

# MISSIONS

## Info

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## FRUITFUL

...he will bear much fruit

This sentence above is quite familiar as taken from Jesus' parable of the vine and the branches. Fruits are something we all want for our lives. We think about our kids and wish that our upbringing of them has a positive outcome. We want this outcome to be obvious. Hence, our thoughts wander towards the skills we want to apply and options we want to use. But when I read this passage in John 15:5 it continued to another statement which says...apart from me you can do nothing.

Fruit is not correlated with our resources. It has its seeds in God. It is not measured by our capabilities but by our dependency to God. It is not about our service for God. It is not about our efforts and performances. God is the connection to life. And life comes from Him. Therefore, fruit primarily is just about our relationship to God.

Wherever I have deep roots in Jesus I gain my competence from him. I now know that every person of either with best foundations for life or a background of neglect and abuse is possible to bear much fruit. "Are fruits being measured by the fact how my life honors God whether others can see it or not?" Maybe Jesus thought of that when He said in John 15:8: This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Alona lives in our children's home for many years and gave her life to Jesus Christ. Her body shows the signs of progressive cancer. One could think that this fact would prevent her from bearing much fruit. Remarkably, this however, brought her into a deep relation to Jesus, her hope for eternity. Alona's grateful heart makes her someone special who bears much fruits.

Sometimes, it's tempting for us to put the carriage before the horse. We think we have to show initiative. But Jesus shows us that we are well advised to wait for God's initiative. He lived like that and tells us in John 5,19: "The Son can do nothing by himself, he can do only what he sees his father doing."

I'd like to learn from Alona not to get lost in my own activism but to let my life be a mirror of my love to God. Then I won't miss God's initiative and possibly that without even noticing or much cautiousness, I do bear much fruit!

Harald Rauch

# Summer Go Camp

**T**his summer Go Camp 2010 is imprinted as one of a kind camp which made a vast influence in the lives of the children and youth delegates including the Go Camp Staff.

The theme "Empowered to take-off" was coined out of the deep desire of young lives to reach out or fly towards their aspirations and destiny as purposed by God thus taking off and not being left behind in the pit of fiasco.

The first week of the two-week camp was devoted to a lecture phase dissecting topics about empowerment and the one who bestows power known as the God in the person of Holy Spirit. Young people were given opportunities to examine everything they have- life, talents, knowledge, studies, families, friends and personal goals in the light of their relationship with God. They were also given time to jot down by notes their goals and visions in life.

"For me, this is the best camp I so far attended. Actually at first, I thought it was boring but it was not-the topics were interesting, the activities were original and first time I experience the workings of Holy Spirit in my life." –Geraldine, 13 years old

"This camp is amazing because it is full of many blessed surprises and I am changed."  
-Xandra, 15 years old.

"I have kind teachers and I enjoyed the games." Jeb-jeb, 7 years old

The following week, the delegates packed up for a series of evangelistic outreaches in Asturias. Day after day, the delegates were all filled and hectic in schedule for evangelistic outreaches to the different barangays- Mangguiao, Pondol, Langob, Bago, Cansumoroy, Owak and nearby towns of Asturias and Toledo at the Northwest of Cebu. Different faces of children and the old, men and women, farmers, drivers, laborers and workers from different field made up the crowd who heard the message of hope and love in God. What is more interesting is the picture of not only faces but the hearts that accepted the gift of salvation in Jesus and being healed of their sicknesses in the body and of the soul.

"I am so happy. I was not expecting that I am able to share God's gospel of love and salvation to my fellow youth and children. And they welcomed God in their lives. God was able to use me."  
Paul, 12 years old

"The practices for the evangelistic presentations like drama, dances and songs were tiring but it was all worth it because people enjoyed watching it and they are moved by the messages of the presentations." Mark, 22 years old.

"During the final outreach night, while doing the presentations, it rained hard that presentations had to be stopped but the message must be communicated. So, even if we were soaked and wet, we continued sharing the gospel of peace and love. Amazingly, there are still people who stayed, listened and gave their lives over to the loving control of God."-Ruel, CFA staff

There were a total of 161 participants both children and staff who were altogether change from the inside out and hence, empowered to take-off.



