

## Alagaba: Report on July 2023

I hope this letter finds you in good health and spirits. May the peace and blessings of the Lord be with you always.

On July 2nd, my family and I visited a resort in Longos to celebrate my daughter Cynthia's birthday, thanks to the request and financial support from my daughter Christianeth after the Sunday service in Longos, as my car was not in good condition.

On July 3rd, I took my car to the nearest auto diesel mechanic for repairs, and on July 4th, my wife and I visited active members in Sitio Dahican near Sitio Kalayaan.

The following day, July 5th, I went to Kalayaan town to preach to two previous sympathizers, but they were busy with their businesses, so I sought others, yet everyone seemed occupied.

On July 6th, I accompanied the mechanic to buy necessary spare parts for my van's conversion to power steering and its accessories. The owner of the surplus car spare parts store showed interest in the Gospel after listening to my preaching, and he offered a generous discount for the spare parts used in the conversion.

July 7th was spent at the talyer for my car conversion, and on July 8th, I traveled to Mindoro, where Brother Danny, son of Bro. Elias Sikat, kindly welcomed me to take a rest.

The next day, July 9th, Brother Danny and I visited a small local church in Paninikian, the 2:00 in the afternoon, we went to Aurora for Sunday service. Unfortunately, his uncle had passed away, so my preaching focused on what happened to the human soul after death. The congregation appreciated my message and generously gave 1,000 pesos.

July 10th I together with Brother Danny, Brother Mario, and Brother Kevin heading to Occidental Mindoro. They chose to travel on a short road instead of the long one which would usually take 7-8 hours, blessing that I brought my raincoat and rain boots with me. After 3-4 hours of travel, we reached the high portion where we need to walk (while I am carrying 4 bags) the road was very slippery. Despite a rainy journey, we reached our destination, where Brother Rodel Baagin entertained us.

On July 11th, at 7 o'clock in the morning, we attended a small congregation in Alag, Victoria, Occidental Mindoro. The chapel there was worth 200,000 pesos, generously donated through Brother Ron Halbhook. I was chosen by brother Acusta to speak at the congregation. In the afternoon, we went to another congregation in Dangay, but most brethren, together with their preacher were at Balatasan near Pulosahi, Oriental Mindoro, due to a cousin's passing. So we choose to go home. I travel to Abra de ilog and rode a ship going to Batangas pier. Brother Danny was busy upon his arrival due to

his uncle's death, so our agreement to use his motorcycle for preaching house-to-house were postponed.

July 12th marked my return home, and I took some rest as my feet were not in good condition.

On July 13th, I stayed at home, while I visit my car in Talyer on July 14th, and still lots of spare parts were needed to buy.

On July 22nd, I traveled to Sariaya, Quezon, despite the heavy rain caused by a typhoon. Brother Rolly's motorcycle was damaged, so I didn't know his current residence so I contacted other sympathizers for guidance in Monticillo, Masayahin. He gave me instruction to go there which I did and that's where I stayed.

The following day, July 23rd, we had a Sunday service at Sergio, a great sympathizer. Unfortunately, only a few members attended due to lack of service. Sergio, 55 years old, a business man and his wife, Celia was secretly baptized due to a warning from Iglesia ni Cristo, prohibiting them from transferring to another church on the penalty of death. And they had sample in Sariaya according to them and brother Rolly, that's why they have no souvenir picture of baptism sunday 4:00 in the afternoon when they were baptized and i stay there in their house.

On July 24th, Brother Rolly's motorcycle was still giving him trouble, so I decided to return home, arriving at 4 in the afternoon amidst the rain.

My feet continued to ache until July 25th, so I chose to stay home.

On July 27th, I visited my van, which was still at Allan's talyer. Some spare parts were still needed, and the total expenses amounted to approximately 28,000 pesos.

On July 29th, Brother Jeremy from Texas arrived, I believe he wants to know more about my daughter, Cynthia. He is a friend of Cynthia's through email messenger, and we happily entertained and protected him during his stay. We visited a beautiful resort in Laguna, which was managed by Christianeth's fiance, and had a wonderful time swimming in the pool with brother Jeremy, Cynthia, her daughter Kezia, my youngest daughter Faith, and myself.

Another good news is, while we we're staying at the resort, I found an opportunity to preach the gospel to one of the caretaker there, she heard the gospel for 3 hours and decided to be baptized the same day. I kindly ask brother Jeremy to baptized her and he agreed. Her name is Sheryl.

The following day, July 30th, we traveled to Jasaan for the Sunday service. My son Godsent and a local member from Canlubang also joined us. During the bible study, I discussed 'the authority,' and Brother Jeremy actively participated.

Yesterday, July 31st, Brother Jeremy, Cynthia, and her daughter Kezia and Faith went to Manila, Mall of Asia, where they had a great time. They are on their way back home as of 8:28 in the evening. Tomorrow, according to Brother Jeremy's plan, they will head to Nasugbu, Batangas, and I might join them. As I write this report, I'm grateful for the blessings we've experienced together.

One heartwarming moment was when nine-year-old Kezia, a bright pupil who always receives honors, requested to be baptized. She has been actively participating in our bible study, showing a sincere devotion to our faith.

All in all, there's 4 baptism for this month.

May God's guidance and protection be with you all as we continue our journey in faith. Please remember us in your prayers, as we keep you in ours.

Yours in Christ,  
Efren