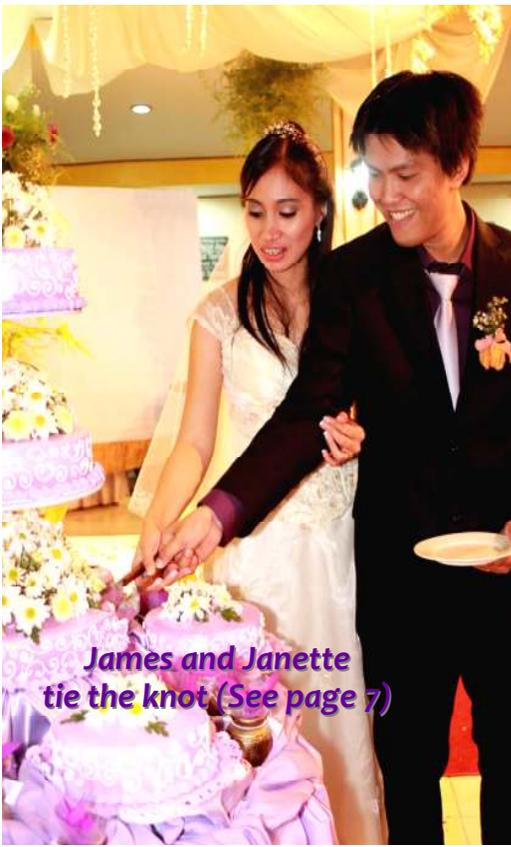




TBC begins missions work!

INSIDE

- TBC goes into missions
- TBC joins 2011 Youth Camp
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- TBC welcomes new members
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- Special Features



James and Janette tie the knot (See page 7)

*Come, let us bow down and worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
for He is our God and we are the people of
His pasture, the flock under His care."*

Psalm 95:6-7



TBC parenting seminars tackle child discipline (See page 8)



Trinity Bible Church SCHEDULE OF SUNDAY SERVICES

Children's Sunday School

8:00-9:00 am

9:00-10:00 am

Sunday School

9:00-10:00 am

Morning Worship Service

10:30-11:45 am

Prayer Meeting & Fellowship

2:30-4:00 pm

Vesper Service

4:00-5:30 pm

Lord's Supper

5:30 pm, Every first Sunday

Trinity Bible Church is located
at Angeles Heights Subdivision
Maharlika Highway, San Pablo City
<http://www.tbcspsc.org>

*"I am the vine you
are the branches. If
a man remains in me
and I in him, he will bear
much fruit; apart from
me you can do nothing."
John 15:5*

Pastor's Notes

The World

By Pastor Rodel D. Lasco



At 16 years old, Ashley had her whole life ahead of her...until a head-on collision snuffed her life out. The car she was driving swerved to the other lane hitting a pick-up truck. Subsequent investigations showed that she was probably texting seconds before the accident happened.

**"For what does it
profit a man to gain
the whole world and
forfeit his soul?
Mark 8:36**

For all its modern day gadgets and technology, our world can be a dangerous place to live in, as Ashley found out too late. But I am more concerned with a more subtle and far more deadly danger—the spiritual kind. This world has damned innumerable souls to hell often with the victims totally unaware what hit them.

The schemes of the world assume various forms. To some, the world presents pleasures galore. Many are addicted to sexual immorality, drugs, and alcohol. Others to more respectable pleasures such as sports, food, and computer games. The latter is one of the world's most successful schemes to entrap young men and women. The naïve gamer imbibes values which many times are hostile to Christianity. The world can also win people through the promise of riches. Since the Phoenicians invented money, it has ensnared legions of unsuspecting souls. Witness the proliferation of books and magazines on how to get rich (their titles do not hide their contents—"Money," "Fortune," etc).

Please don't misunderstand me. There are many things in the world that are good and to be received with thanksgiving. Of course, we should be careful for even in legitimate things, we are tempted to be gluttonous in their use.

Our main concern here are the things of the world that lure us away from our Lord and Savior. It is the world in the sense of a value system opposed to the rule of God. It is the world that seeks to supplant the place of God in the throne of our lives.

Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? (James 4:4) Brethren, beware of this world!

TBC begins missions work

The year 2010 marked the official start of TBC's missions work. A Mission Fund was created in the first quarter with support from some TBC members and alumni. It is currently providing partial support to our preachers/missionaries.

By the third quarter, Bro. Reymar Morada of Pili Camarines Sur, a 2010 GMA graduate, responded to TBC's call for missionaries. He and his wife with their two children came to San Pablo to meet with Pastor Rodel and spend one Sunday worshipping with the TBC brethren. By the end of July, they had already relocated to San Pablo City. They now live in Sta. Monica where he conducts Bible Studies. He has also a



Bro.
Reymar
with wife
Janet
and
children,
Irish and
John Rey

schedule of preaching and teaching at TBC Sunday School, along with the other preachers—brothers Ferdie Facundo, Gerry Cataytay, Alan Caparas and Andrew Montecillo.



Ptr. Rodel (center) regularly meets with TBC preachers (left to right) Ferdie, Reymar, Alan and Gerry

In December 2010, TBC began sending brothers Ferdie and Reymar for their once a month schedule of preaching and teaching Sunday School at Grace Reformed Baptist Church in Alabat Island, Quezon, Quezon.

