

RENEWED

# SHARP SICKLES

The Official Publication of Philippine Amazing Facts Center Of Evangelism

ALL BY  
CHRIST  
ALL FOR  
CHRIST

IMPROVED



## What's up with the red strips?

With the desire to make **Sharp Sickles** more meaningful, PAFCOE's administration and staff unanimously agreed to reset the publication. As a result, this release is labelled **Volume 1 Release No. 1**. This renewed and improved Sharp Sickles is packed with more conversion stories and testimonies of faith while most ministry updates are released, as they come, through **Sentinel**. Read on and be blessed.

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Glory be to God!

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Pheew!

As fast as that... PAFCOE just concluded its 13<sup>th</sup> evangelism training session.

Batch 13 was the leanest of PAFCOE by far but God brought us through. And Yes! It was certainly a miracle.

I was able to talk with some Missionary Ministry leaders here in the Philippines. I realized that the downward trend for mission participation is a general thing. As the bridegroom nears, then the virgins slumber. I was almost tempted to pray that the Lord Jesus would delay but God forbid! He needs to come soonest or else all will be lost.

Some people are waiting for a sign before they would take the gospel plow but no! On the contrary, those who bear the divine yoke by faith are the ones who will be able to experience wonderful miracles in their path and in their lives.

*Kevin Pingol*







In this world, I was really enjoying all the pleasures, not noticing that I would be drifted away astray. All my life before was for wealth, fame, and possession. I did not think about anything spiritual. Though I was attending church, I still compromised with a lot of things. I compromised Sabbath, health and so on. I was not thinking about what my future would bring, the signs of the times, and the big issues about the coming of the Son of Man. I knew that Jesus is coming, but that was not my priority. I was really blinded with everything in this world.

Then one time, terrible rashes came out from my body. I did not mind what that was because I was used to have rashes every time I go to the gym from extreme and rigid workout. Then another symptom came out. Still, because I was really stubborn, I did not mind it and had to bear all those things. Then symptoms from symptoms came out.

The year was 2017, when I was really bombarded with terrible pain and I was very weak. I had difficulty in walking. I was trying to move using my hip and butt, and even crawled. I was in tears with terrible tremendous pain. My hair began to fall that it could easily be plucked out and pulled out.

The hair would just stick on the hands. I lose weight. I had joint pains and some parts of my body were getting deformed. I had an unbearable headache, that the pain seemed being pounded by a hammer or a rock. Then it came to the point that I could no longer move. I was bed-ridden for almost five months. I had difficulty in eating and even in drinking because I could not hold anything—nor glass, spoon, and any utensil. Thus, my mom was the one who fed me, gave me water to drink, and helped me up with all things. You cannot help as well just to feel pity about how bad and desperate my situation was.

After a series of tests, I was diagnosed to have an autoimmune disease- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) with Rheumatoid Arthritis factor. I stayed in the hospital for a long time. There, they medicated and looked for means to cure my disease. But all of their efforts were in vain. Until the doctors told me that I had few hours to live, because they could not help my situation anymore. They did all their best to give me medication and treatment, but my body was no longer responding.

ALL BY  
CHRIST  
ALL FOR  
CHRIST

By Benjie D. Tinoy, Batch 12





## STUDENT LIFE

When the physicians frankly told me and my family about my situation, I came to realize that I did not have a chance to live long. I really had difficulty in breathing, for the cardiovascular was terribly and desperately affected. Even in talking was not a good chance to do so. I cried to the Lord for the forgiveness of my sins. I admitted all my pasts' terrible mistakes and sins. I know that God had called me to be His servant for the vineyard, yet I walked in the other way just as Jonah who did not attend directly to his call for mission. Besides from breaking the heart of my family and mine, I really broke the heart of the One who gives life and who owns this very life. There, I accepted that I would die just as what I heard and saw from people's actions and expressions when they came in to visit me.



