

**Servers Today, June 16, 2024**

**A Prisoner's Encounter With Jesus (Luke 7:18-35)**

Speaker: *ARNAN BAYLA*  
 Song Leader: *ANDY BESTRE*  
 Invocation: *DODOY SAMEON*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *JUNE REYES*  
 Communion Text: *COLOSSIANS 3:1-4*  
 Scripture Reading: *IRA PO*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *DONNEL GONZALES*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *DANTE BADDAS*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *GASPAR BALDO, JR.*  
 Closing Prayer: *FELIX OLIDAN, JR.*  
 Announcement: *ANDY BESTRE*  
 Afternoon Speaker: *ARNAN BAYLA*  
 Song Leader: *ANDY BESTRE*  
 To Bring Flowers: *JANET RAMOS*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 To Bring Drinks: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 Usher/ettes: *KITMA FAMILY*

Communion: *ME-AN GONZALES*  
 Worship Coordinator: *EZRA VALDEZ | ART TACAY*

**How To Become a Biblical Christian**

- 1). Admit that you are a sinner and in need of salvation, 1 John 3:4,8; Rom.3:10,23; Rom. 6:23.
- 2). Hear the pure New Testament gospel of Christ; Romans 1:16; Rom. 10:17.
- 3). Believe the gospel, Hebrews 11:6; Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- 4). Repent of your sins, Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30.
- 5). Confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, Mat. 10:32; Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:10.
- 6). Be baptized into Christ, Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16.
- 7). Remain faithful unto death, Rev. 2:10;

**Servers for June 23, 2024**

**SYMPOSIUM on Equipping Ministry**

Speaker: *JOJO RAMOS*  
 Song Leader: *JANRIEL ABANCE*  
 Invocation: *JULIUS ROJO*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *NOEL ESPINOSA*  
 Communion Text: *GALATIANS 3:23-29*  
 Scripture Reading: *JOSH MARTIN*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *JASPER PERDIGON*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *KAJEM KITMA*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *O'NIEL GONZALES*  
 Closing Prayer: *ERNIE WAGANG*  
 Announcement: *ARNAN BAYLA*  
 Afternoon Speaker: *JOJO RAMOS*  
 Song Leader: *JANRIEL ABANCE*  
 To Bring Flowers: *JANET RAMOS*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 To Bring Drinks: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 Usher/ettes: *GERON FAMILY*

Communion: *ME-AN GONZALES*  
 Worship Coordinator: *ANDY BESTRE | ART TACAY*



Vol. XL No. 24 June 16, 2024 Baguio City, Philippines

**Mission & Vision**  
 We are committed to give God glory, praise, and honor as we serve in making disciples of Christ. We envision ourselves to be a congregation of worshipers of God in spirit and in truth, and to be a living demonstration of the presence and power of our Lord Jesus Christ in a community of faith, hope, and love.

**"What we think of ourselves, or what others think of us, is not as important as what God thinks."**

**READ Luke 7:24-30**  
**INSIDE PAGE:**  
**Today's Sermon Outline...page 2**  
**June Birth Anniversaries...page 3**  
**Seekers Lesson Series...page 3**

**LAST SUNDAY'S RECORD**  
 June 9, 2024

**ATTENDANCE**

REGULAR WORSHIP ASSEMBLY AM & PM	SUNDAY SCHOOL + Virtual Class
ADULTS.....225	PRESCHOOL.....18
YPPEEZ.....18	GRADES 1-2 .....10
CHILDREN.....50	GRADES 3-4.....13
GUESTS.....5	GRADES 5-6.....5
TOTAL.....298	H.S./COLL.....16
	YAs .....21
	TOTAL.....83