Meanwhile, in Laguna, brothers Gerry and Alan continue to help the church of Pastor Hermes in Victoria by preaching and teaching Sunday School classes. In addition to all these, our preachers are also doing Bible studies in Concepcion, San Miguel, Green Valley Subdivision and City Subdivision. Truly, God is working in our midst.

TBC joins 2011 Youth Camp



Close to 200 participants including young people from Trinity Bible Church joined this year's Youth Camp held last October 29-31 at Jabez Campsite in Dasmariñas Cavite. CRBC pastor, Ishmael Montejo and Pastor Diego Bulatao were the camp speakers. Pastor Diego discussed the relevance of the Ten Commandments in our time while Pastor Ishmael spoke on the first and fifth commandments. "Thou shall not covet," was the featured topic for Sunday School. TBC's Coleen Lasco, Irene Cuya and Anna Buno attended the three-day activity. The event was sponsored by REBAP Luzon Association of Churches.

Guest Preachers

We praise God for another year of His faithfulness in TBC's ministry of the Word. We acknowledge our guest preachers from Moonwalk Community Bible Church—Pastors Steve Hoffmaire and Rolly Seveses, Bro. Mario Asis and Bro. Jeremiah (RBIPT). TBC GMA scholars, pastors Eldy Basan, Rally Pantaleon, Jeff Repalda, and Jun Vallejo and brothers Gerry Cataytay, Alan Caparas, and Reymar Morada proclaimed also the Word of God in our pulpit.

While we had guest preachers, TBC continued to minister to other churches this year through Pastor Rodel Lasco and other brethren who were invited to preach—Ferdie Facundo, Gerry Cataytay, Andrew Montecillo, Reymar Morada and Alan Caparas.

Pastor Rodel preaches the Word at GBC in Los Banos every fifth Sunday of the month, whenever Pastor Noel is in Quezon for their outreach work there. Brother Andrew was also invited to preach in San Pedro. In December, Ferdie and Reymar began their once a month preaching and teaching of Sunday school classes at Grace Reformed Church in Alabat, Quezon. Bro. Gerry also preaches regularly at the church of Pastor Hermes (also a TBC-GMA scholar) in Victoria, Laguna.

*"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works so that no one can boast."
Ephesians 2: 8-9*

*"Seek first the Kingdom of God and all these things will be given to you as well."
Matthew 6:19*

Goodbye and Hello for ICM

Last semester, ICM missed the presence of regular attendees who already graduated. However, the coming in of new students from East Timor and Bukidnon brought joy and encouragement. In addition, young professionals, Ben and Ian, both from Grace Baptist Church in Los Banos also started joining ICM and now help in the ministry by leading the Bible study portion and prayer when Pastor Rodel is not around.



It is an added blessing that former ICM attendees still join ICM's Friday gathering whenever they attend meetings or conferences in UPLB. They say that ICM had been a memorable part of their graduate studies in UPLB and they still consider themselves part of ICM even if they are already working in their respective provinces.

As a year-end activity, ICM met in the house of Pastor Rodel for their last meeting where the attendees (ten in all) were treated to home-cooked dishes.

Sola Scriptura!

Sola Scriptura. Ito ang tema ng ika-8 -walong Pastor's Conference na ginanap sa TBC noong Oktubre 24, 2011, mula alas-nuebe ng umaga hanggang alas-tres ng hapon. Dinaluhan ito ng humigit kumulang na 50 mga pastor at taga-panguna ng iba't-ibang iglesia sa San Pablo City at mga kalapit bayan. Ito ang ika-8 sa dalawang beses isang taon na gawain ng TBC at ang tagapagsalita ay si GBC Pastor Noel A. Espinosa na siya ring Principal ng Grace Ministerial Academy (GMA).

Nagkaroon ng tatlong sesyon na laging sinusundan ng open forum sa pangunguna ni Pastor Rodel. Tulad ng mga nakaraang kumperensya, mayroon ding Book Exhibit ang Evangelical Outreach, Inc.

Nakalulugod isipin kung paano nagbunga ang gawaing ito na nagsimula noong 2007. Layunin nito na palaganapin ang pagtuturo ng Reformed Christian doctrines.

Ang iba sa mga pastor na nakatanggap ng pagtuturo dito ay nagnais na makapag-aral sa GBC. Sa pagpapala ng Panginoon, sila ay tinutulungan ng TBC sa pantustos sa pag-aaral. Naging bahagi din sila sa pangangaral sa iglesia ng isang beses sa isang buwan at gayun din sa buwanang Pastor's Fellowship.

Kamangha-mangha ang paggalaw ng Panginoon at kung paanong ang gawaing ito ay nagsilbing tuntungan sa panibagong gawain na tinatahak ng iglesia—ang *missions*. Mula sa mga pastor na ito, dalawa ay kabilang na sa iglesia. Sa kasalukuyan, ang iglesia ay may 4 na taga-pangaral at at taga-pagturo sa mga Bible studies sa mga karatig na barangay, bukod kay Pastor Rodel.

Ika-8 Pastors' Conference ginanap

Ni Mel Coronado



Si Pastor Noel (pang-pito sa kaliwa sa 2nd row) at si Pastor Rodel (pang-anim sa last row) kasama ang mga dumalong pastor

Noong nakaraang Disyembre, nagsimula din na tumulong sila sa pangangaral sa mga iglesia sa Victoria at Quezon, Quezon.

