant fruit as we go about our day. The answer to our searching and struggling lies within our hearts. Within the hermitage of the heart we can find healing, consolation, immeasurable strength, love, friendship, affection, assurance, and affirmation. Within the hermitage of the heart we will experience true life as scripture tells us that **“Whoever possesses the Son possesses life.”** 1Jn 5:22

If we develop this daily time of meditative prayer that reveals to us the value of the inner life and helps protect the sacred space within the hermitage of our heart – we will fully understand and experience the power of these words in Phil. 4:13: **“In him who is the source of my strength I have strength for everything.”**

As we develop our intimate relationship with our Lord through daily meditative prayer and as we experience his peace, this will then spill over into our home and our service. We will experience oneness with the Lord so that it is no longer us that live but Christ who lives in us. Our thoughts, our words, our actions will be Christ’s thoughts, words and actions because through our daily meditations we take to heart the very words that He speaks.

And as we ponder his words in the recesses of our hearts, our home, too, will become a place where the Lord Jesus Christ reigns. Our home will be a place where prayers and scriptures form an integral part of the family pattern of life. This fulfills the Scripture in Psalm 127: **“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.”**

My husband and I have placed the Lord at the center of our lives, our marriage and our family. Our children are all grown up and yet my prayer for them is that each of them will have a personal relationship with our Lord, that they may have life partners who will bring them to heaven, and that the Lord will prosper the work of their hands.

Not only do we experience the Lord’s presence in our hearts and in our home but also in our service. Whenever Oscar and I embark on a service, the very first thing that we do is to lift



this service up to the Lord. We always begin and end our activities in prayer asking the Lord to take over all these activities and to be present in each one of them, that we be used as his instruments in proclaiming his kingdom and bringing as many participants as possible to know our Lord better. Prayers before service are important for it is not our work that we do but the Lord’s. We see to it that these activities are also backed up by the prayer support of our brothers and sisters in our intercessory groups.

In Matt 7:7 Jesus tells us, **“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”** And in Matt 21:22 He says **“Whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”** This is why we entrust all our activities into the Lord’s hands and ask him to take over each and everyone of them.

And so sisters, as we internalize these Scripture passages in the hermitage of our heart, as we labor in our home, as we serve the BCBP community and the market place, or as we experience loneliness, insecurity, or the uncertainties of life, we know that we always have a place where we can be alone with the Lord. It is a holy place, a specially chosen and royal place, owned by the “one who called us from darkness into his marvelous light” (1Pt 2:9). In that place, in the hermitage of our heart, we will find Jesus. And his “power now at work in us can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine” (Eph. 3:20).

Sisters, my prayer for all of us this morning is that we may understand the power of these words and thus prepare a sacred space, a holy hermitage, for His presence in our hearts, our home and our service. To God be the glory. **K**

Meeting the Challenge of Being a BCBP Women, NAC Ladies Forum

By Hedy Coruna, BCBP Cagayan de Oro

Good morning sisters! Let me begin my talk by telling you a short story that I have read in a book. Two babies are in their mother's womb and they are having a conversation. Let's call these twins EGO and Spirit.

Spirit says to Ego: "I know you will not accept this but I truly believe there is life after birth." Ego responds. "Don't be ridiculous. Look around you, this is all there is. Why must you think about something beyond this reality? Accept your lot in life. Go to your corner and forget this nonsense of life after birth."

Spirit quiets down for awhile but her inner voice won't allow her to remain silent any longer. "Please don't get mad, Ego. I have something else to say. I also believe that there is a mother." "A mother!" Ego laughs boisterously. "How can you be so absurd. There is no mother. You are alone here with me. Grab hold of that cord and stop being silly."

Spirit reluctantly stops, however she insisted "Please, Ego listen to me. I think these constant pressures we both feel, the movements that make us so uncomfortable, and all that closing in that seems to be taking place as we keep growing are getting us ready to meet mother face to face and these will bring us to a new celestial light where we will know an ecstasy we have not experienced before."

Ego answers, "All you've ever known is darkness. You've never seen light. Darkness and pressures and closed-in feeling are what life is all about. You'll have to fight it for as long as you live. You are really crazy."

The author of this story wants to let us know the wonder of having our Sacred Self triumph over the demands of the Ego self.

