

**Servers Today, January 12, 2025**

**The Great Cost of Discipleship (Luke 14:25-35)**

Speaker: *ARNAN BAYLA*  
 Song Leader: *CHRIS OLIVA*  
 Invocation: *JOJO RAMOS*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *EZRA VALDEZ*  
 Communion Text: *PSALM 116:5-9*  
 Scripture Reading: *KHEIF WALANG*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *JHUN REYES*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *LEMUEL GLORI*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *JERRY MARTIN*  
 Closing Prayer: *MARIL BAYATING SR.*  
 Announcement: *ANDY BESTRE*  
 Afternoon Speaker: *ARNAN BAYLA*  
 Song Leader: *CHRIS OLIVA*  
 To Bring Flowers: *CECILIA ALVAREZ*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 To Bring Drinks: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 Usher/ettes: *PERDIGON FAMILY*

Communion: *LORI AUSTRIA*  
 Worship Coordinator: *EZRA VALDEZ | ART TACAY*

PM Bible Study:

**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 January 19, 2025**

**The Joy of Finding (Luke 15:1-10)**

Speaker: *EZRA VALDEZ*  
 Song Leader: *JUN REYES*  
 Invocation: *FELIX OLIDAN JR.*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *ART TACAY*  
 Communion Text: *ROMANS 6:9-14*  
 Scripture Reading: *SHERMAN BESTRE*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *JASPER PERDIGON*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *KAJEM KITMA*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *ALTON MARK BAYLA*  
 Closing Prayer: *GREG KITMA*  
 Announcement: *ARNAN BAYLA*  
 Afternoon Speaker: *EZRA VALDEZ*  
 Song Leader: *JUN REYES*  
 To Bring Flowers: *ROSSANA ANDAYA*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 To Bring Drinks: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 Usher/ettes: *RAMOS FAMILY*

Communion: *LORI AUSTRIA*  
 Worship Coordinator: *EZRA VALDEZ | ART TACAY*



**Vol. XLI No. 2 January 12, 2025 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 worshippers 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.

**1st monthly ladies devotional and fellowship at CJH**

This year's first of the MONTHLY LADIES DEVOTIONAL AND LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP will be held at the picnic grounds of CAMP JOHN HAY on Saturday, January 18, 2025 from 8 o'clock in the morning until 12 o'clock noon.

Those attending are required to bring their own drinking water & drinking bottles and to wear comfortable walking shoes.

The 1ST QUARTER LADIES STEERING GROUP, in charge of this month's activity, include the following: sisters Lorigrace Austria, Cot Espinosa, Norma Aping, Carina Lacaba, Cecilia Ramos, Beth Sevilla, Corazon Ozo, Dinah Austria, Clarita Cachero, Rossana Andaya, Rowana Ozo, Rossana Ozo, Kaesha Palaypayon, Fely Rojo, Jennifer Yaneza, and Virgie Baldo.

The annual theme for the year 2025 is BECOMING BUSY BEES FOR GOD'S GLORY. BEE stands for Benevolence, Edification, and Evangelism. The theme for the 1st Quarter centers on "EXPERIENCING SPIRITUAL GROWTH." Lessons will be on CULTIVATING JOY THROUGH CELEBRATION (January); DEMONSTRATING LOVE THROUGH FELLOWSHIP (February); and EXPERIENCING PEACE THROUGH SIMPLICITY AND SOLITUDE (March). Main reference will be Galatians 5:22-23 which states, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." The following will be emphasized: 1. Christian joy is knowing that we have been saved from eternal punishment, have been pardoned by God, and that we can enjoy a personal relationship with Him through Jesus Christ; 2. The attributes of love in 1 Corinthians 13 are others-oriented. They enable us to show genuine love to others. However, fellowship also entails receiving genuine love from others; 3. Peace, the calm, quiet, and order that takes place in a justified soul is experienced when we simplify life and spend time in solitude with God. All glory and praise to Him!Ω

**"Growing closer to God is not the result of 'trying harder' but of surrendering more."**

**READ Romans 12:1**  
**INSIDE PAGE:**  
**Today's Sermon Outline...page 2**  
**January Birth Anniversaries...page 3**  
**Evangelistic Lesson Series...page 3**

**Camp 6 Tuba fire victims appreciate benevolence**

Sister Lou Villanueva and family, victims of the fire that gutted more than 20 houses and establishments at Camp 6, Kennon Road, Tuba, Benguet on New Year's eve, expressed appreciation for the relief goods and monetary assistance they have been receiving from the brethren. Donations may be directly handed over to sister Lou Villanueva or may be entrusted to the church secretary.

