

### NOEMI UMENGAN

**O**n February 5, 2017, right after the morning worship service, URFBC conducted an echo seminar on CCF's Intentional Discipleship Conference (IDC) themed "Radical Love" that transpired last January. Praise God, for every plenary and workshop message in that 3-day event was echoed and compressed into less than a day. By God's grace, it was indeed successful! Sis. Ethel Corpin started to echo the plenary message titled "Radical Love Assumes Responsibility." She shared that radical love goes beyond the ordinary. She also shared the acronym SAFE, which means Stewardship, Accountability, Faithfulness, and Eternal Consequences. Pastor Ding Ranay shared another topic about the laws and what the attitude of a disciple should be through the acronym STAFF—Strong, Teachable, Attentive, Firm, and Faithful. He also talked about the 4 L's of Discipleship: Look, Listen, Learn, and Lead. As a Christian, we ought to share and spread the gospel, the truth, and the love that we experience from the Lord. "I am the chief sinner"—This humble attitude is one of the things we should consider as we serve the Lord.

There were 8 workshop topics led by different speakers. Pastor Ronnie Eusebio talked about Leadership Pathways. There are many pathways to leadership and to the life we have dreamt up for ourselves. Discipleship doesn't happen accidentally. We were also taught that we should stop asking for volunteers and start recruiting them. An-

other workshop echoed by Sis. Lenie Escala was the Radical Love in Small Group. Radical love for people is intentional, sacrificial, and missional. It was also reinforced by a testimony given by one of her small group members, Sis. Lita Austria. Pastor Christian Lauron's challenging topic was Creating & Sustaining Vibrant Church Multiplication. The key here is intentionality, which happens with 4 P's: It has to have a purpose that aims

echoed the topic Radical Love at Home. Radical love happens first at home, our immediate and most important circle of influence. Workshop on Dealing with Digital Addiction was communicated by Bro. Dong Plamiano and Bro. Jethro Umengan, who testified his burden and struggle with his addiction. But with God's love, he's gained victory over addiction. Bro. Dong tackled the addiction of millennial to technology nowadays. "The opposite of addiction is connection." Sis. Rona Escala shared about Understanding and Responding to LGBTQ Community. How do we "love the sinner and hate the sin?" We learned that "Homosexuality is a misguided source of love and affection." And finally, the last workshop was echoed by Bro. Julius Manila about God's Design to Sex: Dealing with Pornography and Pre-marital Sex. Sex is casually used and abused by the world. "Our power to overcome temptation is totally dependent on how strong you're connected to your Source," says Bro. Julius. Who is the source of believers? Jesus.

## ECHO SEMINAR — on — RADICAL LOVE

Christlikeness; a principle that every believer is a disciple; a process wherein one should determine, delineate, develop and deploy leadership; and lastly, a strong passion not just to the ministry of the Lord, but to the Lord Himself. Bro. Charles Ferrando shared about Radical Love across Cultures. A counter-cultural and cross-cultural love can provide the greatest opportunities for us to die to ourselves in order to love and serve others the way Jesus did. It's hard to love radically when people are conscious of the truth but denies and neglects it. Would we be ready if asked about the truth? Sis. Arlene Ranay then

God really planned the echoing of these messages. This seminar motivated me to further echo this to a LifeGroup in our school. God knows how His servants were really moved that day. May we always be reminded to pass on what we have learned from that seminar and may we see how God intentionally called us to share the truth and the love that's beyond ordinary. Let the radical love of God reflect in and through us, His children. To God be all the glory!

*Happy Birthday to our YP*  
**FEBRUARY**  
*celebrants!*

- 6 TJ UMENGAN
- 14 KENT GILLACO
- 14 TRICIA MAE MONES
- 15 KIANAH BEDUYA
- 28 NURIAM CAMUS
- 28 REYMARK BONITO
- 29 JOHN2 MALONG



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Are we still willing to share the gospel when trials come? Last February 17-19, through a Missions Conference at URFBC, the church was reminded that we are all called to witness—not only the missionary workers, but every member must be involved in missions. The purpose of this event was to make us remember God's word, His encouragement to us, and the call to be used in supporting missions.

