

MISSIONS

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Info

ASPIRE

Freedom won't be obtained through aspiration for freedom, but through aspiration for truth. Freedom is not a goal but a consequence.
Lew Nikolajewitsch Tolstoi

Each person has his own goals to pursue, wishes to be fulfilled and ambitions to achieve in the future.

How true is this sentence of Lew Tolstoi. Freedom is a consequence of discovering the truth.

What are our aspirations?

I can see Jose who wanted to flee from the abuse in his family and thought that a life in the streets will give him the freedom he was longing for. But he later realize that a life in the gutter led him to a bigger ligation. Now he was not only accompanied by abuse and rejection but on top of that he fell into drug addiction criminality and resignation...

I'm thinking of two disciples of Jesus who pursued an apparent higher goal. They wanted to sit in heaven to the right and left of Jesus. They were looking for position, they wanted to be seen important.

People find their identit in family, in friendships, in their outfit, in status or in their career. But true self-esteem lies in knowing about the our value, dignity and uniqueness as a person. To discover this, we need to search for truth. In a discussion with people, Jesus once said, "You will perceive the truth and the truth will set you free". (John 8:32)

Jose found this truth, and in committing his life to Jesus he learned to respond to the abuse of his childhood with forgiveness. He learned to not let his life be ordained by rejection but to discover that he is deeply loved by God. That makes his life precious. And his aspirations is on discovering his identity in Gods love.

How about you? What are your aspirations?

Highlights

Educational Opportunity : Nehemiah School accommodates more unfortunate children

The school year of 2010-2011 has begun. Again the classrooms are filled with life. Teachers train their students in reading and writing. They also encourage them to continue studying diligently. What is also remarkable this school year is that there are new faces around the campus. Several children from the slum areas where CFA-feeding programs are held are joining Nehemiah School. The parents of these children cannot afford to send them to school. Without this educational opportunity which is given to them, soon they would be back again in the streets. There are a total 15 children from slum areas who have the possibility to also attend Nehemiah School. It is the endeavor of CFA to provide opportunities for young ones to receive education and live out their calling.



Rauch Family visits Cebu together with a German Mission Team



The missionary couple Harald and Regina Rauch together with their two daughters arrived lately in Cebu bringing along a team of Germans. The team came over to do some evangelistic outreach and social service with Christ for Asia.

For the two-week stay in Cebu, they oriented themselves to the different feeding areas of Cebu by preparing meals and distributing those to the street children. Together with the children from the Nehemiah Boys and Girls Homes, the team also conducted evangelistic outreaches in different towns of the city. The team members shared their testimony of transformation for good by the grace of the Lord. The people who heard from them were moved to know that there are a group of people from Germany who flew hundred thousands of miles to just tell them how much God loves them and care for them. Throughout their stay, many experiences were garnered by the team members.

It is good opportunity to show God's love to the kids by giving them food. I'm glad that I can help Christ for Asia in the practical ways by preparing the food for the kids. -Tabea

I'm happy to be here in the Philippines and to see the work for street children- to personally see the kids in CFA. It is amazing to see the children growing in God's word. I wish that CFA will continue their good work. I hope that people in Germany support that good work. - Heide



42 Youth follow Christ in Water Baptism

Succeeding the Summer Camp and the efforts of the Discipleship for the children and youth here in CFA, 42 children signified to profess their faith and follow Jesus in water of baptism.

On one morning in a beach, the said children decided to leave their past behind and lead the life of a Christian, a follower of Christ. They were immersed and emerged from the water as the symbol of dying with Christ and resurrecting again to a new life founded in faith through the son Jesus who gave himself up a sacrifice for the sin of humanity, died on the cross and yet resurrected back into life.

Coming out from the water, the baptized children were welcomed into the family of believers in Christ. Many were teary-eyed as their state their testimony of surrendering their lives in Christ, deciding to publicly testify their faith in the Savior and Lord Jesus.

As 2 Corinthians 5:17, 21 "Anyone who is joined to Christ is a new being; the old is gone, the new has come. All this is done by God, who through Christ changed us from enemies into his friends and gave us the task to make others his friends also...Christ was without sin, but for our sake God made him share our sin in order that in union with him we might share the righteousness of God."

CFA staff attends a seminar on Child Protection



Working for a social institution that addresses the needs and defends the rights of streetchildren, Christ for Asia staff were all attentive to the half-day seminar entitled "Review on Child Protection, Child Abuse & other Forms of Child Sexual Exploitation: A Call for Action." The resource speaker was Welfare Specialist of World Vision particularly on

Commercial and Sexual Exploitation of Children, Ma Joyce A. Flora, RSW.

According to the latest statistics and watch list of the world's most organized crimes, human trafficking, especially of women and young girls is third in the list after drugs on top and guns following second. It is dejecting to know about such fact. And it is even more disheartening to know of the communities apathetic towards the issue where such crimes against women and the young are apparent.

The seminar intended to raise awareness and advocacy against child trafficking and human exploitation. Such practices are abominable before the sight of God and demoralizing in the sight of society. As Edmund Burke once said, "All it takes for evil to prevail in this world is for enough good men to do nothing". Thus, there is a call recognized for the community especially Christians and CFA as a social institution to uphold justice and righteousness.



CFA does the groundbreaking ceremony

The moment was historic for the Christ for Asia family as it gathered at the vacant lot they have to so-called "Promise Land" for the groundbreaking ceremony of the soon to rise Nehemiah Boys Home Building.

The CFA President Vincent Ozaraga, CFA Founder Harald Rauch and one member of the CFA board Helen Coromina initiated the groundbreaking act. There were prayers lifted up to the heavens as balloons were flown to the sky.

The CFA family had a remarkable time of commemorating the past years from the humble beginnings of CFA up to the organization it is now. Those times when the Nehemiah Home for the boys and the girls is yet being rented were brought back in mind to trace through the faithfulness of God providing each step of the way the needs of the street children and former street children which CFA is serving. Many lives had been taken care of ever since. Many young wounded souls were being treated and given a chance to start anew and follow direction in life.

Until now, CFA desires to expand and better its service to the young lives on the street by providing a three-phase building that will become a boys home to about 52 former street children.

Former Nehemiah Children comes back for a Family Reunion

While the Rauch family was here in Cebu, one afternoon was scheduled for the Reunion of former Nehemiah clients from the very beginning Nehemiah homes was established. Familiar faces appeared in the compound of CFA bringing smiles, many laughter and memories of the times passed shared in the humble homes of Nehemiah Center. They told of their experiences while being sheltered in the Nehemiah Homes.

Testimonies of children lived Some already own. Some are former boy married and company staying here in only provided but helped him with Jesus. his life to Jesus



how these former their lives were heard. had a family of their having jobs. One named Joseph is now working in an electric testified of how the boys home not him with basic needs find his meaning in life Ever since he gave he determined to better his life and also make the Lord the center of his life and his family.

On the other hand, there are also few former children who didn't quite make some good decisions are as of now jobless and are troubled. It is still a fact that most of what we have and who we are by-products of our decisions.

Once again, the CFA Founder Harald Rauch and CFA Family welcomed everyone-whoever children became part of the family, and reminded them once again that there is no failure, no sin or no delay that would be difficult for the Lord Jesus to take and make right. This reminder is known and well-lived by Christ for Asia in its service to street children as it claimed all labors in the Lord shall never be in vain.

Representing God's Character to the Young Generation!

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About the Photo:
Count Me In
(Streetchildren queue during a CFA feeding)