

BE A BRINGER

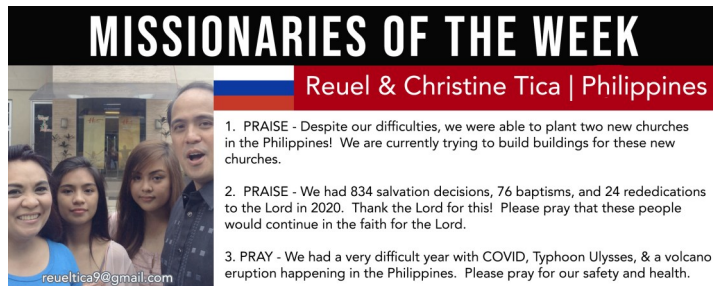
“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

Reuel & Christine Tica | Philippines

1. PRAISE - Despite our difficulties, we were able to plant two new churches in the Philippines! We are currently trying to build buildings for these new churches.
2. PRAISE - We had 834 salvation decisions, 76 baptisms, and 24 rededications to the Lord in 2020. Thank the Lord for this! Please pray that these people would continue in the faith for the Lord.
3. PRAY - We had a very difficult year with COVID, Typhoon Ulysses, & a volcano eruption happening in the Philippines. Please pray for our safety and health.



FORWARD BY FAITH growth guide

Handout: 01/24/21

Study: 01/31/21

Faith That Unites

Another blessing of living in unity is letting the world know about the King under whom we serve. Oneness brings glory to God by moving us into the atmosphere where we can experience God’s response in such a way that He manifests His glory most fully in history. All the praying, preaching, worship, or Bible studies in the world can never bring about the fullest possible manifestation of God’s presence like functioning in a spirit of oneness in the body of Christ. This is precisely why the subject found its place as the core of Jesus’ high priestly prayer (John 17). Oneness reveals God’s glory unlike anything else. It does this while at the same time revealing an authentic connection between believers in the body of Christ, which serves as a testimony of our connection with Christ. Jesus said, “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35).

An additional blessing of unity is found in this Old Testament passage penned by David:

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, coming down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard, coming down upon the edge of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon coming down upon the mountains of Zion; for there the LORD commanded the blessing—life forever (Psalm 133).

Unity is where the blessing of God rests, coming down from heaven to flow from the head to the body, and even reaching as far as the mountains of Zion. In other words, it covers everything. The reverse is also true: Where there is disunity, there is limited blessing. We cannot operate in disunity and expect the full manifestation and continuation of God’s blessing in our lives. We cannot operate in disunity and expect to hear from heaven or expect God to answer our prayers in the way that both we and He long for Him to do. Disunity—or an existence of separatism, from a spiritual perspective—is essentially at its core self-defeating and self-limiting because it reduces the movement of God’s favor and blessings.

Jesus made it clear that a house divided against itself cannot stand. Whether it is your house, the church house, or the White House—division leads to destruction (Matthew 12:25). Not only that, but a spirit of dishonor can lead to this same destruction (1 Corinthians 12:22-26). Honor promotes unity while dishonor promotes division.

Thank You, God, for the blessings You provide when I live in a spirit of oneness with others. The truth and reality of these benefits is clearly written in Your Word.

Source: *Stronger Together, Weaker Apart* by Tony Evans

KEY VERSE

I Corinthians 1:10 (NKJV)

“Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: I Corinthians 1:9-10a; Psalm 133:1; John 17:21-23

Value Unity

1. What is unity? What can we learn about it from today’s readings?
2. . What are some ways that you can value unity?

Tuesday: 1 Corinthians 1:10b; John 17:17; Ephesians 4:15

Speak Truth

3. What does it mean to speak the truth? How can you do it in a loving way?
4. How can your words impact unity in our church?

Wednesday: 1 Corinthians 1:11; Philippians 2:4; Colossians 3:13

Resolve Conflict

5. How do you typically deal with conflict?
6. If you have a conflict with someone, what are some steps you can take to help resolve it? What is the problem with ignoring the conflict?

Thursday: 1 Corinthians 1:12-13;12:19-20, II Corinthians 5:14-15

Appreciate Diversity

7. What difficulties with diversity did the church in Corinth face based upon today’s readings?
8. How does diversity strengthen our church?
9. What are some challenges we face because we are a diverse church family?

Friday: 1 Corinthians 1:17; Revelations 7:9-10

Preach Jesus

10. Why is it important that we all preach Jesus?
11. How does our unity impact our ability to preach Jesus effectively?
12. How can you grow in faith by growing in unity?