We remember in Psychology that the Ego is that false idea that we have of ourselves. When we have an absence of peace, when we worry a lot, when we rejoice in the troubles of others, the Ego is responsible. The Spirit is the one that gives peace and joy.

In medical school, our professor in neuropsychiatry would always emphasize that every person is unique and no two persons are alike. He called the human being an Individual Human Person composed of the Spirit, Psyche and the Soma (body). Our lectures then dealt more on the Psyche (mind) to which the Ego belongs.

Who are we really? Each of us is created in the image of God. May I quote our sister Nancy in her book *The Evangelizing Presence*: "We are created with a soul and a body. We are embodied spirits."... "Our body is our avenue to the world and the soul is the breath of our life and the window to the Spirit of God."

Many of us believe that who we are is the body we carry around, the profession we have, the brand of our watch, how much money we have in the bank and the religion we practice. We are just involved about externals which are always changing.

We have not looked inwards and experienced self-awareness, of trying to contact our spiritual nature, through which we can experience joy, love and bliss and radiate these qualities outward.

It is by accepting the challenge of facing inward and living by the directive of the Spiritual Self that will bring us to a level of awareness that can give us peace and inner fulfillment.

It is this self awareness that can dramatically alter our interaction with the material world. It will tell us what we really need in the physical world.

Then we will realize that there are no coincidences or accidents. Everything that shows up in our lives has something to teach us. We feel loved and therefore willingly accept His divine guidance.

In this heightened state of awareness we are able to shift from personal desire to helping others in need. We will desire less and yet feel more fulfilled. When we do this, we will see abundance flowing into our lives.

Most of all, we will not have any difficulty just being ourselves and living authentically. As we live authentically in this level of awareness, we will realize that whatever we have done in the past, even immoral or destructive acts, were just part of who we were at that time. We will be able to see mistakes as lessons for us to transcend. We can learn to forgive ourselves. Heightened awareness will make us less judgmental and more forgiving and this ability to forgive will bring new serenity to our lives.

We must never doubt that the Divine Presence is with us at all times and that the divine guidance is available anytime.

When there is doubt, Fear is present. There is a saying, "Fear knocked at the door. When Faith answered, no one was there."

Like any poison which has an antidote, Fear has Faith as its antidote. Faith is knowing God, not just believing in God. The most common fears are fear of the unknown, and fear of death. When I was a child my greatest fear was losing my mother. She was told by a fortune teller that she was going to die at age 51. I was able to breathe a sigh of relief when she was past the age of 51. She died at the age of 82. That is why in the BCBP, we are told not to believe in fortune tellers and horoscopes.

There are so many other kinds of fear. There

is fear of isolation for which we have to get rid of because we are never alone. When we know this, we will never fear loneliness. The fear of suffering can be overcome if we know our Sacred Self. Our joy is divine, so is our suffering. If one has fear of success, one can replace that fear with knowing that one deserves any prosperity or abundance that comes his way. When we are in the quest of our Sacred Self, external measures of success will appear and this success is an inner matter.

It is only through surrendering our fears to God that we can overcome them. God is always with us no matter what happens. They say that what is constant is CHANGE. But God is constant and He never changes. He is always faithful and full of love for us.

My husband and I have been in the BCBP for 19 years. Before that I was concerned only with the externals. I thank the Lord for giving us the BCBP. Now I know that each and everyone of us has a Sacred Self that we can get to know intimately once we experience heightened self-awareness in the presence of God. And it is by knowing ourselves and by knowing our God that we will be able to overcome our fears and live joyfully and peacefully with ourselves and with each other.

Thank you and Good morning! God bless us all! 



Knowing Oneself and Overcoming One's Fears

Meeting the Challenge of Being a BCBP Women, NAC Ladies Forum

By Beng Pelaez, BCBP Cagayan de Oro

Dealing with Conflicts in the Workplace

Good morning, ladies! My topic this morning is about dealing with conflicts in the market place, particularly about conflicts in a family business. No one is exempt from such conflicts in the market place; they are a regular part of human life. Thus, we need to deal with them or at least avoid them in a good Christian way.

The main approach is to rationally discuss the matter with love and understanding rather than complaining about the person we are at odds with, criticizing them to others, putting pressure on them, making them feel guilty for other incidents, making snide remarks about them, especially behind their back.