**OFFERING**  
 AM & PM TOTAL:  
**PhP71,080.00**

**PRAYER LIST**

<b>FOR GOOD HEALTH &amp; RECOVERY BRETHREN:</b> *GLORIA YANG *JOSEFA JOSAYAN *DONNA GERON *PRISCILLA BAYASEN *DAN SAMEON *DODOY & SARAH SAMEON *DITH ZAMORA *TESS KITMA *LOIDA BADDAS *BERNARD IGNACIO *JONATHAN ENERVA *CESAR ACOSTA *JOCELYN CALIXTRO *JOVITA BONDOC *ELLA GAROY *LORENZA LOSNONG	<b>*ERNE ORDUÑA</b> *FLORA CAMPOAS *CLYDE ABANCE *MELBA LICUPA *NIDA GABRIEL *CHARLIE ABANCE *JANET FERNANDEZ *RONELIZA PERALTA *BERNABE IGNACIO *MARIL BAYATING, SR. *ESPERANZA VILLANUEVA	<b>REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:</b> *CARMEN VILLANUEVA *MARILIZA ANDALLO *DIANA TAGUIBA *PHILIP BADUA *FRANKY SANCHI *RYN EISEN PANGANIBAN *IAN PAJANTOY *JAYVEE MAGPAYO *JESS ANIBAN *BENIGNO ABRIL	<b>SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE</b> *LOCAL, NATIONAL, WORLD LEADERS & GOVERNMENT *ON-GOING SEEKERS' BS *ON-GOING FOLLOW-UP BS *OPPORTUNITIES TO PREACH THE GOSPEL	<b>OTHER CONCERNS</b> Safe Pregnancy: *DESIREE BADDAS—NIERVES	<b>Safe Travel:</b> *JUN, LULU, ROD BONDOC (CANADA) *JOVY MABESA & COMPANY (SOUTH KOREA) *CD ESPINOSA (FR INDONESIA) *GIL GERON, ERNIE, NOEL, & JOJO & CO. (NAGUILIAN)
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

- **TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM**—JUNE 18, 2024 | 12:00—2:30 PM | EVERYBODY WELCOME
- **SYMPOSIUM ON THE EQUIPPING MINISTRY**—MIDTOWN ASSEMBLY HALL | JUNE 23, 2024 | 9:30-11:00 PM.
- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**—JULY 8—12, 2024 | REGISTRATION GOING ON | REG. FEE: P50.00
- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PREPARATION**—DAILY PREPARATIONS FOR PROPS | MIDTOWN HALL | NEEDED: BOHO, AFGHAN, IGOROT WEAVINGS | SIGN UP TO SPONSOR SNACKS & MEALS (PLEASE SEE THE BULLETIN BOARDS)
- **WANTED: VOLUNTEER PROOFREADER IN FILIPINO**—TO PROOFREAD MIDTOWN'S EVANGELISTIC LESSON SERIES TRANSLATED INTO FILIPINO | PLEASE CONTACT BROTHER EZRA VALDEZ AS SOON AS POSSIBLE | THANK YOU!
- **BIBLE STUDY CENTER**—AT THE MIDTOWN ASSEMBLY HALL | OPEN MONDAY THRU FRIDAY FOR PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY AND BIBLICAL COUNSELLING | BRING ANYONE INTERESTED IN A FORMAL BIBLE STUDY COURSE OR BRING ANYONE WHO WOULD NEED COUNSELING OR NEEDING SOMEONE TO TALK TO.

**A dozen attends monthly ladies devo & luncheon**

A handful of ladies attended this month's MONTHLY LADIES DEVOTIONAL & LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP, held last Saturday, June 15th at the Midtown Assembly Hall. Those who made it include sisters Luz Olidan, Clarita Cachero, Dinah Austria, Beth Sevilla, Norma Aping, Joyce Kitma, Minda Oliva, Cot Espinosa, Jane Bestre, Amber Po, Janet Perdigon, Kana Valdez, and Kesha Oliva.

