

## FAMILYMPICS 2023: TOGETHER IN UNITY AND LOVE

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**W**e were all revved up and rarin' to go! The launch date of the Familympics 2023 was moved three times, but finally, March 18 came! It was a bright and sunny morning when Pastor Lito gave us a short but sweet pep talk to start off the much-awaited event! Then, we recited the obligatory oath of sportsmanship. After much fanfare and eager anticipation, it was on with the games! Kids and adults alike were enjoying games of table tennis, basketball, chess, and viewing Netflix programs!

Everyone, including Deacon Stephen, enjoyed a game of table tennis and basketball. Then suddenly, in the twinkling of an eye, God, in His sovereign will, took Deacon Stephen Felix home to be in His bosom, as he was thoroughly enjoying what he liked the most: playing basketball. Everyone was in shock at the sudden turn of events, most especially his beloved Joy, James, and Sarah. After the many debriefing sessions held in church, one message reverberated - sports could bring families together, but it is the certainty of the shortness of life that will cause families to love and appreciate one another more, no matter how quick the turn of events may be.

God nailed home a point on that fateful

day of March 18. He couldn't have chosen a more appropriate time. This made us think and rethink: Why are we doing this? What do we want to see in families? This brings us back to God's plan for families.

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people, and your father's household to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you" Genesis 12:1-3 NIV.

Adam sinned, which resulted in our separation from God, but God, in His infinite mercy and love towards us, made a covenant promise with Abraham to bless all the families through Abraham. That promise was only fulfilled through Jesus Christ, Abraham's seed, so we could be reconciled to God.

It is our desire to join God in pursuing His work among families. We would like to see families delighting in the Word and obeying His commands. Just as Jesus spent the last three years of His life modeling to His disciples, we pray that fathers and mothers will take to heart their godly mandate to

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" Deuteronomy 6:5-8.

It is our dream to see fathers and mothers leading their families in discipleship. We would like to see families joyfully thriving through the challenges that they inevitably face each day; families growing in love, forgiveness, patience, thankfulness, and honor towards one another; families healing from strained and broken relationships. This can only be possible through the transforming work of the Holy Spirit, when Jesus is worshipped and enthroned in the hearts of the fathers and mothers and their children and passed on to generations after them.

We are grateful for the opportunity to bring the Familympics 2023 to fruition. We hope that we were able to accomplish our goal to bring families together in a friendly atmosphere of fun and fellowship through sports and be an instrument to foster love among families in GCFSM. ✝

### FAMILYMPICS REMINDERS

Familympics Day:

**May 1, 2023 / Monday**

Venue: **Muntinlupa Sports Center**

Assembly Time: **8:00AM**

What to bring:

- \*Bible
- \*Pen and Paper
- \*Extra clothes
- \*Towels
- \*Water bottle

Exciting Things To Expect:

- \*Early Bird Prize
- \*Team Shout/Cheer
- \*Sports Finals
- \*Raffle
- \*Food booths
- \*Fun and Fellowship in Unity and Love

### FAMILYMPICS SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

#### 8:00-8:45 AM

- Opening Ceremony
- Teams Line-up
- National anthem
- VIP acknowledgement
- P&W/Fellowship Song
- **Devotion** (Rev. Lito Villoria)
- **Response**  
Prayer by family and  
Prayer for the families

#### 8:45-9:00 AM

- Intergenerational Game 1
- Raffle 1

#### 9:00-10:30 AM

- Basketball Battle for 3rd place

- Badminton Finals
- Scrabble Tournament
- Chess Tournament

#### 10:30-11:00 AM

- Intergenerational Game 2
- Raffle 2

#### 11:00 AM-12:15 PM

- Basketball Finals
- Word Factory Tournament

#### 12:15-1:00 PM

- LUNCH BREAK
- Raffle 3
- Intermission number
- Team Shout/Cheer presentation

- Team Banner presentation

#### 1:00-2:00 PM

- Intergenerational Game 3
- Intergenerational Game 4

#### 2:00-3:00 PM

- Volleyball Finals

#### 3:00-4:00 PM

- Raffle 4
- Awarding Ceremony
- Raffle 5: Major Prizes
- Picture Taking
- Closing Prayer
- Clean-up/Pack-up