My presentation this morning is a personal Case Study about our family business. I was the manager of the Pelaez family beach resort for almost 4 years. Since the start, a few relatives criticized and talked behind my back saying that I was not a professional manager, that I was acting like an owner and so forth. One of the cousins-in-law even went as far as conniving with an employee who executed a notarized manifesto containing all their fabricated accusations. The Manifesto stated that I was a gambler, a drunkard, a good-for-nothing manager, I was stealing ... all 27 counts!

I was devastated when Bong and I got hold of a copy from the Chairman of the Board. My first reaction was JIHAD, the non-Christian revenge "an eye for an eye". But inwardly I knew this was wrong and against the Christian principles we had learned in the BCBP. Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:39: "But I tell you this: do not oppose evil with evil; if someone slaps you on your right cheek, turn and offer the other."

I prayed to God to give me the courage, patience, love and understanding in facing this problem. His answer was: There is no end to

this vicious cycle. The only way for it to stop is to absorb it.

I resigned as manager. We talked about the Manifesto in the Board. The accusing employee even blackmailed the Chairman of the Board with the threat that he would report the company to the BIR for not paying the right taxes and that he would file a complaint with the DOLE for not giving right wages. Lies and more lies!

The Board was intimidated and was not able to resolve the issue. Bong and I proceeded in filing a libel case against that employee. He went absent without leave and hid for 2-1/2 years until the warrant of arrest officer caught up with him. In the mediation board, the employee cried and apologized and asked for forgiveness. Now, sisters, I ask you, would you have forgiven him? Well, I did forgive him and even lowered the Php 200,000 damages to Php 50,000, payable pa in 5 months installment.

When conflicts occur, the first thing to do is try to figure it out, to find out the root of the problem. We need to ask ourselves why is there a conflict here:

- a. Is it a matter of right or wrong?
- b. Is it because of differing expectations?
- c. Is it because of personality differences?

a) If it is a matter of right or wrong:

In Romans 12:18 we are told to live at peace with all. Another version says: "Be a woman of peace, seeking good relationships, avoiding quarrelling."

In my particular case, the conflict was initiated by the wife of the Chairman of the Board who was interested in my position as Manager. Scripture tells us that anything that is not in the light will



Christians meekly AND wisely. We should be firm and correct false things that are said. We should be "meek as a lamb BUT wise as a serpent". My meekness was displayed when I did not box the employee and the Chairman's wife! My being wise was in filing the case in the courts and letting the wheel of justice take its course.

b) If it is a conflict because of differing expectations:

In this story of mine, two relatives of Bong residing in the area envied my involvement in the Company from conceptualization to the implementation of the project. I was even given voting rights for four families out of eight families when the beach was only a family affair. That could probably be one reason why I was the subject of much gossip.

This kind of conflict can be avoided by making clear agreements and documenting them. In other words, get everything in writing. Recently the Board passed a resolution stating: "NO HIRING OF RELATIVES FOR POSITION OF MANAGER" in order to avoid future conflict among the relatives.

But when I became manager there were no company policies with regard to employees and stockholders. So I was running the daily resort operation according to what I thought was right. Unfortunately others thought differently. So I wrote down all my recommendations to the board for approval. Of course, it helps that my immediate Boss is my husband Bong.

The Company has also adopted an Employees Code of Discipline Manual, based on 31 best practices and core values patterned after the BCBP Commitment Card. One example is: Code of Discipline No 31: The employee does not gossip

always come out. So, the Chairman of the Board was replaced by his brothers for not being able to discipline his wife who happened to be only an in-law. And now the wife is banned from entering the resort.

We should take hostility to our being

Christians meekly AND wisely. We should be firm and correct false things that are said. We should be "meek as a lamb BUT wise as a serpent". My meekness was displayed when I did not box the employee and the Chairman's wife! My being wise was in filing the case in the courts and letting the wheel of justice take its course.

about his/her co-worker(s) and stockholders. First offense is a written warning; second offense merits two weeks suspension; with the third offense, the offender is dismissed.

c) If the conflict is because of personality differences:

This is a common challenge, one that is perhaps God-given for fallen people to help them change (Proverbs 27:17). When we get into this kind of conflict, we are often reacting to something about ourselves. For example: if you always like to be right, you will get turned off by people who always like to be right also.