However, something unexplainable happened. I could not tell how it exactly happened but God showed His healing mercy and miracle to me. One day, I believe my mom had a miraculous encounter with a heavenly being, when she casually communicated and talked with a stranger who visited the hospital. The stranger assured my Mom that I was healed. On that same day, the doctor told me that I had few hours to live, but I felt that I was able to breathe normally! I, then, was able to move my hand and took off my oxygen because it seemed there was too much air coming in. Before that day ended, I was able to hum my favorite song. I concluded, God extended my life! Then I remembered one of the promises that I hold on to "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you (John 14:18)."

Yes! God did not leave me when I was in pain. God did not cover His Divine ears to hear my terrible cry for forgiveness and sorrow for my sins. He was there when I needed Him the most. He was there when I looked for someone to lean on. He was there to comfort me and mostly He was there when the world could not anymore help my illness.

It was Him who visited and came to heal me, just as how He had healed the people in the past. Despite my so-called incurable sickness and the declared few remaining hours of my life, nothing is impossible to the all-powerful great God! He is able to do what the finite beings cannot do.

Such a miracle! Everyone was amazed and eye-glaring shocked with what had happened. Right then, I was able to move and hold things. The physicians told me the following day that God loves me so much. Of all their experiences as medical expertise, that was their first to see an incurable sick patient that was still able to live. God showed that miracle to me, to be a witness to the people in there. And so, I made a great covenant to the God in heaven, that I would use this life for Him. I want to serve Him with all my life and to minister just as I was being ministered to.

Since then, my journey as a missionary began. I had myself trained at PAFCOE to minister, to share the gospel of salvation, to reach the unreached, and to win souls for Christ. Though, sometimes, I had attacks even during the training process and even during the OJT, it did not stun and struck me to stop working for Christ in His great vineyard. Matthew 28:18-20 is always in mind that He will never leave us as we work for Him, even unto the end of the age. Now as a Bible worker of PAFCOE, I determined to keep moving for God's cause and for this purpose. Because I was healed all by Christ, I will live all for Christ.

When we are tried and tested in this world, God is the only source of the solution, strength, and everything. Trials and severe tests could come in the form of sickness & diseases, and it could come even



in the form of death. However, regardless of any situation, would you still heed when Christ calls you? It depends upon your faith, but God is just waiting to manifest His power to your life when you give it into His service. We are to glorify God even in our darkest situation. Remember, we are saved all by Christ, now let us work all for Christ. ■



# PULLED OUT from the World

Darlyn Cabarubias, Batch 2

I grew up in a large family with nine siblings but it was my third eldest sister who really reared me up to be an Adventist. As young as five, I lived with my sister together with her husband away from my other family members. She sent me to school and paid everything until I graduated College. Growing up, I looked up to my sister on how she has been a good example to me. However, there happened a serious problem to the family that marred my conception of her as an Adventist. Eventually, I moved to start living my own life in Manila, and I stopped communicating with her.

Along with my success, I eventually stopped attending church until I was totally backslidden. My boss trusted me so much that she let me handle several of her businesses and transferred one to my name. I strove hard to flourish the party shop on



which eventually became mine. Later on, I met a guy who became my partner. I was supporting him so much including his family members. I decided to let him be a part of my business that we even had a joint account.

Little did I know that he was just taking advantage of me and that led to the downfall of my businesses. The situation turned really bad when one day, I was caught up with so much debt that I had to decide whether I should close down my shops. I did not know what to do, to keep up with all the pay checks that were bouncing. The banks kept calling me until one day I decided to just shut off from the world.

I was underneath my blanket in depression and I almost lose my mind. I just kept in everything that happened to me from my family until a friend of mine called my sister in Iloilo and told her of my situation. My family helped me get out of my situation and they urged me to go back to Iloilo and close down my business.