Para sa akin isang pribilehiyo din kung paanong ako ay nakikina-bang sa pangangaral ng mga estudyante ng GMA, gayong bago ito sa loob ng 27 taon ang napapakinggan ko ay ang mga mensahe na dala ng GMA principal.

“Expository preachers and the people who sit before them each week are convinced that the Scriptures can be mined to extract God’s wisdom and power for daily living. Poor preaching may cast some occasional doubt, but preaching that truly reveals what the Bible means has kept this conviction alive for a hundred generations. Our goal as expository preachers is to keep this faith alive by demonstrating week after week what the Word of God says about the daily concerns we and our listeners face. This goal reminds us that most people do not want or need a lecture about Bible facts. They want and need a sermon that demonstrates how the information in the Bible applies to their lives. Expository preaching does not merely obligate preachers to explain what the Bible says, it obligates them to explain what the Bible means in the lives of the people today.”

Bryan Chapell, Christ-Centered Preaching



Neal and Christine Crago (third and fourth from right, third row) with TBC members during their visit last October and November. There was also a mini reception that day for James and Janette Montecillo who were recently married in Kalibo, Aklan.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”
Colossians 3:23

WORSE THAN TIME LOST

“Time spent in sin is worse than time lost! Time spent in sinful ways has to be accounted for, and who can justify evil doing? What we sow in the seed time of this life we shall reap in the harvest of the next (Galatians 6:8). Time that is not spent in living for God is misspent and worse than simply lost. Be very careful, then, how you live not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is (Ephesians 5:15-17).” Ralph Venning, *Sin is Serious*, Grace Publications

TBC welcomes more members

Praise God for the powerful work of His Spirit in our midst! TBC ended 2010 with six souls added to its membership—Paolo Montecillo (see August 2011 issue of *In Touch*), Ruby Valerio, husband and wife Gerry and Cecille Cataytay and former TBC deacon Nor Buno and his wife Ningning Buno.

In September 2011, sister Ruby was interviewed and accepted as member after attending the church for about seven months. She came from an Arminian background but with some help from friends she studied the

“I became a member of TBC in September 2011. It was a leap of faith and I did not realize that God will give me more. I saw how the Lord’s hands had shaped all the events in my life leaving me utterly amazed... It’s overwhelming to wake up each morning knowing that an unworthy, undeserving sinner has been given an opportunity to serve the Lord of lords and by His grace may give God the glory.” Ruby Valerio



doctrines of grace, mainly through the internet. Ruby, a nursing instructor by profession, is now actively involved in Children’s Sunday School ministry, handling the 9 am class. She is also interested in pursuing an outreach ministry for mothers and young people. Her love for the Lord and her zeal to do everything for God’s glory have become an inspiration for the brethren.

Brother Gerry and sister Cecille’s application for membership was approved last December 4. TBC listened to their individual testimonies of God’s saving grace in their lives. Brother Gerry, one of the TBC scholars studying at Grace Ministerial Academy (he is currently on leave), used to be a pastor in a church in Calamba. He and his wife’s convictions regarding the doctrines of grace led them to leave their church. Bro. Gerry now helps Pastor Rodel in the Ministry of the Word, along with the other preachers in the church,

“Ang matutong masiyahan sa bawat pangkasalukuyang materyal na kaloob ng Panginoon ay lubhang kailangan. Ang katiyagaan, ang kahinahunan, pagmamahal at maunawaing katangian ang mabisang ugali upang sawatain ang pagkatakot sa kawalan. Ito ay hamon ng seryosong pagtatalaga ng buhay sa Diyos. Dito umiikot ang aking buhay pananalangin sa araw-araw sa biyaya ng Diyos na makapan-gyarihan.” Cecille Cataytay



“Ang matutong masiyahan sa bawat pangkasalukuyang materyal na kaloob ng Panginoon ay lubhang kailangan. Ang katiyagaan, ang kahinahunan, pagmamahal at maunawaing katangian ang mabisang ugali upang sawatain ang pagkatakot sa kawalan. Ito ay hamon ng seryosong pagtatalaga ng buhay sa Diyos. Dito umiikot ang aking buhay pananalangin sa araw-araw sa biyaya ng Diyos na makapan-gyarihan.” Cecille Cataytay

Ferdie, Reyamar and Alan. He and his wife have four children—Justin, Shallbe, Jasper and Jester.

Recently married to James, former MCBC member Janette Montecillo was formally accepted as TBC member last December 4. Although Janette was a regular attender of TBC for two years, it was a blessing listening to her testimony of how God called her to salvation. She spoke of the impact of John 3:16 and Mark 8:36 on her life as she struggled to overcome her personal and career ambitions which, she testified, were all rubbish. May God use her life and her union with James in advancing His kingdom through the various ministries in the church.



Sister Janette

It was also a happy event for us last November when brother Nor and sister Ningning Buno who were members of Grace Baptist Church in Los Banos for three years, were formally welcomed back by the church together with their children Anna and Francis. (We thank Pastor Noel and the GBC brethren for taking care of them). TBC is greatly

encouraged by their return and fellowship. May our sovereign God continue to strengthen them and enable them to serve Him through TBC.