Let me talk for a moment about how I am generally perceived as a person. My personality is "Malakas ang dating. Mayabang." These traits may be due to my over-confidence and being a former international stewardess for 8 years. In my case study, some of the Company owners were born and are still residing in that place, a 4th class municipality. Manila people and particularly in-laws (me!) are a threat to their comfort zone. I had to adjust to the culture instead of them adjusting to me. I had to learn the dialect and be sensitive to the norms that are not BCBP, such as "say maybe when you mean 'no'".

Lastly, we should be thankful for relationship difficulties in the light of Romans 8:28: We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him, whom he has called according to his plan.

We need to remember that whatever the conflict in our working place is, how we handle the conflict is almost always more important than what the resolution is.

God is seeking to make us people of character. And often the Lord helps us grow by allowing us to go through some difficulty. One of the most fruitful difficulties for us to go through is the conflict in our relationships with other people. This experience will be fruitful, that is, if we end up handling these difficulties well.

The bottom line here is for us to begin looking at our difficulties and conflicts as challenges for growth, rather than obstacles or trials. When we have the Lord on our side, nothing is impossible... and we will become better and stronger Christians.

Thank you and good morning. 

BCBP BREAKFAST DIRECTORY - MARCH 2010

CHAPTER/OUTREACH	VENUES	DAY	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	CONTACT PERSON	CELL PHONE
METRO MANILA								
CAMANAVA	Max's Restaurant, EDSA, Cal.	SAT	M	S	M	J	Galo Arias	09178588105
GREENHILLS	Club Filipino, San Juan	THU	M	J	M	S	Joey Montes	09178949557
PASIG c/o Greenhills	Congo Grille, El Pueblo, Ortigas Ctr	SAT	M	J	M	M	William Dionisio	09178330099
QUEZON CITY	Max's Restaurant, Sct. Tuazon	SAT	M	J	M	S	Micmic Juayno	09174805715
NOVALICHES	San Benisa Clubhouse, Jordan Plains	SAT	J	-	J	-	Roy Calleja	09177962690
RIZAL	Max's Restaurant, Taytay	SAT	M	J	M	S	Edwin Espiritu	09228149058
MARIKINA	Max's Restaurant, Blue Wave Mall	SAT	M	J	M	S	Ronnie Avelino	09273065077
ALABANG	Ayala Alabang Country Club	SAT	M	J	M	S	Bobby Castro	
LAS PIÑAS	Max's Resto, Alabang-Zapote Rd	SAT	M	M	M	J	Bong Valdez	09175299384
MAKATI (Wed)	Makati Sports Club	WED	M	J	M	M	Rudy Orino	09272544687
TAGUIG c/o Makati	Kabisera Resto, Taguig	SAT	-	J	-	S	Dindo Ibazeta	09175136667
MANILA	Jade Vine Resto, UN Ave., Ermita	FRI	J	S	M	M	Ferdie Correa	09176271009
MANILA NORTH	Chowking, Abad Santos cor Hermosa	SAT	J	J	J	J	Bong Rivera	0917 3991386
PARAÑAQUE	Max's Restaurant, Sucat, Pqe	SAT	M	S	M	J	Joel Millena	09178048826
PASAY CITY	Greenside, Villamor Golf Club, Pasay	SAT	-	M	-	J	Sen Cid	09177908545
PTO PRINCESA NORTH	Linda Hall, Skylight Restaurant	SAT	J	-	S	-	Marlon Sendaydiego	09194362771
PTO PRINCESA SOUTH	Ardent Hotel, San Miguel	SAT	-	S	-	J	Nelson Caabay	09178196768