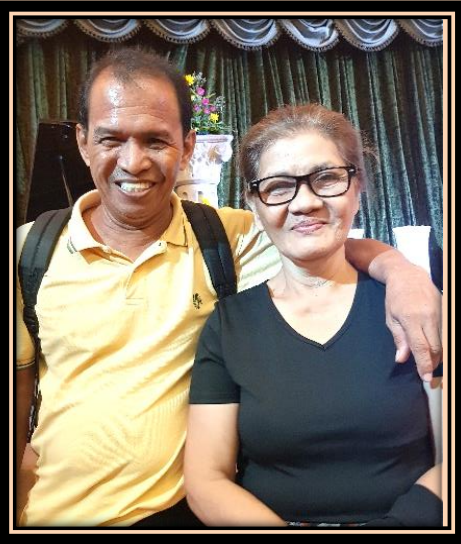
Few months later, after contemplating on what to do next, I finally decided to go back to Manila and start over again. Though my siblings were against it, I still left and started from scratch as a Freelance Party Coordinator. It did not take long enough for me to find a small space and get back on my feet again.

## CONVERSION STORIES



A husband and a father, Jun Puyawan used to be a family man until his wife worked abroad. He fell into the devil's trap when he started to befriend his co-worker which later on became an adulterous relationship. At first, he tried to keep it secret but, still, his family found out. *"I committed sins to my wife and to the Lord,"* he said as he added, *"but the Lord still loves me and wants me to come back to Him."* The seminar became an instrument for Jun to repent and be finally converted. The most precious thing He learned was that God was still willing to forgive him no matter what he has done in the past as long as he surrenders. The seminar also refreshed Jun about the truths he already knew before. As he gained strength in the Lord to face temptations, He learned to humble himself and started to focus his attention to his family in reconciling their relationship. With conviction Jun said that he looks at them now as the most important thing in this world next to God. Jun rededicated his life last July 7, 2018 and he prays to serve the Lord fully and share what God has revealed to him. ■





She lost her house and lived in the streets. Elena Cruzado went through a lot of hard times because of her former husband Leo Estrada. But as God is gracious to her, she reflected Christ-like character as she forgives Leo without resentments. Though they are not together anymore, when Elena started to attend the crusade, she thought that the seminar can be helpful to Leo in many ways. So, she invited him to come with her and attend each night because she desired that change will be brought out in their lives by the grace of Christ. They finished the crusade together and received Christ as their personal Savior. ■

Get more inspired of God's love through the people's lives, by watching conversion stories at **Amazing Facts Philippines Changed Lives**. Just go to our YouTube channel, **AMAZING FACTS PHILIPPINES**.

As I was starting to get very busy with all of the events

I was handling, a package was delivered to me. I was not expecting to receive a Bible with a letter from my mother. She wrote there: *"How are you my daughter? No one else can help you with your problems but God. Please go back to Him. I will fervently pray every day for you."* After reading, I just inserted the letter back in the Bible and placed it on the shelves. I never had any plans of opening that Bible again until one day, as I was alone in the shop waiting for a customer, my eyes were suddenly fixed on the Bible from a distance. Instantly, I sensed an unexplainable desire to get it. I took out the Bible from the shelves and opened it to the book of Psalm. As I was reading, every line seems like a stab to my heart. Tears flooded from me as I was reading about forgiveness and reconciliation to God. I cried uncontrollably that I found myself kneeling down trying to utter words of prayer. Struggling to pray after ten years of being backslidden, though I was not really able to convey what was in my thoughts, I know God heard my cries for help and repentance. I never had peace since then, and I knew I needed to do something with my relationship to God.

Several months later, God really moved me to decide for Him. I started attending church then. I sought for a Bible study to refresh my faith until I was finally rebaptized on July 31, 2010. After my rebaptism, I was flooded with so many offers and events. I was again tempted to compromise my Sabbath but I do not want to go back to that old ungodly life. It was not easy, but I finally came up with a radical decision to close my shop and head back home in Iloilo.

Helping out our family business at Iloilo, the desire to learn how to preach and share the truth to my family grew deeper in my heart as weeks passed by. One time, there was a one-month evangelistic seminar conducted by Amazing Facts-Philippines on which I happened to attend. I learned so much about the fundamentals of Adventism which I never learned in my past Bible studies. I realized that I was not a good witness to my family because I helped them sell unclean food, and other unhealthy beverages in our store. I felt guilty for being an accessory in ruining the health of the people.