Bro. Gerry



Bro. Nor



Sister Ning

(We

TBC BELIEVERS’ COVENANT NOW IN TAGALOG



Thanks to the collaborative translation work of sisters Mavic and Haydee Lasco—we are now using the Tagalog version of *The Believers’ Covenant* during the Lord’s Supper celebration every first Sunday of the month.

“If we would progress spiritually, we must separate ourselves into the things of God and concentrate to the exclusion of a thousand things the worldly man considers important.

We must cultivate God in the solitude and silence; we must make the kingdom of God the sphere of our activity and labor in it like a farmer in his field, like a miner in the earth.” We Travel an Appointed Way by A.W. Tozer

TBC's Children's Sunday School: an enduring ministry



Sister Janet assists in the 8 am class

Heavy rains and bad weather do not deter the children from attending TBC's Sunday school classes. Surely it is the Lord's doing.

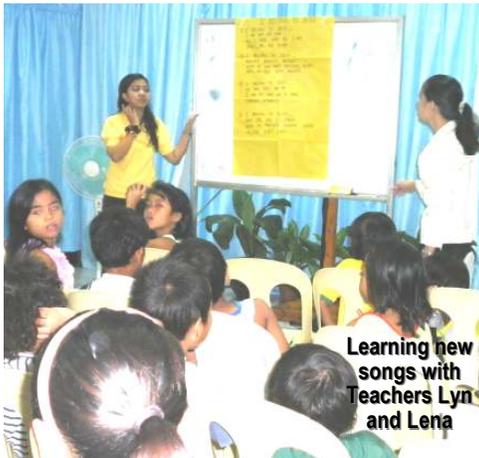
As our teachers faithfully prepare their lessons every Sunday, let us pray that God will renew their strength so they will not get weary. In addition to being prepared, the teachers need to be extra patient and creative, too.

In every lesson the children must learn something about the redeeming work of God: that the only begotten Son came into the world to save sinners. This, our teachers must be able to explain with clarity and enthusiasm.

We praise God for such a vibrant and enduring ministry that only God's grace can sustain.



Teacher Nel reviews the day's lesson before giving a quiz



Learning new songs with Teachers Lyn and Lena



Teacher Ruby shares a laugh with her 9 am class

“For the Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth comes knowledge and understanding.” Proverbs 2:6



Group Bible Study. Mel leads this Sunday Bible study group composed of (left to right) Abel, Francis and Justin

TBC reaches out to senior citizens



Sister Haydee Lasco was invited to speak in the monthly meeting of the senior citizens' organization in San Pablo City on August 25, 2011. More than fifty elderly citizens attended the gathering held at the PAMANA center in Cardille Village, San Pablo City.

Sister Haydee talked about “Living a Balanced Life,” where she showed the necessity of addressing the physical, intellectual and spiritual aspects of life. After the talk, she distributed gospel tracts to the elderly folks. May the Lord use the tracts to open their hearts to the Gospel.

“Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.” Hebrews 12:2-3



James & Janette tie the knot



**“For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”
Genesis 2:24**

Leaving, cleaving and weaving are the main points of the preaching of Pastor Rolly Seveses of MCBC during the wedding of James and Janet held last October 21, 2011 in Kalibo, Aklan. His text came from Genesis 2:24



From Laguna, Lyn and I went to Kalibo to attend the wedding. The event was full of blessings. The good weather was unexpected since weeks before the big day, several typhoons came and it was always raining.

James captured the guests' attention when he got teary eyed during their exchanging of vows until the contract signing, when Heather, Janet's niece, sang *Panunumpa*. He described how joyful he was for finally being able to marry the woman of his dreams. James compared his devotion to his new bride to Christ's love for the church.

Bet-bet (Janet's sister) and Ephraim (Deacon Jojo's eldest son), hosted the program, during which lunch was served. When "Kahit Maputi na ang Buhok ko" was played, the hosts called the newlyweds to their first dance as husband and wife, followed by Kuya Archie and Ate Arlene Montecillo. They also called almost all the couples in the reception which made the event very happy. The Revesencio cousins sang "In the Beginning."

Witnessing two souls in the Lord Jesus Christ being joined together in marriage was really a blessing. **Alena Diamante**

The Holy Spirit and Self-discipline

The Holy spirit has already done a good part of His work by providing us with the Scriptures to discipline us. And as we learn them, He will faithfully bring them into our minds as we need them to face temptations. As we seek to apply His Word to daily situations, He will work in us to strengthen us. But we must respond to what the Holy Spirit has already done if we are to expect Him to do more.

...Every Christian who makes progress in holiness is a person who has disciplined his life so that he spends regular time in the Bible. There simply is no other way. Jerry Bridges, *The Pursuit of Holiness*

TBC Women's Fellowship



TBC ladies gather at Pastor Rodel and Ate Haydee's house in Los Banos before Majo leaves for Canada

TBC women held a special send-off fellowship last November 10, 2011 for former TBC member, sister Marjorie Bugia, who now lives in Canada.

The sisters shared their blessings and prayer requests. We learned from Marjorie that she attends a Reformed Christian Fellowship in Winnipeg. Their individual search (through the internet) for a Reformed Christian church brought them together and they are now in the process of making their group a church. She thanked TBC for its continued prayers. Sisters who are new to the church also shared how they came to know the Lord.

