

# VOLUNTEER: SERVE GOD JOYFULLY!

What does it mean to volunteer?

To volunteer is to personally commit to and desire to contribute one's time, skills, or talents willingly for a greater cause, without compulsion and without payment. Volunteering benefits us as well: research has shown that if you volunteer to serve and help others, you become healthier and more joyful. Volunteerism is for our own good, and as God's church, we are reminded to "serve the Lord [our] God with joy and a glad heart" (Deuteronomy 28:47-48) in the form of biblical volunteerism:

SECULAR VOLUNTEERISM	BIBLICAL VOLUNTEERISM
seeks recognition	seeks God's glory
pick and choose	responds to a need
commitment with conditions	servant heart, no pre-conditions
glamorous work	big or small

Biblical volunteerism is service that is patterned after Jesus. He is the ultimate example of servanthood, as "the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). However, we sometimes have different reasons for not serving, such as lack of time, lack of talent, lack of opportunity, disappointment with leaders, ignorance, and ultimately, a lack of heart. But we must remember that we are called to freedom, not to indulge the desires of our flesh, but to serve one another through love (Galatians 5:13)! We need to make time for things that are truly important and pleasing to God, such as serving Him with joy. How do we do this?

## GRACE OF GOD

Grace is "God's Riches At Christ's Expense" — it is undeserved, unmerited, unconditional, and uncoerced favor, freely given by God and paid for by Jesus. The first chapters of Romans present a systematic explanation of what God has done by His grace alone: they explain man's sinfulness (Romans 1-3), God's salvation (Romans 3-5), God's sanctification (Romans 6-8), God's sovereignty (Romans 9-11), and man's response (Romans 12-15). We are ultimately recipients of God's grace, forgiveness, and mercy; and in understanding His grace we also recognize that by it, He enables us to serve Him out of love. We are saved by grace alone through faith alone, not by our good works — our good

works, such as service, are evidence of our salvation. (Ephesians 2:8-10) As John Stott says, "Good works are indispensable to salvation — not as its grounds or means, however, but as its consequence and evidence." We don't do good works to earn points for heaven!

## GRATITUDE TO GOD

Gratitude leads to action. C.T. Studd once said, "If Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him." Simply put, we must give our all to God in appreciation and thankfulness for the every good thing we have received from Him. If we have been crucified with Christ and it is no longer us who live, but Christ lives in us (Galatians 2:20), we are to learn to surrender our all to Him and say yes to everything He wants us to do. This is part of how we present our bodies as a living and holy sacrifice to God, our "spiritual service" (Gk. *logizomai*: logical, reasonable) to Him (Romans 12:1).

This is contrary to how secular volunteerism is, but it is proof that as we live redeemed lives, our minds are renewed and our lives are transformed. We are to allow God to transform and change us instead of continuing to copy the ways of the world (Romans 12:2), and to dwell on the truth of His word as it changes the way we live and enables us to understand the "good, acceptable, and perfect" will of God. 1 John 2:15-16 also reminds us to move away from the ways of the world (lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, boastful pride of life). If we are grateful to God for His grace, we will be submit to Him and serve Him with all our hearts.

## GIFT OF GOD

God has given us all we need to serve Him, including grace and faith. In Romans 12:3-8, we learn that He has given us different functions to work together as one body. The church is the body of Christ — every part is important! We are "a royal priesthood" that must "proclaim the excellencies of Him" (1 Peter 2:9), even in how we serve. We are to help one another and serve one another as good stewards of the grace of God, using the gifts given to us (see 1 Peter 4:10 also). When we see a need, we are to step out, volunteer, and serve! Let us volunteer with our time, talent, treasure, influence, and even our own trials and sufferings where others may see Christ's work in us and glorify Him.

May we all choose to do all the good we can, for God's greater glory, honor, and praise!

### last week's memory verse

As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

1 PETER 4:10

### discuss this message

How does the grace of God become a solid reason for us to serve?

How do you express your gratitude to God through volunteering and serving?

What have you been gifted with that allows you to be a blessing to others?

DOWNLOAD THIS CHRONICLE ONLINE!