In last TUESDAY'S CHURCH FORUM, the body approved the amount of Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50K) to be given to the Villanueva family in order to help alleviate them from the devastation.

Meanwhile, prayers are being solicited for the victims of the ongoing wildfire in California, USA. According to reliable sources, two church buildings of the CHURCHES OF CHRIST, namely, in Altadena and in Pasadena, were burned down and so are a number of homes of some members. Thankfully, there were no casualties.

The prayers of the congregation are urged to include the aforementioned concerns in daily prayers. God bless us all!Ω

**Gonzales family welcomes youngest member**

The Midtown congregation rejoices with the Gonzales family and welcomes well baby girl ELIANNA ZANE BASTO GONZALES who was born to brother Donnel and sister Aricka on January 6, 2025 at the BAGUIO GENERAL HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER.

The Gonzales family expressed appreciation for the support and prayers. Praises to the Lord God Almighty for His wonderful creation (Psalm 139:13-14)!Ω

**LAST SUNDAY'S RECORD**  
 January 5, 2025

**ATTENDANCE**

REGULAR WORSHIP ASSEMBLY AM & PM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
ADULTS.....240	PRESCHOOL.....13
YPEEZ.....21	GRADES 1-2 .....3
CHILDREN.....32	GRADES 3-4.....8
GUESTS.....2	GRADES 5-6.....8
TOTAL.....295	H.S.....21
	COL/YAs.....20
	ADULT Classes..198
	TOTAL.....271

**OFFERING**

**AM & PM: P67,132.00**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM** — JANUARY 14, 2025 | 12—2:30 PM | EVERYBODY WELCOME!
- **CALL FOR RELIEF FOR CAMP 6 FIRE VICTIMS**—DONATIONS IN CASH AND IN KIND MAY BE DIRECTLY HANDED OVER TO SISTER LOU VILLANUEVA OR MAY BE ENTRUSTED TO THE CHURCH SECRETARY. THANK YOU!
- **MONTHLY LADIES DEVOTIONAL & LUNCHEON FELLOWSHIP** —PICNIC GROUNDS, CAMP JOHN HAY | SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025 | 8:00 AM—12:00 NOON | PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DRINKING WATER.
- **NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT**—TAGAYTAY CITY | APRIL 22-25, 2025
- **READING CENTER**—AT THE MIDTOWN ASSEMBLY HALL | EVERY FRIDAY | OPENS 9 AM—CLOSES 3 PM
- **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.

**PRAYER LIST**

**FOR GOOD HEALTH & RECOVERY BRETHREN:**  
 \*GLORIA YANG  
 \*JOSEFA JOSAYAN  
 \*DONNA GERON  
 \*PRISCILLA BAYASEN  
 \*DODOY & SARAH SAMEON  
 \*DITH ZAMORA  
 \*TESS KITMA  
 \*BERNARD IGNACIO  
 \*JONATHAN ENERVA  
 \*JOCELYN CALIXTRO  
 \*JOVITA BONDOC  
 \*ELLA GAROY  
 \*LORENZA LOSNONG  
 \*ERNE ORDUÑA, JR.  
 \*FLORA CAMPOAS  
 \*CLYDE ABANCE  
 \*MELBA LICUPA

**\*NIDA GABRIEL**  
 \*CHARLIE ABANCE  
 \*MARIL BAYATING, SR  
 \*LILY SORIANO  
 \*CARLOTA CERA  
 \*SHAMAE RAMOS  
 \*AIKO PAROHINOG—GOMEZ  
 \*RUTH CAMORA  
 \*SONIA CARINO ABANCE

**REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:**  
 \*CARMEN VILLANUEVA  
 \*MARILIZA ANDALLO  
 \*DIANA TAGUIBA  
 \*PHILIP BADUA  
 \*FRANKY SANCHI  
 \*RYN EISEN PANGANIBAN  
 \*IAN PAJANTOY  
 \*JAYVEE MAGPAYO  
 \*GASPAR NAWEW  
 \*JERALD BACOY  
 \*JEHMEL OFRENEO

**SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE**  
 \*LOCAL, NATIONAL, WORLD LEADERS & GOVERNMENT  
 \*ON-GOING SEEKERS' BS  
 \*ON-GOING FOLLOW-UP BS  
 \*OPPORTUNITIES TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

**OTHER CONCERNS**  
 Safe Travel:  
 \*ERNE & LETTY WAGANG (CN)



# COUNTING THE GREAT COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

Luke 14:25-35  
Arnan A. Bayla | Midtown Church of Christ | Jan. 12, 2025

**COUNTING THE GREAT COST OF DISCIPLESHIP**

- CONSIDER THE PRICE OF BEING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST
  - Luke 14:25-27
- CONSIDER THE PREPARATION REQUIRED IN BEING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST
  - Luke 14:28-33
- CONSIDER THE PERSEVERANCE IN BEING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST
  - Luke 14:34-35

Luke 14:25-35

**I. CONSIDER THE PRICE OF BEING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST**

- LOVE OUR LOVED ONES LESS THAN WE LOVE THE LORD
  - Those who choose not cannot be a disciple.
  - Jesus defines the priority and the primary object of the love of a disciple.
- LOVE OURSELVES LESS THAN WE LOVE THE LORD
  - Those who don't cannot be a disciple.
  - Jesus desires that we yield our life to Him.
- LOVE THE LORD DESPITE THE SUFFERINGS THAT GO WITH DISCIPLESHIP
  - Those who refuse his cross cannot be a disciple.
  - Jesus warns that discipleship is equivalent to a cross, a one-way journey, there's no turning back.

Luke 14:25-27

**APPLICATION:**

- As disciples of Christ, what is the price we have to consider or remind ourselves about?
  - Those who love their loved ones more than they love the Lord God Almighty cannot be a disciple. The greatest danger of idolatry comes not from what is bad, but from what is good – such as love in family relationships. The greatest threat to the best often comes from second best.
  - Those who love themselves more than they love the Lord God and who refuse to carry their crosses cannot be a disciple. A person who is all self-seeking and all striving after his own interests cannot be His disciple.
  - "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." Matt 10:39 NIV

**II. CONSIDER THE PREPARATION REQUIRED IN BEING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST**

- MAKE A COMMITMENT TO FAITHFULLY FINISH OUR WALK WITH CHRIST
  - Prepare to build one's life on Christ.
  - Jesus demands we follow God's blueprint for our lives, and faithfully living by His design.
- MAKE A COMMITMENT TO FOLLOW THE TERMS OF THE KING'S RECONCILIATION
  - Prepare to abide by the King's demands.
  - Jesus requires we co-operate with God's terms alone since we, on our own, don't have what it takes to be in a battle.
- MAKE A COMMITMENT TO GIVE UP EVERYTHING WE HAVE
  - Prepare to bid goodbye to our possessions.
  - Jesus commands we let go of what is dearest to us that we may wholeheartedly love, serve, and worship Him.