I wanted to know God deeply and give my life into His service but I do not know where and how to start. In God's providence, PAFCOE opened a training that time. I thought of it as an answer to my prayer, and I was determined to join the training. Knowing my decision, my family was angry and not willing to support me for the finances. However, God used some people to help me with my enrollment. And so, I became a part of PAFCOE's 2<sup>nd</sup> Batch of trainees.

Since then, my journey as a full-time missionary began. I graduated from PAFCOE, and I was called to become one of their workers. My life literally turned upside down from being a business woman to a full-time evangelist. The Party Coordinator that I once was, is now a Children Evangelism Coordinator and General Needs Coordinator of PAFCOE. Imagine, I was pulled out from the work of the world to the work of our Lord. By God's grace, my skills and efforts were put into use for the advancement of God's cause.

Now happy and contented in the Lord, I bring back to Him all the glory for what He has wrought in me. ■



# What It Takes to be a *Bible Worker...*

By Alma Abante, Batch 7

Here am I; send me." Isaiah 6 :8.

I made this commitment twice: first, when I graduated from PAFCE as a student; and second, when I graduated from my Bible Worker Internship. Until now that I am a Bible worker, this commitment has been echoing in my mind, to be willing to serve God wherever He sends me.

What commonly comes into the people's mind when they hear the word *Bible worker*? Most people plainly think of conducting Bible studies, and visitations. However, I would say that it is more than what they commonly think of.

As Bible work is a front-liner duty, it involves many things. According to my experience, I need to be intentional in reaching more people. I need to learn things all by myself as I encounter different situations and face people with different concerns in life. In the field, I have no one to depend on, except the Lord. As it is soul winning, it requires more earnest prayers. It is actually being at the forefront of the battle—very vulnerable to attacks.

In addition, the fact the I am away from my family compels me to cling upon the Lord. I need to get on my knees earnestly and plead for strength to overcome self, to survive from the new environment, and to focus on *seeking souls*.

As a Bible worker, wise management of time is needed. It includes waking up early to seek the Lord first for the day, and then organize Bible study schedules. As a Bible worker I become everything to people based on what they need me to be, and I do what they need me to do for them. People sometimes talk with me and my partner for so long that they eat up our time (so be careful). We also become on-the-spot counselors, so we should be ready to counsel parents, couples, students, and a lot more people. They ask pieces of advice, that is why we always ask God's guidance on what to say. Because I specialized on Child Evangelism at PAFCE, I take time as well on teaching children aside from our Bible studies, together with my partner.





Another unforgettable moment during our visitations in Bible work is whenever I start to hear from people saying, "Andito na yung manggagamot!" ("Here are the doctors!") That is the time when people flock around me & my partner, and have themselves checked-up. People then ask what they should do for their condition. They think that we are medical professionals. So, we become health lecturers, too! Whenever we do health surveys and discover people's health condition, most of them ask what to do especially about their hypertension. At that golden moment, we grab the privilege of giving to them instant health lectures. Mainly, as Bible workers, we visit houses and offer Bible studies. We open to them the Word of God that brings life and change.



Those are what it takes to be a Bible worker. It is about forgetting self, and focusing on soul-winning, and ministering to their needs. So, it is really a hard duty. There is always a battle, especially against self and the enemy. It agrees to the fact that soul-winning is declaring a battle, because we are conquering an enemy's territory. It takes a lot courage and strength

from the Lord to continue. There are even times that we wanted to give up, whenever we think about being far away from our family.

But, why still do Bible work? The answer is this: in this work, we see how God turn our disappointments to divine appointments; it opens our eyes to value a soul; it enables us to value the blessing we receive through the people we meet everyday that eventually become our friends and additional family of God.