NORTHERN & CENTRAL LUZON

BAGUIO	Supreme Hotel, Magsaysay Ave	SAT	M	J	M	S	Rudy Maningo	09194431239
CANDON, Ilocos	Max's Restaurant, Candon City	SAT	J	-	J	-	Butch Mascarinas	09217348389
DAGUPAN	J*-Star Plaza, S (M-Pinkies, L-Jam)	SAT	J*	-	S	-	Oca Navata	09175591013
URDANETA	Ciudad Ferdinandina	SAT	-	J	-	M	Ariel Noranda	09179676671
LAOAG	M-Michoico Resto, J-Palazzo dLaoag	SAT	-	M	-	J	Sydney Santiago	09175700100
SAN FERNANDO, L.U.	Sea & Sky	SAT	J	-	S	M	Allan Avila	09173501091
TUGUEGARAO	Crown Resto & Hotel	SAT	M	M	S	J	Gary Hernandez	09173902413
SANTIAGO, ISABELA	Hotel Amancio	SAT	M	J	J	M	Nash Lagman	09228692221
NUEVA VIZCAYA	Governor's Palace, Solano	SAT	-	J	-	J	Alain Manaig	09175783833
APARRI	St. Patrick Hotel	SAT	J	-	J	-	Angel Rabago	09279437744
ANGELES	KM 86 Food Rest. Sta. Maria	SAT	J	J	J	J	Meng Evaresto	09189401614
BALANGA Bataan	Crown Royale Hotel	SAT	J	J	J	J	Oca Banzon	09175760982
BULACAN	Max's Rest., Guiginto, Bulacan	SAT	M	J	M	S	Cris Constantino	09294111858
PULILAN c/o Bulacan	Café Narciso, Pulilan	SUN	J	J	J	M	Chito del Castillo	09175423399
CABANATUAN	Village Inn, Mabini Homes	SAT	M	J	J	J	Ed Mateo	09209538540
OLONGAPO	Max's Restaurant, Magsaysay Drive	SAT	J	J	J	J	Nestor Publico	09209519791
SAN FERNANDO, PAMP.	Villa Conchita R (M)/ McDonalds (S)	SAT	J	M	M	S	Lito Santos	09209510739
GAPAN	Jjerrbee's Resto	SAT	J	J	J	J	Noli Inton	09151132357

SOUTHERN LUZON

BACORR	Paradiso Terrestre, Molino	SAT	M	-	M	-	Ed Ancheta	09175747467
BATANGAS CITY	Hotel Pontefino	SAT	M	J	S	M	Alen Abendan	09228998991
NASUGBU	Dalampagan Restaurant	SAT	-	J	-	J	Dan Pasia	09209035490
BIÑAN-SAN PEDRO	Max's Resto Pavillion, Binan	SAT	M	J	M	M	Eugene de Guzman	09273187240
CALAMBA	Riverview Resort	SAT	M	J	S	M	Rene Palenzuela	09178312609
CALAPAN	Chowking, Calapan	SAT	M	J	S	M	Rod Umali	09175040832
CAVITE-IMUS	Orchard Golf & Country Club	SAT	M	J	M	M	Gerry Arais	09285079736
DAET	Golden Palace & Restaurant	SAT	-	J	-	J	Tony Magana	09195888034
GEN TRIAS	Tempura Resto, Gov Drive, Manggahan	SAT	J	M	S	M	Boy Castro	09195714042
GUMACA	Chowking Restaurant	SAT	-	M	-	M	Edwin Oliveros	09108948084
LIPA	Luntian Restaurant, Lipa City	SAT	M	J	M	S	Boy delos Reyes	09178218409
LOS BANOS	Chowking, Vega Ctr, Grove LB	FRI	M	M	M	M	Ferdie Cartano	09228063794
LUCENA	Guisseppi Restaurant	SAT	M	J	M	S	Joji Aranilla	09209095545
SABLAYAN	Kainan sa Kubo Resto	SAT	-	M	-	J	Boy Abeleda	09209245826
SAN PABLO	Coco Palace, Nat'l Hi-way	SAT	M	J	M	S	Willie Cadiente	09283025212
SAN PEDRO (Laguna) -	Max's Resto, Pacita Complex	SAT	M	-	M	-	Jojo Lindaya	09272184854
STA ROSA	Max's Resto, Balibago Complex	SUN	M	J	M	S	Tony Eugenio	09077659637
STA CRUZ	Chowking	SAT	J	J	J*	J	Vic Apale	09209181515
TAGAYTAY	Lourdes Church (Sep-Nov)	SAT	M	J	M	J	Boyet Cabonce	09178016409
TANAUAN	Hacienda Darasa	SAT	M	J	M	S	Mar Valencia	09209215871
LEGAZPI	Quick & Hearty	SAT	-	J	-	S	Ric Quiambao	09182430637
NAGA	Champagne Garden	SAT	S	-	J	-	Tom Cecilio	09175583041
SORSOGON	Jollibee Sorsogon	SAT	M	-	J*	-	Roger Jamora	09194803147
PINAMALAYAN MINDO	Floras Resto	SAT	-	-	M	-	Bon Lim	09189364081
SAN JOSE MINDORO	Sikatuna Beach Hotel	SAT	J	-	M	-	Bong Espiritu	09285206180
TAAL-LEMERY	Max's Resto , Lemery	SAT	-	M	-	J	Art Mercado	09297889254