This most awaited conference has been a blessing for us. The speakers coming from different places—Pastor David Sariga, Pastor Domingo Ranay, Pastor Jolly Furio, Pastor Jun Dioso, Pastor Jacob Gatilogo, Pastor Dan Fidelis, and Pastor Eric Laon—gave the members a challenge on serving the Lord through proclaiming God's word and being willing to be used by God through supporting missions. The speakers used Jesus and other Bible characters as examples for us to follow and imitate. Whether you are a church worker or a member, to build a healthy church and to witness are commands for us to fulfill for it has a significant impact in our local church. It will help us pursue holiness, unity and love in our church. We have also learned that we all shall be connected to Christ and to be willing enough to follow Him to be a gospel bearer. All of us were truly blessed, reminded and encouraged.

The missionary pastors of the daughter churches also had their reports about their corresponding ministries. The guest intern students from Nabunturan Seminary also had the opportunity to render a special number. The URFBC members also prepared foods for boodle fight and everyone enjoyed it. Continue to pray for our mission and for our pastors and to support our missionary partners through generous giving. Remember that no treasure is wasted if it is for the Lord who is the Owner of all riches. All your service for the Lord will not be in vain. Keep on being an instrument of God. Be reminded. The time is near!

## HISTORY in Me:

# I AM SOMEBODY

■ KRIS BERNADETH MANZANO

I am a sinner. I didn't even know what the purpose of my life in this world is. I had always done bad deeds, looked at the negative thoughts. I felt alone, sometimes I thought I had no value. I felt that I was always wrong even if I'd done my best in anything. This world is such a place and I am no one. I am nobody, and want to be somebody. I felt lost. I felt no one loves me. I didn't even love myself. I felt ugly, annoying, disturbing. But all that was already in the past.

May 15, 2016. I am one of those students of the program they call VBS. They're teaching about the Word of God. The first words that came to my mind when I heard that was "wow" and "amazing". Yes, I will tell the truth that it's not my first time; actually, that's my second time. But it seemed new to me. I'd given it more value. I realized that I'm starting to know him, the Creator of this world. July 25, 2016 was the day I started to worship Him in church. It's my sister who invited me to attend every Sunday at the church Upon This Rock Fundamental Baptist Church (URFBC). Because of my beloved sister, I knew Jesus. When I started to attend to the church, I started to worship the Lord and have faith. I've started to realize that everything has a value, is im-

portant, has a purpose. I believe that whenever something goes wrong, just believe Him because He will fix it. December 29, 2016 has been the most amazing, beautiful, unforgettable, best day of my life so far. I couldn't explain what I felt that day at the holiday camp in Malvar. My tears were falling so many times and it's like rain that would not stop. My heartbeat was so fast like a hurricane. That day was the day I confessed burdens in my life. I was so happy that I couldn't totally breathe. I felt the presence of His unconditional love. It was a special day I will never forget. I will never regret the decision I made. The camp gave me a big opportunity to know the Lord more. The ministries then started to come and I am thankful for that.

"The Lord is my helper." He helped me open up my eyes and see that I'm not ugly. He makes me realize that I am beautiful. He makes me feel that He's always right here, protecting and loving me when nobody does. I couldn't ask for more. He is my Savior. The Creator of this wonderful word. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords. I will serve Him for my entire life and will never get tired of it. Because with God all the impossible will be possible if you believe in Him. All things will be POSSIBLE. To God be the Glory!

## HOW'S YOUR PRAYER LIFE?

■ NHIKKA DICDIQUIN

We, URFBC Young People, was again given the privilege to host the monthly Dawn Watch prayer meeting. A week before the event, the URFBC-YP distributed a bookmark containing "How's Your Prayer Life?" that served as an invitation. It was a question for everyone to think deeply and to reevaluate their prayer life. It was a cold morning on the fourth day of February. The cold weather made us feel lazy and sleepy, but were awakened by God. It was His special request to have a morning appointment with Him. He energized our inactive body as we took the privilege to gather with our fellow believers. The program started with scripture reading followed by worship songs. Everyone

was challenged and reminded through the short message delivered by Bro. Julius Manila. During prayer time, everyone formed a group of 4 members. Each member was assigned specific prayer items to be prayed for, including the general and special prayer requests of young people and church. Also, everyone had an opportunity to share their personal prayer requests and thanksgiving with their group. Afterwards, we gathered to eat breakfast together.

*Truly, the time spent with God and His believers is worth it.*

*LOOK TO THE LORD AND HIS STRENGTH; SEEK HIS FACE ALWAYS.*

*1 Chronicles 16:11*