# Fruits of Labor



Christ for Asia, more particularly the houseparents were rejoicing over the success of the children who graduated during the school year 2009-2010. The Nehemiah School of Opportunities bore 5 graduates of Elementary Level who will then be level-up to first year highschool of Nehemiah High School in the coming school year. The graduates' salutatorian named Jose delivered a heartfelt and honest salutatory address of how his life was changed from a street child "Pasil" (a fishmarket) with no direction until given the chance to stay at Nehemiah Boys home and sent to school. Someday, Jose said he wants to become a computer programmer.

The Nehemiah Homes also witnessed and celebrated with the children who graduated in the highschool level ready for college. There were four boys and one girl who marched up stage to get their diploma. The happiness of the children overflowed when their real parents and families somehow managed to attend their graduation.



It is a vacant lot, a corner in the city where squatters find as a dwelling place. Auto scrap, tires and mechanic junks are as visible in the area as the many children that loiter around to play or scavenge over the pile of

junks. This is the new feeding site where the Outreach Team are scheduled to every Thursday late afternoons- the barangay Mahayahay at Mandaue City, Cebu. The very first day when the outreach team arrived for feeding in the area, a number of hundred children flocked around them. More than obvious they are children hungry for food, love and attention.

The outreach team as always open their arms and hearts for these children as a an expression of God's love and care to them. The team teaches bible stories, apply first aid to children's wounds and hands out foods. The community people expressed appreciation for these efforts.

With these efforts, CFA desires to give out an increased 50,000 meals this year from 40,000 of previous years to streetchildren in dire need and suffering the lack of food.



## THUMBNAIL NEWS



Nehemiah Boys and Girls-joined a series of Soccer Tournaments in Cebu. The experiences of the games made worthwhile impact and developed discipline in the children and youth.



A hearts day celebration where CFA youth and teens discuss and learn the issues revolving on love, relationships and sexuality in the light of God's Word.



CFA Outreach team organized a spiritual retreat to the young people coming from different feeding sites. The participants had a breakthrough from their bitter pasts and open up to a life led by freedom.

# The Traveler

*Life must go on with or without father...  
So if life must go on,  
where is it going?  
It seems I am heading nowhere...  
How do I even go on?*



His father doesn't have a stable job and particularly earning an insufficient income for the family as to provide even the basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. That was Charlie's father.

Charlie remembered his first day in the elementary school. His mother gave him only one peso, an amount impossible to pay a then 5-peso tricycle fare that would take him to school or to buy him a snack or lunch. So there were days Charlie would just ride the tricycle without handing a pay to the driver, just running off fast and just pass by lunch without eating.

Some days, he would earn a little money by asking houses and working by collecting the garbage for the neighborhood. That was the way he earns money at the age of nine. One time, Charlie's uncle asked him to stay with him so he can continue his studies. Charlie agreed.

Until one day, Charlie received a bad news. His father was reported to have been shot dead by an unidentified gunman. The tragedy hit his family poorer than before, and Charlie most of all. He recalled that his father promised that he will watch Charlie's graduation day. Since then, Charlie became different feeling sad, empty and began hating people. So he goes back to scavenging plastics, aluminum and metal junks to earn some amount to help his family while staying with his uncle. Together with his brother, Charlie would sell rugs in the highways which jeepney drivers buy. Then most of the time, the brothers are tempted to go to the carnival where they would gamble their money or sometimes passed time or sleep there. When Charlie finished elementary, his uncle lost his job and therefore can not support Charlie's studies anymore.

So Charlie went home again. There, Charlie thought, "My life is nothing." Charlie just caught up with scavenging, little money and gambling. Til one time, he was informed of a chance to stay in a place where his needs would be provided. He was brought to Nehemiah Boys Home of Christ for Asia.

"I am thankful that Christ for Asia provided me with things I basically need and it is really a home for me and for many boys like me. Here, I also meet Jesus and accept ed him as Lord and Savior of my life. I found my purpose in life. I realize the truth that though we may lost our father here in this world, we still have our Bid Daddy that is always here and waiting to have a relationship with us. God is really good for He also gave me talents. Now, I play in the band called "The Travellers".

Charlie stays in CFA for already four years. And he recently graduated in high school. Charlie is enrolling to take up a degree in Marine Transportation to follow his interest in ships, water and traveling.

*(Left picture: Charlie with his brother on his recent graduation)*

