

I set out with a heart to be a blessing, to humble myself to become an instrument used by God. But God humbled me more...



It was probably something you see on television that one could lose 2 close ones in a month, but it happened to me. Honestly, it was not easy to leave at such a crucial point in my life. It became very much a struggle. In addition, my view on life was filled with 'what ifs'. Not that I'm afraid to die but afraid for my loved ones who have yet to come to know Christ. Well, find a mask, put it on. Since, I've already started, I just have to trust God.

“The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up only of rules taught by men." Isaiah 29:13

I marveled at the sight of the faith from the little children. For that moment, language barrier didn't even seem to exist. Immersing into free worship, God's presence was so real. The desperate cries, suddenly made you wonder why services were taken for granted. Just a simple guitar and it's not even important if it's out of tune. There's actually no need for a whole band, it's the heart that's important.

So what do you do when everything just didn't go as planned. How do you feel when something you spent preparing for the whole day, just didn't work out. Missionary trip go-ers probably had experienced changes in every planned activity.

Yes indeed, the old-school film show at the dumpsite was a catch, especially for me, a media student. The crowd gathered excitedly, even though there were no trailers, no air-con, no popcorn and no surround sound. When it started, you pray everything work just fine but there's only so much man can plan. God just has to do His work.

One by one, equipments took turns to break down. Some mentioned Murphy's Law; 'anything that can go wrong, will go wrong'. In fact, everything that could go wrong really did go wrong that night. To execute the back-up plan was probably something all of us dreaded, but even as exhaustion sinks in, God gave us strength. Through this, God opened other doors of opportunities.

“...and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." Genesis 12:3

It was more than a touch-and-go. Perspectives provided a deeper understanding of missions. Unveiling the

big picture on the wall, you get a peep and deep emotions sink. His love in your life stirs up a motivation in you to share His love with others. For He loves every single one of his children.

What I've mentioned so far, could probably be learnt in any missionary trip but what made Cebu'08 different was the personal blessing God gave me. I started out giving an overview of the background I embarked the trip on. It was really painful. Of course, I do appreciate words of encouragement from man, with all the head knowledge. Yes, those are important but this time round, I really needed something just from God. Something that could restore the joy I knew I've lost.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

In a church one night, with just a simple song item 'My Redeemer Lives'. God amazingly used one line from the song 'my pain is healed in His name' to gently strike a thought in my mind. He will heal my pain.

I set out with a heart to be a blessing, to humble myself to become an instrument used by God but God humbled me more, for He knows me better than the mask I put on. I came back blessed with a different understanding of missions and most importantly, a personal touch from my God. Well, God has plans.

And so it was said 'blessed to be a blessing than to be blessed.'

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