



Don Mills Ward

RELIEF SOCIETY

March 2016

Newsletter

SPOTLIGHT
on sister...

Filipina Mejia

Filipina Mejia was born in the Philippines, 2nd among 5 siblings. A lot of people get confused about her name, they've said they were not asking about her nationality. So, most of the time, she just introduce herself with my nickname, Ninia. Ninia grew up in the middle of a farm where they needed to walk around maybe 15 minutes to reach the nearest neighbor. Her parents were always short of money but they always had fresh food from the farm. If they wanted fish, they'd go fishing in their small fish pond. If they wanted milk, they'd get it from their goats or carabao that lived in their barn. They always had fresh eggs from chickens, ducks, and geese, and there was always fruits and vegetables. When she was 11, her father died, they had to leave their home and farm, because Ninia's Mom did not feel it was safe for them to stay there on their own. Ninia adores her mother, and looks up to her as one of the perfect example of strength. Ninia was able to finish her education through the help of her Mom's sister.

When she was in her 4th year at the University, her classmate invited her to the institute class where she became curious and asked a lot of questions about the church. After a few months, she was baptized. Several years later, she served in the Philippines Naga Mission. At first, it was hard for her to decide whether she will go on a mission or just find a job and start working since her family was poor and needed financial support. But when she read the Doctrine and Covenants 4:3, she felt that the message was meant for her and she immediately made up her mind that she would go on a mission. She was so nervous and didn't know how to tell her mom that she had to leave to serve the Lord. But when she finally gained enough courage to tell her, her Mom's response was: "It was her hope and dream that one of her children will serve the Lord." She felt how Heavenly Father took care of their family while she was serving in the Lord's vineyard.

Less than 2 months after she came back from her mission, Ninia started her professional career as a Physiotherapist in Saudi Arabia where she met her former university classmate, Rogelio, who was working as an Occupational Therapist. He became her first and last boyfriend, he eventually became her



husband. They've been blessed with 2 lovely children, Jared and Mayumi. They immigrated to Canada in September 2011. Four years later, another wonderful thing happened, her husband enter the water of baptism of our Church. As a family, it is their goal to soon be sealed as an eternal family in the Temple of the Lord, and endure to the end.

Sister Mejia is currently serving as a Relief Society Teacher in our ward.

March 2016 Activities

Date	Event	Time
March - 12	Temple Trip	8:45am
March - 12	Stake Conference	4-9pm
March - 13	Stake Conference	7-8:30pm
March - 25	The Messiah Sing Along	9-11:30pm
March - 26	Fashion Show	7pm
March - 26	General Women's Session	8pm

Good News Corner

Conratulations!

Sini-Susan for finally finding a nice home after searching for a few months! This gives us the opportunity to help clean up, paint, and decorate your lovely place.

CHEERS!!!

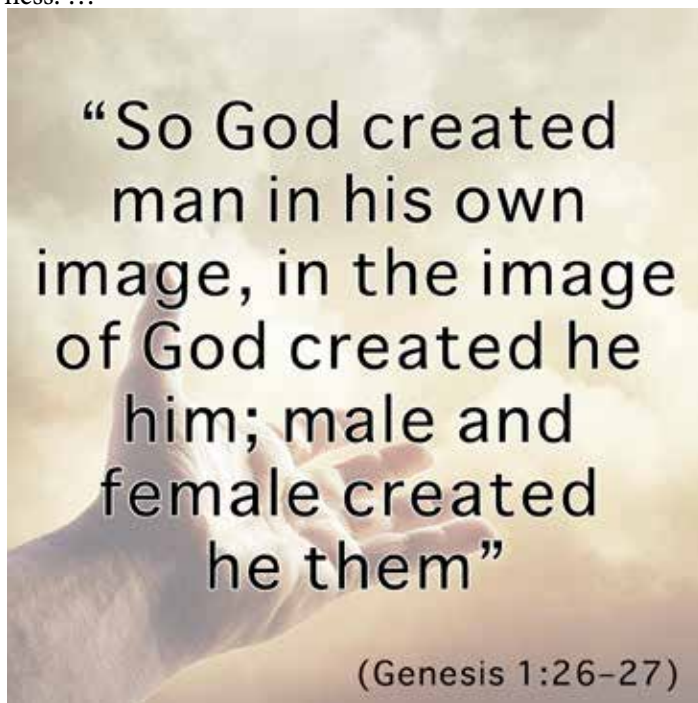


Visiting Teaching Message

CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

Prayerfully study this material and seek to know what to share. How will understanding “The Family: A Proclamation to the World” increase your faith in God and bless those you watch over through visiting teaching.

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. ...



God is our Heavenly Father, and He created us in His image. Of this truth, President Thomas S. Monson said: “God our Father has ears with which to hear our prayers. He has eyes with which to see our actions. He has a mouth with which to speak to us. He has a heart with which to feel compassion and love. He is real. He is living. We are his children made in his image. We look like him and he looks like us.”¹

“Latter-day Saints see all people as children of God in a full and complete sense; they consider every person divine in origin, nature, and potential.”² Each is “a beloved spirit son or daughter of heavenly parents.”³

“[The Prophet] Joseph Smith also learned that God desires that His children receive the same kind of exalted existence of which He partakes.”⁴ As God said, “For behold, this is my work and my glory—to bring to pass the immortality and eternal life of man” (Moses 1:39).

Additional Scriptures

Genesis 1:26–27; 1 Corinthians 3:17; Doctrine and Covenants 130:1

From the Scriptures

The brother of Jared in the Book of Mormon sought for a way to light the eight barges designed to carry the Jaredites across the waters to the promised land. He “did molten out of a rock sixteen small stones” and prayed that God would “touch these stones” with His finger “that they may shine forth in darkness.” And God “stretched forth his hand and touched the stones one by one.” The veil was taken from the eyes of the brother of Jared, and “he saw the finger of the Lord; and it was as the finger of a man. ...

“And the Lord said unto him: Believest thou the words which I shall speak?

“And he answered: Yea, Lord.”

And “the Lord showed himself unto [the brother of Jared]” and said, “Seest thou that ye are created after mine own image? Yea, even all men were created in the beginning after mine own image.” (See Ether 3:1–17.)

Consider This

How does knowing that each person is created in God’s image help us in our association with others?

Notes

1. Thomas S. Monson, “I Know That My Redeemer Lives,” in *Conference Report*, Apr. 1966, 63.

2. *Gospel Topics*, “Becoming Like God,” topics.lds.org; see also *Moses* 7:31–37.

3. “The Family: A Proclamation to the World,” *Liahona*, Nov. 2010, 129.

4. *Gospel Topics*, “Becoming Like God,” topics.lds.org; see also *Teachings of Presidents of the Church: Joseph Smith* (2007), 221.

March 2016 Lessons

Manual Teachings of the Presidents of the Church:

Howard W. Hunter.

Date	Topic	Teacher
March – 06	Leader’s Choice	Leah
March – 13	Stake Conference	
March – 20	Chapter 4	Isabella
March – 27	2015 Nov. Ensign; Pg.	Filipina