

NHP Basketball Camp 2017



"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it."

Isaiah 55:11

God has been teaching us to depend on Him from the moment we started preparing for camp. It's my first time to do almost everything in the preparation and I can say that we have done it all only by God's grace. A few weeks before camp, we were expecting almost 70 players but then only 39 players showed up. Of course, we were a bit sad and disappointed but little did we know that we are about to experience God's power during the week. God proved His faithfulness once again as we have witnessed how He worked in the hearts of these teenagers as well as ours.

Like most of our past experiences, the first day and first few chapel messages, they didn't seem interested at all but as the day goes by and more and more messages from God's Word has been delivered, we saw how that when Scripture said, **the Word will not return void**, it will not return void. Slowly, the players started opening up to the counselors, many accepted Christ as their Savior. It was also a blessed time of fellowship with Coach Neal and his wife, Mrs. Beth Ring. They were both a blessing to us during that week.

The highlight of the camp was during the testimony time on our last night. Erickson Balgos, a player from Nueva Vizcaya (The CHAMPION team in the JV division) shared that he was thankful to the Lord for sparing his life from a motorcycle incident before so that he will be able to attend camp, he said that now that he accepted Christ as His Savior, he is sure that when he die, he will go to heaven.



After camp, the MVP of our Paranaque tournament, John Melchor Palmon went to church with us at Lighthouse.



That same Sunday, one of the JV players from Pangasinan, Githro Paroca, sent me a message, he said that he is thankful to the Lord that he met us and was able to join camp and that through our ministry, he found Christ who is able to bring real change in his life. He has so many questions about the Bible and he even said that after camp, his family was shocked to see him reading his Bible. Githro wants us to meet his family and he has a burden to share the Gospel to them so they, too, can know Christ.



We were also informed that one player from our Pampanga trip, Carlo Galang and one player from our Zambales trip, Jerome, went to church after the tournament (*they both didn't win the championship*). Jerome took a Summer Training Course at Word of Life Philippines (the Bible Institute where I graduated) and was even awarded "Best STC" / Summer Training Course.

We also received text messages from parents, thanking us and this ministry for the opportunity given to their sons.

We stand amazed on how the Lord can really change a person's life. After camp week, we were reminded once again of the blessings from being a part of this ministry, though we are undeserving the Lord is gracious to have us work with all of you.

We know that our work does not end after camp, I am now contacting the Pastors from the places where we held our tournaments so they could do a follow up on the players. All the counselors are keeping in touch with the players thru Facebook. We are praying and we ask you to pray with us that these young men continue to seek Christ and follow Him.



In Christ,
Amas Antonio