

“Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints...”

Dear Brethren in Christ:

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die... He hath made everything beautiful in his time:” On July 1st, a young man that comes to our ministry, Alvinson Lopos passed away. He and his born-again friend were swimming at the Mag-aso waterfalls in Bohol and suddenly with no warning, there was a flash flood. In one moment, the steams of water were at knee deep, a few seconds later it rose up to 20 feet. He and his friend were found the following day, 5 kilometers down the river.

Alvinson was a graduate of University of Bohol with a degree in Civil Engineering. He was 23 years old and he had his whole life in front of him. I would remember him coming into our campus ministry, we had Bible studies together and we played chess together. His younger sister, Michellen who also comes to our ministry, who is a 4th year student in Nursing, called us that day in July, asking for our prayers.

On July 3rd, it was a Friday night, I was asked by the family to give a message to Alvison’s friends and family. The funeral service started at 7:30pm and after I gave the message, they had a pot-luck dinner. Afterwards, many of his peers came to give their respect (Filipino time, meaning you will arrive

one-hour later) gather in the garden. Michellen’s mother came and asked me to give a second message to the late-comers. At 9:30pm, I stood in front of 100 people with a microphone in one hand and my Bible on the other, sharing the hope that Alvinson has. As I read the scriptures, many cried and were encouraged that being absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.

At the end of my message, I gave an invitation to those who wanted to receive Christ. I asked the audience to bow their heads and repeat the sinner’s prayer. By the grace of God, many made a confession of faith.

Even though it was hard to let Alvinson go, if one soul came to Christ that night, Alivson’s death was not in vain but his death was used for the glory of God.

In our ministry, we have reached many people, if its inside or outside our doors with the gospel. Only in Heaven, we will see the fruits of our labor here in the Philippines. “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have enter into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” Please continue to pray for your missionaries, Love MelCar.