BCBP BREAKFAST DIRECTORY - MARCH 2010

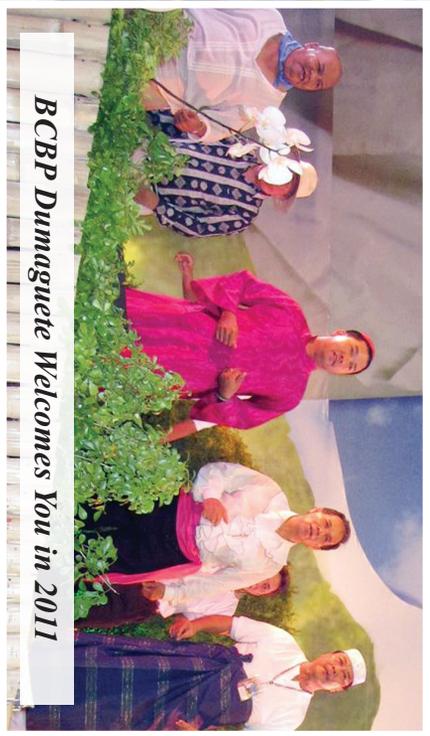
CHAPTER/OUTREACH	VENUES	DAY	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	CONTACT PERSON	CELL PHONE
VISAYAS								
BALAMBAN	Balamban Nat'l High School	SAT	J	-	S	-	Dante Erasan	09189216756
BOGO Cebu	Pizza Pub	SAT	J	-	M	-	Eddie Ybanez	
CEBU NORTH	City Sports Club, Ayala	SAT	J	M	S	M	Jojo Cinco	09189378476
CEBU SOUTH	Sacred Heart Ctr., D. Jakosalem	SAT	J	S	M	S	Lito Omega	09184401904
CEBU CENTRAL	Casino Espanol de Cebu	SAT	M	S	M	J	Manny Tapangan	09273424126
CONSOLACION	San Narciso Pastoral Council	SAT	-	J	M	M	Siegfried Lanticse	09282632189
MACTAN	Crown Registry Suites	SAT	M	J	M	S	Jun Pardico	
MANDAUE	Montebello Villa Hotel, Banilad	SAT	M	J	M	S	Mar Sequino	09263125821
TALISAY Cebu	Chowking Gaisano Tabunok	SUN	M	J	-	S	Lino Canete	09173273780
BAIS	PPC	SAT	-	M	-	J	Eden Garcia	09276839648
DUMAGUETE-NORTH	Bethel Guest House	SAT	J	M	S	-	Tony Tero	09193528725
DUMAGUETE-SOUTH	Plaza Ma. Luisa	SAT	S	M	J	-	Cesar Concepcion	09069376786
SIQUIJOR	Webs Legacy Inn	SAT	J	-	J	-	Tata Quilicot	09169638026
SAN CARLOS	Carmel's	SAT	-	M	-	J	Joy Tambis	09173019344
TAGBILARAN NORTH	JJ Seafood	SAT	-	J	M	M	Romy Ruiz	09175468581
TAGBILARAN SOUTH	La Roca Hotel	SAT	-	J	M	S	Oca Lapez	09277334154
TALIBON	Talibon Pension House	SUN	-	J	-	J	Cleto Garcia	09208016808
TUBIGON	JJ Rest., 2/F Pub Market	SUN	-	J	-	M	Boy Caga	09202321369
NAVAL, BILIRAN	Marina's Seaside Inn	SUN	-	J	-	M	Juan Pastor	09153647226
BORONGAN	JRC Bldg, Brgy Songco	SAT	-	J	-	J	Sonny Uy	09177222803
CALBAYOG	I's Plant Hotel * / Breadmix **	SUN	J**	M*(Sat)	L*	-	Dado Callosa	09216304902
CATBALOGAN	Flaming Hat Resto	SAT	J	-	M	-	Egan Gabon	09209241699
CATARMAN	DCC Annex	SUN	-	J	-	J	Jess Laodenio	09168763219
TACLOBAN	Sitti Grille Resto	SAT	-	M	M	J	Joseph Escalona	09152153587
BAYBAY	Parish Center	SUN	-	J	-	S	Tom Londina	
MAASIN	Ampil Function Hall	SUN	J	-	S	-	Rex Austria	09107830347
ORMOC	Pongos Hotel	SAT	-	J	M	J	Boy Fiel	09189207074
SOGOD	Sogod Bay Lodge	SAT	J	-	J	-	Adrian Alquiza	09185702685
HILONGOS	Holy Name Society Social Hall	SAT	J	-	J	-	Maning Fulache	
PALOMPON	PACCI	SAT	J	-	M	-	Edwin Cortez	
BACOLOD NORTH	Quan LS* / Bar 21**/Jollibee & Quan***	SAT	M*	J**	S***	J**	Fred Dofeliz	09179155411
BACOLOD SOUTH	McDo Lacson*/ 21st Resto**/ Jollibee LS***	SAT	M*	S***	M*	J**	Cabo Araneta	09228439128
SILAY	BCBP Center, Santan , Rizal St	SAT	-	M	J	M	Leonel Horvidalla	09104038331
ILOILO	Amigo Terraces Hotel	SAT	J	M	S	M	Toto Tanagon	09104381188
MOLO	Hotel del Rio, GLuna , Iloilo City	SAT	J	M	S	M	Baby Soriano	09209050533
KALIBO	Nazareth Home	SAT	J	M	S	M	Monchie Rebesencio	09176224862
BORACAY	Tropical Guest House Strn 3	SAT	J	J	J	J	Diony Ruance	09196886656
ROXAS	Pizza Junction, Rizal St.	SAT	J	M	S	M	Dante Corros	09189431408