Another highlight of the fellowship was a short meditation, given by Ate Haydee, on the importance of self-discipline in our spiritual growth. She also identified the different areas (e.g, temper, use of time, eating and drinking) where we need to be disciplined.

For our lunch, Ate Haydee prepared a mouth-watering menu of *guinataang hipon at kalabasa*, fresh vegetable salad, *tokwa't baboy*, *tulingan* (Korean style), with *suman*, buko pie and sweet *kiat-kiat*. After lunch, the ladies continued the fellowship. Ate Arlene, along with Angel, came and brought her delicious *bilobilo*.

Being together is very precious to us. Not only do we get to have our day-off, but more importantly, we become better women of God by learning from one another. We also get the opportunity to express our love for the sisters. **Aileen D. Enriquez**

**“LIKE A CITY WHOSE WALLS ARE BROKEN DOWN IS A MAN WHO LACKS SELF-CONTROL.”
PROVERBS 15:28**

Child Discipline: focus of TBC parenting seminars

TBC's sister Haydee Lasco was the resource person on child discipline during a parenting seminar held at Reformed Bible Baptist Church of Sta. Rosa, Laguna on August 7, 2011. Sister Haydee's talk covered two important topics: common parenting mistakes in child discipline and biblical child discipline.



"Discipline your son, for in that there is hope; do not be a willing party to his death." Proverbs 19:18

About 20 mothers and one couple attended the seminar, mostly RBBC members. Some attendees also came from Binan, Laguna. After the lecture, the participants raised questions concerning problems with their teenage children. The seminar was followed by a warm fellowship while eating a delicious merienda of pancit and puto. STRBC Pastor, Marlon Dalin with the help of Lena and Lyn of TBC organized the seminar.

In September, TBC also held a parenting seminar for the parents of its Sunday Schoolers from Patay na Riles. Around ten mothers with one father came. Focusing on the importance of biblical child discipline, sister Haydee, identified the common mistakes parents make when disciplining their children. Most of the children came along with their mothers. Lyn and Lena had to organize a storytelling session for them outside the chapel while the seminar was going on. Some of the sisters came and prepared drinks and sandwiches.

Withhold Not Correction

For almost two months (from July to September 2010), our 80-year old Inay Rosing Lasco, worked hard to prepare a weekly mini workshop for TBC women and mothers on child rearing every Sunday afternoon.

Clearly, the gains are ours. Everything we learned is ultimately for the edification of the church. During those Sundays the following topics were covered: *Children in the Congregation, Love and the Rod, Persevering Consistency, and Parents as Partners in Management. Withhold Not Correction*, written by Bruce F. Ray along with some hand-outs on parenting by GMA Principal and GBC-LB Pastor, Noel A. Espinosa, were the main materials used for the discussion.

Inay Rosing emphasized the need "to administer discipline from the very earliest months" and to consistently persevere because it is not easy.

Love and the Rod

"...Biblical correction must be administered in a context of love. Love necessitates correction (Proverbs 23:13,14). Another principle of biblical discipline is that physical correction must be administered with sufficient firmness. ...Remember, the supreme motive for biblical discipline is to bring our child into a subordinate relationship to the authority of God.

Our whole purpose in using the rod is to bring about obedience to the commands and precepts of God's Word. Having administered the rod, does our son now obey or is he still rebellious? Does he immediately do and will he follow through on that for which he was disciplined, or is he still reluctant to obey? We have not been firm enough if there is still that rebellion in his heart. In spite of the grief, sorrow, and tears that may have poured forth, if they do not produce obedience, then we have not yet administered biblical discipline. If you have to spank him twice, you did not communicate the message the first time. Do it right the first time and you won't have to spank him again. Do it with sufficient firmness and the peaceful fruit will follow. Bruce F. Ray, *Withhold Not Correction*

"The rod and reproof give wisdom, but a child who gets his own way brings shame to his mother." Proverbs 29:15

Children in the Congregation

The church is an extended spiritual family where believers must exhort, encourage and help one another in disciplining our children. I praise God for the renewed interest across our land in the doctrines of grace, but I fear that much of the impact of Reformed truth will be lost if people look into our homes and see that reformation in their own doctrine has not made our children any different in behavior than their own.

The manner in which our children conduct themselves in the worship service, school, neighborhood and home reflects upon the truth which is proclaimed from the pulpit of our church." Bruce F. Ray, *Withhold*

Persevering Consistency

"...biblical correction must be applied with persevering consistency. ...It is not the severity of the correction which will produce obedience; it is the certainty of the correction which will bring about the desired result. Be consistent in your administration of discipline. Never, never, never issue a warning or a command without following it through.

We should expect instant obedience on the part of our children, and we should reinforce that expectation with the rod each and every time that they fail to obey... There are times when our children's very lives will be in danger unless they learn to obey instantly. ...Our children ought to know that we mean it the very first time that we say it, or they will never believe it until we count to three, say it twice, or raise our voice. Train your children to expect to obey the first time you say something and when you say it in a normal tone of voice. When they do not obey, correct them.