And most of all, experiencing the joy of seeing precious souls, whom you prayed hard to and worked hard for, accepting and surrendering their lives to Jesus is the ultimate blessing in Bible work. This is the joy that no worldly things can equal and no amount of money can buy. Reader, I pray that you will have a deeper experience with Jesus as you work for Him with joy. ■





## PLOW or ALTAR: Ready for Either



Batch 13 graduation took place last July 11 with the theme “Plow or Altar: Ready for Either” at Manila Center SDA Church. Pastor Israel P. Andoy, NPUC Ministerial Secretary, gave the commencement address and Pastor Robinson S. Fuentes, Manila Center Senior Pastor, congratulated the graduates. At the conclusion of the event, Pastor Andoy commissioned 23 new evangelists to the gospel work.

To God be the glory!



## BATCH 13 EVANGELISM SUMMARY

- ✓ 388 People Surveyed
- ✓ 104 People Canvassed
- ✓ 116 Bible Studies Conducted
- ✓ 21 Public Evangelism Efforts
- ✓ 179 Souls Baptized
- ✓ 12 Full-course Graduated
- ✓ 11 iPreach Graduated
- ✓ 3 Bible Worker Graduates
- ✓ 1 Church Plant

## GOD is GREATER!

Last April, PAFCOE received a generous gift that enabled the ministry to expand its Media Department and its Health Food Ministry.



PAFCOE Media acquired a new camera and a highspeed pc for editing. Because of these, we are now able to produce more meaningful videos much faster. In fact, we already launched a new short clip series called Testimonies of Faith. Visit [www.pafcoe.org](http://www.pafcoe.org) to watch our latest productions.



VeggieTayo acquired more equipment, had the store renovated, and launched a new product. Soon, the store will be open for prayer meetings and health lectures. This will give us access through doors that we cannot enter otherwise.

Also, PAFCOE is also moving towards starting its own publication department. We have been receiving a great demand for printed materials and we need to cope up.

The work is certainly great but God is greater. Thank you for continuing your support. Keep us in prayers.





## Construction On-going...



After the evangelistic effort conducted by PAFCOE last May, one of the newly baptized offered his lot to be the ground for a church building.

Thanks to the leadership of Manila Center SDA Church and some timely donations, the construction of the future Bago Bantay SDA Church has begun last July. However, the building fund is not yet enough. We need more prayers.

## FEEDBACK

**W**hat you are about to read in this section are the feedback coming from those whom the evangelists have served and ministered.

### What can you say about the PAFCOE Ministry?

"Thank you for sending them here, the program is good and helpful. Those who haven't heard about Jesus will be enlightened. Thank you for letting me experience to attend the church and to worship Jesus. Through this ministry, you enlighten us (the children) the truth."

-Danrev Sabado, Galaanan, Bongabon, Nueva Ecija

"They are amazing in sharing the facts about Jesus, heaven and the significance of understanding the scriptures."

-Rosa Fuentes, Sitio Aringit, Antipolo City

"I found the amazing facts ministry helpful since it helps everyone to accept the truth and Jesus."

-Alliah Donato, Pinugay, Baras Rizal

"It is good and nice the way you serve the Lord. You brought a lot of people to the truth. And by doing that, lots of souls will know and see the glory of God."

-Leah Valois, Calawis Antipolo

### What Can you say about the evangelist/s?



Prolific Leader. Very Zealous! -Nueva Ecija

Very good... - Calawis, Antipolo

Excellent! - Tarlac

They are dedicated to the Lord. - Tondo

Humble and enthusiastic - Cavite

They are still doing house-to-house visitation, rain or shine; walking no matter how far; and consistently encouraged the Church to do outreach & to bring in interest. They are so organized, committed, and dedicated evangelist. - San Jose, Antipolo

Kind, respectful, and guided by the Holy spirit... - Abuyod, Antipolo

Did their best! They are responsible with the tasks given, and also gave time for the kids, young people, and attendees of the seminar just to make sure everything is fine; compassionate to the people around.; have strong leadership; and they are confident talking to diff. people w/ compassion. They are direct to the point and detailed. - San Isidro, Antipolo

Kind, industrious, hard-working in the ministry. -Malibay, Gen. Nakar Quezon Province

Praise God! Thank you. Now, how about the prophecy seminar?



