

SUNDAY LINE AND WORLD MINISTRIES



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Caring for children around the world

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WEEKLY FEEDING AND OUTREACH

Manila, Philippines



THOUGHTS FROM BEVERLEY SUMRALL, PASTOR OF CATHEDRAL OF PRAISE:

"Every time I go to the Feeding Program, I get this feeling like God is grinning at me from ear to ear and that I could fly without an airplane. The kids are SO delightful! As soon as I get out of the car I sit among the children, talk with them, make friends, sing with them, learn their memory verses with them and hand out the food. Many have seen a blue-eyed, blond-haired person on a poster or on TV but have never actually met one. I am a curiosity! The children want to sit on my lap, count my toes, touch my hair and hold my hand. One little boy asked if he could have my hair. You just never know what a child is going to say!"

The morning I visited, 135 children and 88 mothers prayed the prayer of salvation. There are such important and long lasting results from what you do. We thank you, our Sunday Line Supporters, for your love and care for our street children. We praise God for the awesome and wonderful opportunity that He has given us.

The mums and the children are separated and taught according to their age level, and following the games, songs and stories, food is distributed. The kids will devour the food as though they haven't seen any for a long while. It is a very depressed area. I was so happy we were there, and so happy we will be in the same place for

a long enough time to truly make an impact. It does hurt just thinking about the kids - they will go to bed that night with tummies full and hearts full of Jesus, but will they stick with it and follow Jesus for a life time so their lives will take that upward turn?"



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MINISTRY GROUPS PARTICIPATE IN THE FEEDING:

All the various ministry groups in the Cathedral of Praise are privileged to participate in the Feeding Program. Because there are so many volunteers, each group is given the maximum of a two-week period each year. Everyone enjoys every moment.

Pastor Gary, who works with some of the Church Choirs, reports on his two-week time:

"The children are very happy and so grateful for the time that has been given to them; not just to be fed with hot and delicious food, but also to be taught from the Bible. They learn praise and worship songs with the help of the choir members and memory verses and Bible stories from the kids' ministry workers.

We also had fun teaching and encouraging the parents. Ten people responded for water baptism in the two Saturday services.

On the first Saturday, an elderly woman, Pacita, had just joined the Bible Study for the parents.



Some of the very delightful children in the feeding program



The parents also have a teaching time and receive prayer

She was experiencing difficulty and pain when walking or standing and could barely move from place to place, even with a cane. She accepted the Lord on that day and after that was anointed with oil and prayed for. We saw her later that same hour, not using the walking cane, and walking even better than with the cane! And that's not all - she was one of the two who got water baptized that Saturday night. The whole church cheered for her when she was getting into the water. She was obedient to the Lord and her face was glowing with happiness. On the same day, we saw a person get saved, get healed, and immediately respond to following Jesus in water baptism."

FACING LIFE'S DISRUPTIONS

Key Scripture: Psalm 90:12

*“Teach us to number
our days and
recognize how few
they are. Help us
to spend them
as we should.”*

Have you ever had the feeling that you are not in control of your life? Just when you think that your life is sorted out...something comes along to disrupt your life again. It's a fact that we live our lives full of disruptions, and disruptions never come at a convenient time. Someone may say, “Well Pastor Roman, that is my life. I just live from one calamity to another. I can't wait to get up each morning to see what my next disruption is going to be!”

Apart from being that kind of person, most people do manage to live their lives with some kind of normality. I loosely define normality “as living life with some kind of order”. The Psalmist cries out to God: **“Teach us to number our days and recognize how few they are. Help us to spend them as we should.”**

Many of us would like to think that we are in control of our lives when in fact we are controlled more by external things. Here are some interesting statistics of how external things control our lives:

Did you know?

- That you will spend 6 months sitting at stoplights?
- That in your lifetime you will spend 8 months opening junk mail?
- That you will spend 1 year searching for misplaced objects?

- That you will spend 2 years trying to return phone calls?
- That you will spend 4 years trying to read all your e-mail?
- That you will spend 5 years standing in line ups (always carry a book with you)?
- That a 10 minute coffee break each day adds up to 41.7 hours in a year.

Without knowing it, time flies by, and we wonder what we have accomplished in life. We ask ourselves: Is this what life is really all about, running from one thing to another to keep up with life's disruptions or is there really some better way that I can live my life?