Persevering consistency is no easy job. It will require a great amount of effort to maintain. Set Proverbs 13:24 before your eyes continually, "He who spares His rod hates his son, but he who loves him disciplines him diligently." Resolve that before God your children will know how much you love them by the way in which you consistently and diligently correct them. Bruce F. Ray, *Withhold Not Correction*

"All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness." Hebrews 12:11

Profiting from the Word



A Sunday School series based on the book *Respectable Sins* by Jerry Bridges is currently being taught by Pastor Rodel while *Walking with God* by John Ryle is the basis of Bro. Alan's Sunday School lessons. In between these two series are the lessons taught by our preachers—brothers Ferdie, Gerry and Reymar. They have also their schedules of preaching either in the morning or afternoon worship service. We praise God for giving us brethren who can help in the ministry of the Word.



REDEEMING THE TIME

“Redeem the time: much of your progress depends on this. Be men of ‘method and punctuality’: waste no moments; have always something to do and do it; use up the little spaces of life, the little intervals between engagements.” Horatius Bonar

Monthly Prayer Meeting



“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” Col. 4:2

Truly it is a blessing whenever the church gathers to lift up our hands in prayer bringing our sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving before God's throne of grace. The monthly prayer meeting (in addition to our weekly prayer meeting every Sunday) is held every fourth Saturday of the month and starts at 10 am followed by lunch fellowship.

TBC celebrates with GBC ...



The Grace Baptist Church in Los Banos celebrated its 30th anniversary last November 27, 2010. TBC and the Lumban Puritan Reformed Baptist Church joined GBC during its worship service. Pastor Noel, through a video presentation highlighted the three decades of God's sustaining grace enabling the church to grow in the midst of trials. GBC also launched its new website.

The testimony given by Sister Tina was an encouragement together with the presence of brethren from other churches who were there to worship and celebrate God's faithfulness. God poured out His blessings through the preaching of His Word. Pastor Rolly Seveses of MCBC in his message on Revelation 21:2-5 said: “The church is the city of the living God; it is the believer's heavenly Jerusalem. Through the church, God's people experience a foretaste of heaven.” **Ruby Valerio**

... and MCBC

By God's grace, I together with my wife Mel and some brethren from TBC attended the 24th Anniversary Service of Moonwalk Community Bible Church (MCBC). It was indeed a blessing to hear God's message through the preaching of Pastor Noel A. Espinosa of GBC on Entering The Narrow Door (Luke 13:22-30). The preaching reminded us of the following: Entering the Kingdom means answering to the call of the King; Those who do not come to Jesus Christ cannot enter the Kingdom of God; and the door is still open to everybody.

After the service we had a blessed fellowship with MCBC brethren and we enjoyed the sumptuous food they prepared. I learned that Bro. Boy Castanos, a member of MCBC and a frequent guest preacher in TBC will be going home to Davao together with his family. I pray that God will bless Bro. Boy and his possible ministry in their home town. I thank God for the opportunity He gave us to be with them on such a glorious occasion.

Ave Coronado

Bible study binuksan

Halos magdadalawang buwan pa lamang na muling nabuksan ang Bible study sa City Subdivision. Sa paanyaya ng masisigasig na mananampalataya, sina Tatay Delio at Nanay Rosing Lasco sa kanilang tahanan.



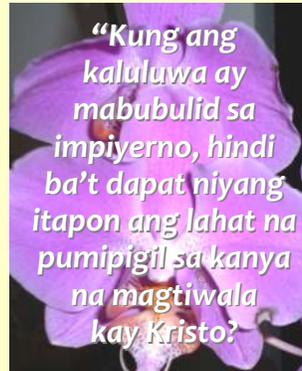
Ito ay pag-aaral ng mabuting balita para sa kanilang mga kasambahay na sina Ate Vicky, Ate Tessie, Glen at Resan. Sa unang dalawang pagtitipon nakasama din namin si Arnold na taga Sta. Monica. Ang ilan sa kanila ay nakarinig na rin ng Mabuting Balita.

Ang relasyong ng tao sa Diyos ang pangunahing tinatalakay sa bawat pagtitipon. Masigla ang bawat pagtalakay sa Salita ng Diyos dahil sa interes na ipinapakita ng bawat isa. Ang ilan ay nagbibigay ng kanilang mga opinyon sa ilang katanungan. Nagtatapos ang aming pagtitipon sa pagbabahagi ng mga kahilingang panalangin ng bawat isa.

Bro. Gerry Cataytay

Ang Katumbas ng Pagiging Kristiano

Dugo ni Kristo ang katumbas ng ating kaligtasan, subalit may katumbas din ang pagsunod kay Kristo: **Una** ay ang pagtatakwil sa sariling katuwiran katulad ng mataas na pagtingin sa sarili; sa pagpapahalaga sa galing at talento at nagagawang mabuti. Kailangang makita niya ang sarili na isang tupang ligaw, marumi, sugatan at walang magagawa para sa kanyang kaligtasan liban sa pagtitiwala kay Kristo. **Ikalawa**, kailangan niyang iwaksi ang kasalanan, at lahat ng bagay na taliwas sa ikapupuri ng Dios. Nangangahulugan ito ng pakikipagdigma sa kasalanan at sa pita ng laman sa bawat sandali. Ang tatanggapin lamang ni Kristo ay ang kaluluwang nagpapakumbaba at walang bahid ng anumang kasalanan.



