

SUNDAY LINE AND WORLD MINISTRIES



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Caring for children around the world

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CATHEDRAL OF PRAISE *Manila, Philippines*



Manila, Philippines

Donations contributed to our Sunday Line mission partners Beverley and David Sumrall, pastors of Cathedral of Praise in Manila, go towards providing food for the week-long feedings that volunteers from their church distribute to needy families in various areas of the capital.

Beverley Sumrall comments:

Following one of our Communion services a lovely young woman named Jessica came to show me her brand new little baby girl. Jessica is one of the street children we used to feed through the Sunday Line feeding program. She became a believer and by the time she was a young teenager, she came



Jessica and her family

into the church. She got involved in one of the girl's singing groups and went on with serving the Lord. Now she is starting her own little family. She was beaming with joy over her baby, and I couldn't help but wonder how very different her life would have been if not for the wonderful partners at Sunday Line and their faithful love for these street children.

In 2013 we saw 1208 people come to know the Lord at the feedings. Many of these are the adult by-standers who come out of curiosity and stay to hear the Gospel and to ask for prayer.

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"OUR LIVING HOPE!"

Key Scripture: 1 Peter 1:3

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

Confucius is dead and his tomb is occupied, Buddha is dead and his tomb is occupied, Mohammed is dead and his tomb is occupied, but Jesus' tomb is empty because He is not here...he is risen. That is why Christianity is known as the "living hope"!

In today's world we all want to have assurances. And so this month I want to give five assurances that believers can have because of Jesus' resurrection:

1. Christ's resurrection is our assurance that all of the prophecies will also be fulfilled.

Psalm 16:10-11 foretold the resurrection of Jesus' body from the dead: **"Because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand."**

The Psalmist had prophesied that the Anointed One would not be kept in the grave nor experience decay, but would live and therefore we also can be assured that all of God's promises and prophecies concerning our resurrection will also be fulfilled.

2. Christ's resurrection assures our access to God.

1 Timothy 2:5: **"For there is one God and one mediator between man and God, the man Christ Jesus."** We can now enjoy direct access to the very throne room of God because we have a heavenly mediator. In the O.T. the believer had to go through a priest who was a sinful man. Today we have Jesus as our mediator to make intercession on our behalf.

3. Christ's resurrection: Is our assurance that heaven is our home.

John 8:56: **"Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."** Prior to Jesus' resurrection no one had ever gone into heaven because mankind's sins had not been atoned for. For 4,000 years the Jews had waited for the arrival of the Messiah. They had anticipated God's promise by faith. But after His resurrection Jesus ascended into heaven taking a place called Paradise with Him. Paradise contained all of the departed spirits of the righteous O.T. saints who had died in faith looking forward to the coming of the Messiah. No wonder David was "glad" that his own soul in Psalm 16:8-11 would not be left in the place of the departed spirits.

4. Christ's resurrection: Is our assurance that the devil's power is destroyed.

Hebrews 2:14 tells us: **"Since the children have flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity so that by his death He might destroy him who holds the power of death- that is the devil"**. Jesus' resurrection disarmed Satan's power over death. The price of our sin has been paid and we are freed from the curse of death. Christ's resurrection is our assurance that the sting of death has been removed.

The greatest fear for every person is the fear of death. But for a Christian to die is to be

present with the Lord. When a Christian dies it is a home coming, a promotion, a time for rejoicing and celebration. No matter what happens in life, our destiny is in God's hands and he gives us His peace to face every storm that life may throw at us.

5. Christ's resurrection: Is our assurance of a future glorious new body.

Phil 3:20-21 tells us: **"He will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body."** In Luke's account we can find the clearest details concerning the resurrected body of Jesus. First of all Jesus walked and talked with the two disciples on the way to Emmaus. Then He showed his disciples His hands and feet, and then He ate with them to prove that His body was real.

Our new resurrected bodies will be totally animated and controlled by the Spirit. The spirit will take the body wherever it will because a spiritual body is not subject to physical laws.

This is how the apostle Paul describes our new body in 1 Corinthians 15:41-44: **"The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor. So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body."**

To those who are facing health issues today, this is of great comfort. Knowing that one day we shall all have the same glorious body that Christ had. No more sickness and no more pain.

Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:49 writes: **"As we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."**

The garment of light which Adam lost when he sinned will once again regain its splendor. Once again we will bear the likeness of God and we will be with Jesus in heaven where He

has prepared a place for us. There will be no questions asked. The dim glass that we see through here on earth will be made clear.

In closing, if we want to know how it will be possible to be raised from the dead...we will find the answer in Romans 8:11. **"And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you."**

Isn't this marvelous news? **"Because of His Spirit who lives in you!"** We are assured that our bodies will one day be raised because the Spirit that raised Christ from the grave also resides and dwells in us!

This truly is a living hope. Not a dying hope. Not a hope of wishing, despairing or wondering. But a hope that goes beyond the grave, a hope that transcends all of the trials that we will ever experience in this life.

Dearly beloved in Christ, let us continually remember that while the rest of the world is dying, on their journey to death and destruction.... we are on a journey that leads to life, being transformed each and every day in mind, soul and spirit which will one day culminate in our final transformation....the transformation of our bodies when we shall have the same kind of body that Jesus has today.

The tomb truly is empty and He is not there, but Jesus is fully alive and now lives in us forevermore!

On behalf of the Sunday Line team, we want to wish you God's Richest Blessings during this Easter season.

Blessings in Christ our Saviour & Lord!

*Pastor Roman
& Pat Kozak*



Continued from front



Choir feeding

During the feeding program in the Capulong Tondo area, the Word of God was shared with the mothers, sisters and grandmothers of the children who attended. Later, when they were divided into four smaller groups, the ladies requested prayer. Most desired wholeness in their families, restoration of broken relationships, good health and stable jobs for their husbands. Let us believe with them, that as they mature in their faith, God would meet their heart-felt needs.



Military

SHARING NATURAL AND SPIRITUAL FOOD

The military men and women who attend Cathedral of Praise also take time to volunteer and reach out to families in need. These “Mighty Men and Women in Uniform”, used to dealing with army and navy officers and the Marine Corps, enjoy sharing their faith with the children and their parents.

TESTIMONIES OF GOD’S GOODNESS

Myrna: My job is to take care of my seven children - 4 boys and 3 girls ages 7 to 16 years old, as well as my 10 month old baby. My husband is a machine operator. Last month he and my youngest son became sick with an intestinal infection. When they were prayed for, both were healed that same day. We have been attending the church for the last few months. My oldest daughter is now a graduate of the 2nd level of the discipleship training.

Alma Mae: I’ve been attending the feeding program for the past week. I have three children. My husband works as a labourer in a stainless steel company. Thank you so much for taking time to teach us the Word of God. I feel peace in my heart when you pray for us and for my husband who is at work.



Myrna

Alma Mae