After a brief devotional, sister Amber Po got them into making paper flowers to be used as props in the fast approaching VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) which will be held on July 8—12, 2024. The unfinished project will be continued in their homes and are expected to be ready a week before the VBS opening. Other ladies are enjoined to take part in the project. For God's greater glory, honor, and praise!Ω

**Midtown brethren console the bereaved on independence day**

A good number of brethren joined the neighbors and friends to comfort the bereaved family of the late Mr. Brian Reid at the REID RESIDENCE on Sto. Niño Road, Bakakeng Central, this city, last Wednesday evening, June 12, 2024. The bereaved family is related to a couple of brethren such as Josie & Josiah Levi Calixtro and Roel & Vangie Martinez.

Brother Arnan Bayla presided over the Devotional Service. The Reid family expressed appreciation for the prayers, messages, singing, and the visit.

Meanwhile, brother Felix Olidan Jr. facilitated the DEVOTIONAL SERVICE at the ST. PETER CHAPEL in honor of the late sister Myrna Velasco—Desembrena of Bachelor, Natividad, Pangasinan, evening of June 12th. Some brethren coming from the earlier vigil service at the Reids joined the group at the St. Peter's Chapel. The bereaved conveyed thanks for the sympathies. Both of the deceased were cremated last Thursday. Again, all sympathies to the bereaved families!Ω

**Midtown brethren survey ministry involvement in LU**

In response to the appeal of the brethren of the Naguilian congregation meeting at Barangay Imelda, Naguilian, La Union, the EQUIPPING MINISTRY TEAM composed of brethren Jojo Ramos, Ernie Wagang, Noel Espinosa, and Gil Geron are travelling to Naguilian, La Union today to survey how the Midtown congregation can get involved in the strengthening of the Lord's work there.

Previously, brothers Gil & Dan Gil Geron, Noel Espinosa, and some brethren have served as sermon speakers and Bible Study facilitators in the past three 4th Sundays.

Meanwhile brother Felix Olidan Jr. served as GUEST SPEAKER in the recent celebration of the 1ST ANNIVERSARY of the UPPER SESSION ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST last June 2, 2024. All glory and praise to God alone!Ω

**Brother Johnny Payangdo to serve as evangelist in SGMA**

Brother Johnny Payangdo has informed the MI staff that he has recently been accepted by the SGMA congregation as their new evangelist. He was asked to report last Saturday, June 15th, to be introduced to the congregation on Sunday, June 16th.

He will be joining some interns of the HERITAGE BIBLE COLLEGE (HBC) assigned in the same congregation. Brother Johnny graduated bachelor of Theology from HBC last year. Two years before that, he graduated an engineering course from Saint Louis University.

While on the job, he will also be included in an On-line Missionary Training Course facilitated by the Mission Resource Network. He solicits the prayers of Midtown brethren for his new endeavor. For God's glory, honor, and praise!Ω

# A PRISONER'S ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

Luke 7:18-35  
Arnan A. Bayla | Midtown Church of Christ | June 16, 2024

- A PRISONER'S ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS**
  - JESUS ADDRESSES JOHN'S DOUBTS
    - Luke 7:18-23
  - JESUS DECLARES JOHN'S GREATNESS
    - Luke 7:24-30
  - JESUS REBUKES HIS AND JOHN'S CRITICS
    - Luke 7:31-35

**I. JESUS ADDRESSES JOHN'S DOUBTS**

- JESUS ASSURES JOHN THAT HE IS THE MESSIAH AS EVIDENCED BY HIS MIRACLES
  - Jesus says: "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard."
  - John is appraised with what's happening.
- JESUS ASSURES JOHN THAT HE IS THE CHRIST BY FULFILLING THE PROPHECY
  - Jesus says: "The blind, lame, leper, deaf are healed, dead raised, good news preached to the poor."
  - John is reminded of what the prophets say.
- JESUS ENCOURAGES JOHN TO HAVE NO DOUBTS ABOUT HIM
  - Jesus says: "Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me."
  - John is assured even when expectations aren't met.