Ikatlo, kailangang iwanan ang madaling pamumuhay at piliin ang mahirap na pakikidigma sa sanlibutan. Ang buhay Kristiano ay nangangahulugan ng maingat na pagbabantay sa sarili upang hindi magkasala sa salita, kilos, imahinasyon, motibo at saloobin. Hindi madali ang makipaglaban sa sarili, sa sanlibutan at kay Satanas sa bawat oras. Ito ay dahil sa natural sa tao na gustuhin ang masarap sa pakiramdam. Mahirap ang laging manalangin, magbasa at mag-aral ng Biblia, maging disiplinado at sumusunod sa digta ng Banal na Ispirito.

Ikaapat. Katumbas ng pagiging Kristiano ay ang pagtalikod sa sanlibutan kung kaya't maaari siyang usigin at kamuhian. Subalit marami ang nalililalang at inisip na makakamtan pa rin ang kaligtasan habang yakap-yakap ang sanlibutan.

Kung ang barko ay lulubog, itatapon lahat ang kargada nito upang mailigtas ang mga pasahero. Kung ang kaluluwa ay mabubulid sa impiyerno, hindi ba't dapat niyang itapon ang lahat na pumipigil sa kanya na magtiwala kay Kristo? Ang Kristianismong walang krus ay walang aasahang putong na korona. Mula sa aklat na *Holiness* ni John C. Ryle

“Silent Workers” ni Sheralyn Opena

Sino ang hindi makakapansin sa mapuputing “Anthurium” sa ibabaw ng piano na lalong nagbibigay ganda sa loob ng ating panambahan? Yan ang matahimik na ministeryo ni Ate Cely. Siya ay hindi masalita pero sagana sa sinserong gawa. Tuwing Linggo, may dala siyang mga bulaklak na bagong pitas sa hardin ni Inay Belen. Idagdag pa natin ang masarap at “one of a kind” na lasa ng kanyang nilupak at kulawo. Marami ang marunong magluto ng mga ito ngunit ang nagpaiba nito ay niluto ito ng may tuwa sa kanyang puso at hangarin na makapagpasaya sa kapatiran at maglingkod sa Panginoon sa kanyang tahimik na paraan.

Marami din ang nagagandahan sa kulay puting gantsilyo na nasa ibabaw ng piano. Kamangha-mangha dahil ito ay gawa ng isang 66 “years old” na miyembro rin ng Iglesia—si Inay Lucy. Bagamat mahiyain at tahimik, hindi ito naging hadlang sa paglilingkod niya sa Panginoon at sa Iglesia. Masinsin at matiyaga niyang ginagawa ang mga ito ng may kababaang loob. At sa paggawa nito ay naluluwalhati niya ang Panginoon dahil ginagamit ni Inay Lucy ang talentong ipinagkaloob sa kanya.

At siyempre sino ang hindi magigiliw sa pinong tunog ng piano sa iglesia? Yan naman ang tahimik na gawa ni Tatay Delio, isang beteranong “piano tuner.” Maingat at may kalidad niyang kinukumpuni ang mga piyesa ng piano upang mapanatili ang magandang tunog nito. Wala itong bayad dahil ito ay bahagi ng kanyang paglilingkod sa Panginoon at sa Iglesia. Sina Ate Cely, Inay Lucy at Tatay Delio ay ilan lamang sa mga maituturing nating “silent workers” ng Iglesia. Salamat po sa gawa ng inyong mga kamay. Sa Dios lamang ang kapurihan.



The Fear of the Lord by Haydee D. Lasco

Amidst the raging storm, it is always the fear of the Lord that can bring a soul safe to shore. The fear of the Lord is one's ticket away from an impending doom. It topples down all worldly cares, anxieties and insecurities. Nothing is comparable with the fear of the Lord. It is wisdom, it is riches, it is beauty, it is deliverance, it is joy, it is peace. It is one big umbrella of hope that protects the soul from all enemies, imagined or real.

To be praised is an honorable thing. "Praise" is a very beautiful word, a most-coveted word. When a woman is praised for her cooking skills, that is one big achievement. When one is praised for academic excellence, that is one race won. Every praise we receive resembles a crown on our head for having done something at par or coming close to God's standard of perfection. But it is the fear of the Lord that should be our security. When we fear the Lord, we have everything.

Favor or good things that bless our way, whether in family, career, relationship, business, health, etc, are good in themselves—but deceitful. Deceitful because most people think that it is the "real" thing. Most people who made it "big" in their respective endeavors have stopped in the race, thinking that they have reached the finish line. They see no farther. They are exultant and rejoice prematurely. How lamentable to realize when it is too late, that they ran short, that they could have gone farther on but tarried, waylaid by their ignorance of what is important in life.

In the Book of Proverbs, wisdom is inviting people to come. Wisdom, which is the fear of the Lord, is not something unreachable. It is not for the intellectuals or the so-called fanatics. Rather it is for everyone. Wisdom materializes in paper and ink in the Bible. God allows it to be freely offered to anyone who wants to get hold of it. When we read the Bible, we hear the voice of God and we can learn how we should fear Him.

In the midst of innumerable problems we face, there rings a hope. Our spirits should not be dampened by the political turmoil we hear every day. There is still hope in the nagging poverty we see around us. Every problem we face has a solution. God is the Great Creator, Who controls the world whether we admit it or not. He promised that those who would seek Him shall find Him. It is only when we are at peace with God (in God's terms) that we can find the real meaning of life.