Very nice presentations! It can motivate and revive the church - Cavite

'Twas successful, despit the heavy rain. - Baseco

The topics are easy to understand- San Isidro, Antipolo







## "WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN"

### WHY DO WE CARE AND HOW DO WE SHOW IT?

By Steve Dragoo

"Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it." Proverbs 3:27 KJV

You may have heard of the hymn title above and the first verse ends with "I want to be among that number"... I want my family and friends to be among that number too and everybody I can reach through God's watch care over the lost. Why? There are many answers to that one-word question and I am interested in yours but since we cannot talk until after you read this article, I will do my best to tell you my "why".

First and foremost is because God first loved me, and I am still discovering what that means and how to help others know His loving truth. He has a depth and omnipotence we cannot understand and accept this truth by faith. You and I can honor His Great Gift by responding the same way - love.

Second is the incredibly powerful image of the final scene on the last day of the old earth. Here we are standing inside that great crystal-clear golden wall surrounding our new Home. You look out and see someone you know. Her fearful look gazes upon you and you hear her say these eternally lost words, "You knew, and you didn't tell me." There is still time to change that now - today and praise the Lord for a second opportunity but it will not last unless you act.

Recently someone my wife and I did not know asked our help for an airplane ticket to join PAFCOE. We took from our needs and bought this young man a one-way ticket to Manila. You see, this young man was on a trip that would have resulted in him standing outside the Golden Wall but our merciful God intervened. Today he is a Bible worker reaching others who might otherwise die eternally.

PAFCOE, blessed sweet PAFCOE has help guide hundreds of lives to the mercy seat but not on their own. It takes you and me to ensure they continue their pathway. We reach out to them because God wants us to and you and I can. They need our deep caring financial support every day, especially for Batch 14. Now is the time to answer your "why" and help them grow. There is hope for them because you give with all your heart. Kindly send your financial gift today.

### OUR PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for batch 13 graduates as they take their mission assignments.
- Pray for the on-going 14<sup>th</sup> evangelism training session.
- More Worthy Student Fund. 6 Full-course students availed the scholarship and 1 student availed the study-now-pay-later program. As our stocked funds are used, we pray that it will be replaced and even increase so we can continue to offer financial assistance to future worthy students.
- A sufficient agricultural land that is easily accessible from a Philippine major city to become the head quarters of Amazing Facts Philippines Ministry.
- More Evangelism Fund. PAFCOE needs more evangelism fund so we can continue sending evangelistic teams to different parts of the Philippines. Each team is sent with 25,000.00 pesos (500 USD) to conduct a 29 session (4 weeks) prophecy seminar.
- Pray for the expansion of Veggietyo ministry -PAFCOE's Health Food Ministry aiming to encourage healthy lifestyle, to reach the elite, and to help in financially sustaining the needs of the whole PAFCOE Ministry.
- Pray for the expansion of PAFCOE Media and the video productions they are doing.



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To make your donation online, visit [www.pafcoe.org/donate](http://www.pafcoe.org/donate). You may also call PAFCOE's Philanthropic Coordinator Steve Dragoo (based in the USA) through 540 655 2217 or e-mail him at [stevend703@gmail.com](mailto:stevend703@gmail.com). You can also directly communicate with PAFCOE's Financial Coordinator Jessalou Pingol through (+63) 943 310 2373 or e-mail her at [pafcoefinance@gmail.com](mailto:pafcoefinance@gmail.com).



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### Amazing Facts Lessons - Cebuano

- 1 - Aduna Pa Bay Butang Nabilin Ng...  
Mas...  
2 - Ang Dios ba nagbuhat ug Yawa?

3 - Kaluwasan Gikan sa Hitaas!

4 - Usa ka Dakong Ciudad sa Kalawakan

5 - Mga Yawi Alang sa Malipayong Kaminyoon

### Amazing Facts Lessons - English

- 1 - Did God create anything Left You Can Trust?
- 2 - Did God create the Devil?

3 - Rescue from above

4 - Colossal city in space

5 - Keys for a Happy Marriage

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