[ccf.org.ph/chronicle/](http://ccf.org.ph/chronicle/)

DOWNLOAD THIS SUNDAY'S 4WS EVERY MONDAY!

[ccf.org.ph/4ws/](http://ccf.org.ph/4ws/)



# Hope in Jesus, He is forever faithful.

See you at the Welcome Center and  
let's discuss about it.

## STEP INTO THE COMMUNITY

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

### WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN



#### When Times are Tough, Look Up


##### Session 4: Look to Rejoice in Suffering (1 Peter 4)

with Malu Ortiz

August 22, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfwomen2women

 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

### B1G MINISTRY SINGLES

#### Call of a Witness: Establish a Firm Foundation

August 23, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE



   B1GMinistry

### MOVEMEN+ ALL MEN

#### Book Study on 1 Timothy

August 31, Saturday, 2:00 PM, CCF Center

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE

  movingmentochrist



### NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

#### Walk in Love

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

G/F CCF Center (ages 4-12)

ZOOM: for ages 7-12; 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM  
message us at [facebook.com/ccfnxtgen](https://www.facebook.com/ccfnxtgen)  
to sign up

ONLINE: Bible Lesson Video Premiere  
9:00 AM at   ccfnxtgen

## LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FAITH

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

#### Stay tuned for the upcoming GLC training cycle starting September!

GLC LEVEL 1

##### Book 1: One by One

ONSITE: September 8, Sunday, 10:30 AM

ZOOM: September 11, Wednesday  
7:30 PM

##### Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines

ONSITE: September 8, Sunday, 1:30 PM

ZOOM: September 11, Wednesday  
7:30 PM

GLC LEVEL 2

##### Book 5: Starting Point for Small Groups

ONSITE: September 8, Sunday, 1:00 PM

ZOOM: September 12, Thursday, 7:30 PM

#### Baptism Class and Rites

CLASS: September 15, Sunday, 1:30 PM  
G/F New Building

RITES CEREMONY:

September 22, Sunday, 1:30 PM

Register: [bit.ly/BaptismReg2024](https://bit.ly/BaptismReg2024)



counterflow 2024  
family conference

# REFRESH

SEPTEMBER 21 AT CCF CENTER

GET YOUR  
TICKETS  
NOW!

counterflow.ph

ACROSS  
FAMILY MINISTRY

YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here  
for His purpose.

### God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful  
life with Him in the present and gain  
eternal life with Him in the future.

Know therefore that the Lord your God,  
He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps**  
**His covenant and His lovingkindness** to  
a thousandth generation with those who  
love Him and keep His commandments  
– Deuteronomy 7:9

### God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us  
from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from  
God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23

### God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for  
us to be reconciled to Him: through His  
son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the  
cross for our sins and be raised to life for  
eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love  
toward us, in that while we were yet  
sinners, Christ died for us. Much more  
then, having now been justified by His  
blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of  
God through Him. – Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life;  
no one comes to the Father but through  
Me. – John 14:6

### God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we  
are forgiven of our sins and saved from  
eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave  
His only begotten Son, that whoever  
believes in Him shall not perish, but have  
eternal life. – John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through  
faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift  
of God; not as a result of works, so that no  
one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

Would you like to place your faith in Jesus  
Christ today?

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I  
am a sinner. I believe that You died on  
the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your  
help, I will turn away from my sins. Please  
come into my life and be my Savior and  
my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal  
life. Make me the kind of new person You  
want me to be. Thank You for giving me  
eternal life. Amen.

### God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life  
when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has  
given us eternal life, and this life is in His  
Son. He who has the Son has the life; he  
who does not have the Son of God does  
not have the life. These things I have  
written to you who believe in the name of  
the Son of God, so that you may know that  
you have eternal life. – 1 John 5:11-13



## SERVICES AT THE CCF CENTER




### SATURDAY NIGHTS

5:00 PM

### SUNDAYS

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN,  
and 3:00 PM

### ONLINE LIVESTREAM

 ccf.org.ph  ccfmaint  ccfmainTV

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

Visit [ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/](https://www.ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/) for the list of broadcast TV channels and radio stations.