MINDANAO

BUTUAN	Luciana Convention Center (Priscilla Guest House*)	SAT	M	J	M**	J	Ricky Tabasa	09103160342
CDO EAST	Sentro 1850	SAT	M	M	J	S	George Nolasco	09237005081
CDO WEST	VIP Hotel	SAT	M	S	J	M	Rhady Escarra	09202032910
DAVAO	Royal Mandaya Hotel	SAT	M	S	M	J	Pepe Agulo	09165092401
DIGOS	CAP Building	SAT	-	J	-	J	Macy Directo	09052805519
GEN. SANTOS	East Asia Royale Hotel	SAT	J	-	J	-	Danny Hamoy	09177154289
SURIGAO	Gateway Hotel	SAT	J	-	J	-	Jun Bayana	09208344407
TAGUM	Miko's Brew, Apokon Road	SAT	-	J	M	J	Boy Galagala	09155018741
PANABO	Maria Clara Resto	SAT	J	-	J	-	Arman Yambao	09189793412
MALAYBALAY	Haus Maibu	SAT	J	-	J	-	Lino Epie	09095139015
VALENCIA	Mindy's / * Paulican FH Maramag	SAT	*J	M	-	J	Nick Baliguig	09176281957
DIPOLOG	Top Plaza Hotel	SAT	-	J	M	S	Maiko Wong	09285066457
ILIGAN	Ma. Cristina Hotel	SAT	M	J	M	S	Mike Magsalin	09089410101
KAPATAGAN	Arcinas Resto	SAT	J	-	J	-	Fernie Legaria	
OROQUIETA	Kamayans sa Oro	SAT	J	-	J	-	Marchito Gonzales	09192205515
PAGADIAN	Pinchik Restaurant* Jollibee **	SAT	-	J*	M**	J*	Joe de Pedro	09178194168
ZAMBOANGA	Astoria Hotel	SAT	J	-	M	-	Lino Genel	09274237846
IPIL	Sibugay Hotel	SAT	-	J	-	J	Bogs Din	09177081432

ABROAD / CALIFORNIA USA

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:	Maynila Resto/ Maegans Grill	Sun	S	J	J	-	Nelson Ynion	310-3579973
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA:	Fresh Pizza & BBQ Sn Lorenzo CA	Sat	-	-	J	-	Ed Fernandez	650-2787829
VALLEJO / NORCAL	Max's of Mla, Sonoma, Vallejo CA	Sat	J	-	-	-	Jimmy Buenavista	916-622-9140



BCBP Dumaguete Welcomes You in 2011