And the answer is YES! There is a better way... it's called living God's way. It is written in a book called the Bible. Some refer to the Bible as God's book. It's also known as a book of life - it tells us how we can live a life with purpose and with meaning.

In Matthew chapter 4 we read about some fishermen that were living normal lives. They spent each day carrying out their normal chores, repairing their boats and mending nets because that was their way of making a living...they were fishermen. Everything was normal, when suddenly one day someone disrupted their lives by saying: **“Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”** Jesus told them to give up their control. Verse 20 tells us they did...they dropped everything and followed this stranger. Now that is what I call a major disruption.

Throughout the Bible we see time and again, how God disrupted people's normal lives.

- Abraham's life was disrupted when God told him to leave his home country.
- Moses' life was disrupted when God called him to deliver God's people from Egypt.
- Jacob's life was disrupted when he wrestled with the angel of God.
- Jonah's life was disrupted when God called him to go to the people of sinful Nineveh.
- Paul's life was disrupted when God knocked him off his horse on the Damascus Road.
- Three thousand lives were disrupted on the Day of Pentecost.

And the list goes on.

When people become challenged by God ... it means a disruption. Many will decide that they are just fine living their normal lives as they have. They don't want to be disrupted.

WHY are they not interested, why don't they want to allow God to invade their lives? Because it means giving up control.

Instead of sleeping in on Sunday mornings they will have to go to church. Instead of watching the hockey game they might have to go to a Bible study. Instead of going to dinner and a movie, they might have to go to a prayer meeting. Instead of watching a football game they might have to read their Bibles. Plans to buy a newer car, a bigger house, or go on an extended holiday may have to be placed on hold because now they have commitments to their local church.

This month I want to equip you to live the victorious Christian life. And in order to have victory as a Christian I have listed some of the things which a Christian "SHOULD NOT DO".

1. DO NOT WORRY ABOUT THINGS YOU CANNOT CONTROL. It's ridiculous to worry about things you cannot change. We must do the best we can and then trust God.

2. DO NOT WORRY OVER SPILT MILK. William Shakespeare said: *"Wise men never sit and wail about their loss but cheerily seek how to redress their harms"*. We should use our mistakes as lessons to learn from, and then not repeat them, and get on with our lives.

3. DO NOT WORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY. In Philippians 3:13 the apostle Paul said: **"Brothers, But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead."** Paul's advice is to FORGET yesterday. So many people live in the past. We should not let the hurts of yesterday, hurt us today. Today is a new day, do not let the past dictate your today.

4. DO NOT WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW. We should live one day at a time. In Matthew 6:34 Jesus said: **"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."** We were created to only carry one day's burdens at a time, so why carry yesterday's, today's and tomorrow's burdens? Simply live one day at a time.

5. DO NOT WORRY ABOUT THINGS THAT WILL NEVER HAPPEN. The French philosopher Montaigne once said: *"My life has been full of terrible misfortunes, most of which never happened."* Remember, God is in control - trusting God allows Him to display His power.

6. DO NOT WORRY ABOUT DYING. The greatest fear that man has is the fear of death but, as a follower

of Jesus, we have been delivered from the fear of death. The apostle Paul knew this: Philippians 1:21: **"For to me, to live be Christ and to die is gain."**

7. DO NOT WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING. When we think back to some of our past disruptions and worries, what seemed like such a mountain then... is so insignificant today?

8. DO NOT WORRY ABOUT CRITICISM. One of our great failures as Christians is that we try to please everybody, and that really is impossible. Jesus never said "I have come to please people." Eleanor Roosevelt said this: *"Never be bothered by what people say. Do what you feel in your heart to be right - because you will be criticized anyway."*

9. DO NOT WORRY ABOUT FAILURE. In baseball, Babe Ruth was known for having the greatest number of home runs. What we don't remember are his many strikeouts. The key is to keep swinging, using our failures to drive us ahead.

There will be many disruptions in life. However with Jesus in our lives, He promises to meet our every need, and to give us strength for every situation. The apostle Paul learned the secret of surrendering his control to the Lordship of Jesus.

Philippians 4:12-13, **"I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength."**

Paul had found the secret in life. It also applies to you and me! Let us never fail to **trust God in all of life's disruptions** because He will give us **His strength and His peace**, and **He will carry us through** whatever disruption we might be facing.

**Thank you once again
for helping us to make a
difference in a child's life.**

Blessings in Christ

Pastor Roman

& Pat Kozak