Luke 14:29-33

**APPLICATION:**

- As disciples of Christ, what preparations do we have to consider or remind ourselves about?
  - Those who abide by the King's demands and make a commitment to finish their walk with Christ qualify to be disciples of Christ. In the parable of the tower Jesus said, "Sit down and see if you can afford to follow Me."
  - Those who do things on God's terms and forsake their possessions qualify to be disciples of Christ. In the parable of the king Jesus said, "Sit down and see if you can afford to refuse My demands."
  - "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed (greedy longing to have more); a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions (or that which is over and above his needs). Luke 12:15 AMP

**III. CONSIDER THE PERSEVERANCE REQUIRED IN BEING A DISCIPLE OF CHRIST**

- ENDURE IN MAINTAINING ONE'S USEFULNESS IN THE KINGDOM
  - Be mindful of discharging duties.
  - Jesus requires us to get involved and to remain fruitful in the great commission.
- ENDURE IN AVOIDING LOSING ONE'S INFLUENCE IN THE WORLD
  - Be mindful of exhibiting Christ-like nature.
  - Jesus requires us to be agents of truth and righteousness.
- ENDURE IN PAYING ATTENTION TO THE LORD'S LEADING
  - Be mindful of the leading of the Holy Spirit.
  - Jesus requires us to approach God's word with humility and openness, ready to apply its truths.

Luke 14:34-35

**APPLICATION:**

- As disciples of Christ, how much perseverance do we have to consider or remind ourselves about?
  - Those who would remain as disciples are required to persevere in discharging their duties and in their involvement and fruitfulness in fulfilling the great commission.
  - Those who would remain as disciples are required to persevere in demonstrating Christ-like attitude and behavior, and in serving as agents of truth and righteousness as a result of being sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
  - "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him." James 1:12 NIV

“  
But seek (aim at and strive after) first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides.  
Matthew 6:33 AMP”

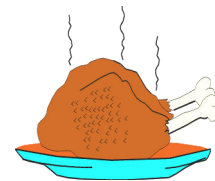
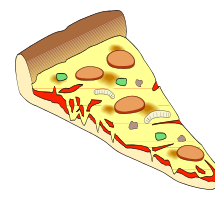
**As disciples of Christ, how would we count the great cost of discipleship ?**

- Let us consider the PRICE of being a disciple of Christ. Jesus warns that discipleship is equivalent to a cross, a one-way journey, there's no turning back, a death to self but alive in Christ for in fact, it took the death of Jesus for us to be saved.
- Let us consider the PREPARATION required of being a disciple of Christ. Jesus requires that we prepare by cooperating with God's terms alone since we, on our own, don't have what it takes to be in a battle.
- Let us consider the PERSEVERANCE required in being a disciple of Christ. Jesus requires us to persevere in discharging our duties, in demonstrating Christ-like attitude, and in fulfilling the great commission.

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

## January Celebrators

- 01 - Felicisima S. Flores
- 02 - Kevin Dennis
- 02 - Jocelyn K. Abance
- 02 - Priscilla P. Bayasen
- 04 - Pearl C. Bestre
- 05 - Leah V. Tada
- 05 - Khryz Xyryll B. Gomowang
- 08 - Jarielle Taltala
- 09 - Jane U. Donato
- 09 - Romelyn E. Wagang
- 10 - Sean R. Viduya
- 10 - Ernesto Orduña, Jr.
- 10 - Henrietta R. Espinosa
- 10 - Lara Chauncey Montes
- 12 - Dionesia Gorio
- 12 - Lorenza Losnong
- 14 - Anastacia S. Palaoag
- 15 - Jan Arthur Tacay
- 15 - Ronnilie Corisay
- 18 - Macrina Espiritu
- 18 - Oscar Sison Jr.
- 20 - Cindy K. Abance
- 22 - Antonita Orduña
- 23 - Dexter R. Wagang
- 23 - Lorna B. Montes
- 23 - Vangie C. Glori
- 26 - Richard Montes
- 26 - Christian Paulo T. Cordero
- 27 - Loida C. Baddas (deceased)
- 27 - Rachel Ann R. Torres
- 28 - Ernesto B. Wagang
- 28 - Myra O. Manansala
- 29 - Charis Grace D. Bayla
- 29 - Xyrus Macario
- 30 - Marie Joy Lacambra
- 31 - Abigail A. Kitma



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

## 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  
Ezra Valdez @ 0977-160-8271

**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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