Luke 7:18-23

**APPLICATION:**

- As disciples of Christ, how would we deal with doubt if and when it strikes us?
  - Let us appraise ourselves with what God is doing in our lives believing that God plans to prosper us and not to harm us, plans to give us hope and a future. Jer. 29:11
  - Let us be reminded of the prophetic messages as written in the Bible. Keep in mind that the prophecies will be fulfilled as have many had already been fulfilled. God is going to fulfill His promises. Joshua 21:45
  - Let us rest assured that the Lord does not do things according to our plans, ways, and expectations. Beware of making false assumptions. Isaiah 55:8
  - "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:9

**II. JESUS DECLARES JOHN'S GREATNESS**

- JESUS SAYS JOHN IS A PROPHET BEYOND MAN'S EXPECTATION
  - Jesus says: "What kind of person did you think you would find?"
  - John was the greatest ever born of a woman.
- JESUS SAYS JOHN IS A PROPHET BUT IS GREATER THAN A PROPHET
  - Jesus says: "A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet."
  - John is the Messiah's prophesied forerunner.
- JESUS SAYS THAT WHILE JOHN IS THE GREATEST, THE LEAST IS GREATER THAN HE
  - Jesus says: "yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."
  - John's greatness is surpassed by the humble.

Luke 7:24-30

**APPLICATION:**

- As disciples of Christ, how must we correctly understand greatness?
  - Let us realize that greatness is defined by God and is not based on our assumptions and expectations. Get to think and perceive things the way God would be being pure in heart and by being born again. Matt 5:8, Jn 3:3
  - Let us realize that while John's greatness is to "prepare the way of the Lord," it is a great thing for us to "prepare the way to the Lord" for someone. Rom 10:15
  - Let us realize that humbling ourselves before the Lord, i.e., to submit to His will is a great thing for the Lord will lift us up or exalt us. Jas 4:10
  - "The greatest among you will be your servant. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. Matt 23:11-12

**III. JESUS REBUKES HIS AND JOHN'S CRITICS**

- JESUS POINTS OUT THE CONDITION OF HIS AND JOHN'S CRITICS
  - Jesus says: "They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling out to each other..."
  - Their immaturity will serve them right.
- JESUS POINTS OUT THE CRITICISM OF HIS AND JOHN'S CRITICS
  - Jesus says: "And you say, 'He has a demon.'"
  - Their accusations prove their unbelief to the messenger as well as to the message.
- JESUS POINTS OUT THE UNBELIEF OF HIS AND JOHN'S CRITICS
  - Jesus says: "Wisdom is proved right by all its results."
  - Their actions will be proven in time.

Luke 7:31-35

**APPLICATION:**

- As disciples of Christ, in what areas do we need to be rebuked and be corrected?
  - Let us be warned that staying immature in faith is not an option and is dangerous. Like spoiled brats, we will never be pleased and end up ever-complaining and thereby treat the Lord God with contempt. Numbers 14:11
  - Let us be warned that our criticisms against the church which is the body of Christ is tantamount to criticizing the Lord Jesus who is the head of the church. Do all things without complaining and disputing. Phil 2:14
  - Let us be warned that when we reject any of the Lord's teachings, we will reap the consequence in time. Rom 2:8
  - For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God... 1 Thess 4:7-8

“Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven.”

Luke 6:22-23 NIV

**What do we learn from a prisoner's encounter with Jesus Christ?**

- First, as disciples of Christ, we must rest assured in the Lord's promises especially when doubts strike us. Will we like John, accept the Lord's promises?
- Second, as disciples of Christ, we must understand that commendation or condemnation depends on our submission to the Lord and His will. Will we, like John, be commended by the Lord for greatness?
- Third, as disciples of Christ, we must be unaffected by undue criticisms as well as to refrain from criticizing the body of Christ. Will we, like John and Jesus, be unaffected by critics and humbly, willingly, and faithfully pursue our purpose in this life?

