



BAGONG BAHAY, BAGONG BUHAY, BAGONG BAYAN

4/F ProFriends Center, 55 Tinio St., Mandaluyong City, Philippines
Tel: (02) 718-1738 to 41 Fax: (02) 726-7405

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Dear Co- servants for the poor,

On Mission with God

Being on mission with God is a global campaign. We are individuals and yet part of the global family that Christ promised someday will become one. For us to be obedient to Christ's command; "to bring glad tidings to the poor", it will take a cooperative effort across denominational boundaries to build a network of relationships that will become channels of God's blessings throughout the world especially to the poor. We must work with believers and non-believers in His larger kingdom to accomplish God's purpose for Gawad Kalinga.

We are all pilgrims on a journey following the path of Christ to be our brothers' keeper; A path of love, A path of sacrifice, and A path of obedience. Success is obedience to God, not results that can be measured. While we have goals and we have dreams for the different GK communities that we are serving, what is most important is that you are doing what you are doing because you believe this is God's calling for you. And because of this, you become God's instrument of his love.

In our work of Gawad Kalinga, we can get distracted by numbers, we can get disappointed with the evaluations, we can be pained from the comments of others, but we must not get tired of doing good for we will reap at the proper time. God uses ordinary people in extra-ordinary ways because He is a part of it. We are on mission with God. We are on mission for God.

Deut 15:4 "Since the Lord, our God, will bless you abundantly in the land he will give you to occupy as your heritage, there should be no one of you in need"

Let us all look towards this vision, let us all work together towards this simple yet powerful command that I would like to enjoin on everyone to make it our battle cry as we move in faith and in hope in the next three years of Gawad Kalinga: ***"there should be no one of you in need"***

What does this mean for us:

1. Building a culture of caring and sharing, according to one's heart and according to one's means. At the most basic is not allowing hunger to prevail over the GK communities we are serving. ***"Sa Gawad Kalinga, walang gutom"***

2. Building “horizontal relationships” between and among partners, volunteers, care taker team, local government units and GK residents. A GK community thrives and is sustained in the friendships that are established bonded by our common love for God and country. **“Sa Gawad Kalinga, walang iwanan”**
3. Building a passionate and inspiring army of volunteers (change makers), building on the things that will unite and bring out the best from each other. The volunteer is the greatest resource of GK that will transform this nation. **“Sa Gawad Kalinga, lahat ay bayani”**
4. Building solidarity among our people, uniting the hearts of everyone so that there will be no needy person amongst us. Muslims, Christians, other faith based groups and even non-believers, we all share a common future. For those of us who belong to the majority, much is expected in shaping that common future. Let us demonstrate our faith by living it out! Be a source of healing and unity rather than discord. **”Sa Gawad Kalinga, nagmamahalan at nagkakaisa”**

My fellow Couples for Christ, servants for the poor in the work of Gawad Kalinga, **Joshua 1:9 “ I command you: be firm and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord, your God, is with you wherever you go”** The love of Christ will be our unique mark as we love each other and the poor. Our community will grow by attraction and by expansion.

Let us move with intensity, passion and most especially presence in our work of Gawad Kalinga!

In Christ,



Luis Oquiena
GK Worker
<jloquiena@gmail.com>

“I have strength for everything through him who empowers me...” Phil 4:13