To fear the Lord: may this be our goal for 2012. Happy New Year!



Do something for God

"Your gifts may be small, your time not much, your opportunities few; but work, and do it quietly without bustle, or self-importance, not as pleasing men but God; not seeking the honor that comes from men, but that which comes from God. The day of honor is coming, and the Master's 'Well done,' will make up for all hardship and labor here." Horatius Bonar



Praise God! It's another baby boy for Dennis and Aileen Enriquez. Baby Elijah was born last September 20, 2011

"He Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed."

1 Peter 2:24



Worship God above all else, even in your media choices

As Christians, God is to be our all-encompassing passion. Jesus Christ is the pearl of great price (Matthew 13:45-56). There is nothing greater than knowing and pursuing Him (Philippians 3:8). Christ is our supreme value (1 Peter 2:7). He offers us unending joy and satisfaction (Psalm 16:11). The treasures of His fellowship are found deep within the mines of prayer, Scripture-reading and worship (Psalm 63:1-5). In our relationship with Christ, we invest whatever is necessary to gain infinite returns.

How shocking that we can know these truths, and yet still be pulled into the mundane and immoral things of life! If we know that His "lovingkindness is better than life" (Psalm 63:3, why are we so easily lured into so many lesser things? We must fight to worship Him above all else (1 Timothy 6:12). In what ways might your exposure to media dim your desire for God and quench your passion for Jesus Christ? Why would you not give those things up and pursue the Lord with that time instead? It will not be wasted time! By Kurt Gebhards, from the book *Right Thinking in a World Gone Wrong* by John MacArthur and the Leadership Team at Grace Community Church

"In what ways might your exposure to media dim your desire for God and quench your passion for Jesus Christ? Why would you not give those things up and pursue the Lord with that time instead? It will not be wasted time!"

Repent *and* believe the Gospel

To repent is to hate your sins, and yourself for committing them. Let it grieve you that God is displeased with your sinful living. ... Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins maybe wiped out (Acts 3:19) was the message of the apostles. Forgiveness follows repentance, that is the good news of the Christian faith.

But if there is no repentance, that person must face God alone, in the Day of Judgment. There will be no opportunity to repent then. God has given us time to repent now. There is no other opportunity than the present (Isaiah 55:6).

It is not only repentance that is required, but also faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Repentance is not enough to make us perfectly right in God's sight; we need the perfection of Jesus Christ to be given to us. We have this by depending entirely by faith upon him for our hope of acceptance by God. We cannot negotiate with God for our salvation, by offering some kind of payment. As the Apostle Peter said about Jesus Christ, Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12). Even if you repent and lead as good a life as you can, without faith in Christ you will not be good enough for God. From *Sin is Serious* by Ralph Venning, Grace Publications.

“Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”
Romans 15:58



“You may not be able to give much, but give something, according to your ability, remembering that the Lord loves a cheerful giver. Take heed, and beware of covetousness; for the love of money is the root of all evil. Whenever worldliness comes, in any shape, whether it be love of money or love of pleasure, you cease to be faithful to Christ, and are trying to serve both God and mammon.” Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

Lord, keep us everywhere

“But when envoys were sent by the rulers of Babylon to ask him about the miraculous sign that had occurred in the land, God left him to test him and to know everything that was in his heart.”

2 Chronicles 32:31

Hezekiah was growing so inwardly great, and priding himself so much upon the favor of God, that self-righteousness crept in, and through his carnal security, the grace of God was for a time, in its more active operations, withdrawn. Here is quite enough to account with the Babylonians; for if the grace of God should leave the best Christian, there is enough of sin in his heart to make him the worst of transgressors.



If left to yourselves, you who are warmest for Christ would cool down like Laodicea into sickening lukewarmness: you who are sound in the faith would be white with the leprosy of false doctrine; you who now walk before the Lord in excellency and integrity would reel to and fro, and stagger with a drunkenness of evil passion. Like the moon, we borrow our light; bright as we are when grace shines on us, we are darkness itself when the Sun of Righteousness withdraws Himself.

Therefore let us cry to God never to leave us. "Lord, take not your Holy Spirit from us! Withdraw not from us your indwelling grace! Have you not said, 'I the Lord do keep it; I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day'? Lord, keep us everywhere. Keep us when in the valley, that we murmur not against your humbling hand; keep us when on the mountain, that we wax not giddy through being lifted up; keep us in youth, when our passions are strong; keep us in old age, when becoming conceited of our wisdom, we may therefore prove greater fools than the young and giddy; keep us when we come to die, lest, at the very last, we should deny you! Keep us living, keep us dying, keep us laboring, keep us suffering, keep us fighting, keep us resting, keep us everywhere, for everywhere we need you, O our God!" *Charles Spurgeon, Morning and Evening Devotions*

“We need to press on into the deep things of God. Insist upon tasting the profound mysteries of redemption. Refuse to be average. If you thus ‘follow after’, heaven will surely be opened to you and you will, with Ezekiel, see Visions of God.” A.W. Tozer, *We Travel an Appointed Way*

“Like the moon, we borrow our light; bright as we are when grace shines on us, we are darkness itself when the Sun of Righteousness withdraws Himself.”