# EVANGELISTIC LESSON SERIES [VIRTUAL OR FACE-TO-FACE]

## A. INTRODUCTORY LESSONS (5)

- LESSON NO. 1 – The Importance of the Word of God
- LESSON NO. 2 – Introduction to the Bible
- LESSON NO. 3 – How We Got the Bible
- LESSON NO. 4 – Overview of Bible History
- LESSON NO. 5 – Christ's New Testament Replaces the Old Testament

## B. SEEKER'S LESSONS (6)

- LESSON NO. 1 – The Scheme of Redemption:
  - A. God's Plan for Man
- LESSON NO. 2 – The Scheme of Redemption:
  - B. The Fall of Man
- LESSON NO. 3 – The Scheme of Redemption:
  - C. Jesus the Savior
- LESSON NO. 4 – The Scheme of Redemption:
  - D. The Steps of Salvation
- LESSON NO. 5 – The Scheme of Redemption:
  - E. The Cost of Discipleship
- LESSON NO. 6 – The Scheme of Redemption:
  - F. Where Will Your Life End?

## C. NEW LIFE LESSONS (12)

- LESSON NO. 1 – Assurance of Salvation
- LESSON NO. 2 – Obedient Living
- LESSON NO. 3 – Dealing With Temptations
- LESSON NO. 4 – Developing a Devotional Life
- LESSON NO. 5 – Developing a Prayerful Life
- LESSON NO. 6 – Discerning God's Guidance
- LESSON NO. 7 – My Church Involvement & Spiritual Gifts
- LESSON NO. 7 – Supplement:
  - Becoming Christians Only
  - Biblical Church Organization
- LESSON NO. 8 – Partaking of the Lord's Supper
- LESSON NO. 9 – Living Abundantly & My Giving
- LESSON NO. 10 – Becoming an Effective Soul-winner
- LESSON NO. 11 – Victorious Christian Living
- LESSON NO. 12 – Everyday Righteousness & Commitment to Moral Excellence

To enrol in any of the lessons, feel free to contact :  
 Arnan Bayla @ 0918-698-6470  
 Andy Bestre @ 0916-343-8539

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them..." Ecclesiastes 12:1

**June Celebrators**

- 01 - Jovencia C. Mabesa
- 01 - Jonimar Domasig
- 01 - Lois June Fermin
- 02 - Claudette Zamora
- 02 - Maril P. Bayating
- 04 - Katrina M. Viduya
- 04 - Aaron Carlos Cordero
- 05 - Mary Jane S. Abance
- 05 - Sonia Insas
- 08 - Jerico Ramos
- 10 - Jhovel Sison
- 12 - Andrena S. Balang
- 13 - Mervin G. Oliva
- 13 - Jonee C. Baddas
- 14 - Corine B. Mabesa
- 15 - Aljun Parohinog
- 18 - Jimmy June Reyes
- 18 - Rutchie R. Rebuca
- 19 - Erwin Oliva
- 19 - Kaisha Lagsaman
- 19 - Shauli W. Kitma
- 19 - Felixander Kai Olidan
- 20 - Flora Campoas
- 21 - Ezra A. Valdez
- 21 - Lulu Bondoc
- 25 - Julius Rojo
- 25 - Anthony James Flores
- 25 - Anri R. Hiragi—Ramos
- 25 - Edward B. Peñaranda
- 26 - Rafael C. Ozo
- 26 - Frances Balangitan
- 27 - Luz Olidan
- 27 - Lala Geron
- 28 - Lou Villanueva

Please notify the M.I. Staff if your name should have been included in this list. Thank You.

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ASSEMBLY**

Singing & Prayers LORD'S SUPPER and OFFERING 9:00—9:30	Prayers & BIBLE STUDY 9:35—10:25	Singing, Prayers & MESSAGE 10:30—11:10	Greetings & ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:10—11:20
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**MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS** 6:00-8:00 PM

**SUNDAY PM ASSEMBLY**

- Singing & Prayers & MESSAGE: 5:30—6:15
- LORD'S SUPPER & GIVING: 6:15—6:30
- Greetings & ANNOUNCEMENTS: 6:30—6:40

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 Santiago B. Sameon II, Ernesto B. Wagang  
 DEACONS: Gregory C. Kitma, Felix L. Olidan Jr.