



M 28 : 19

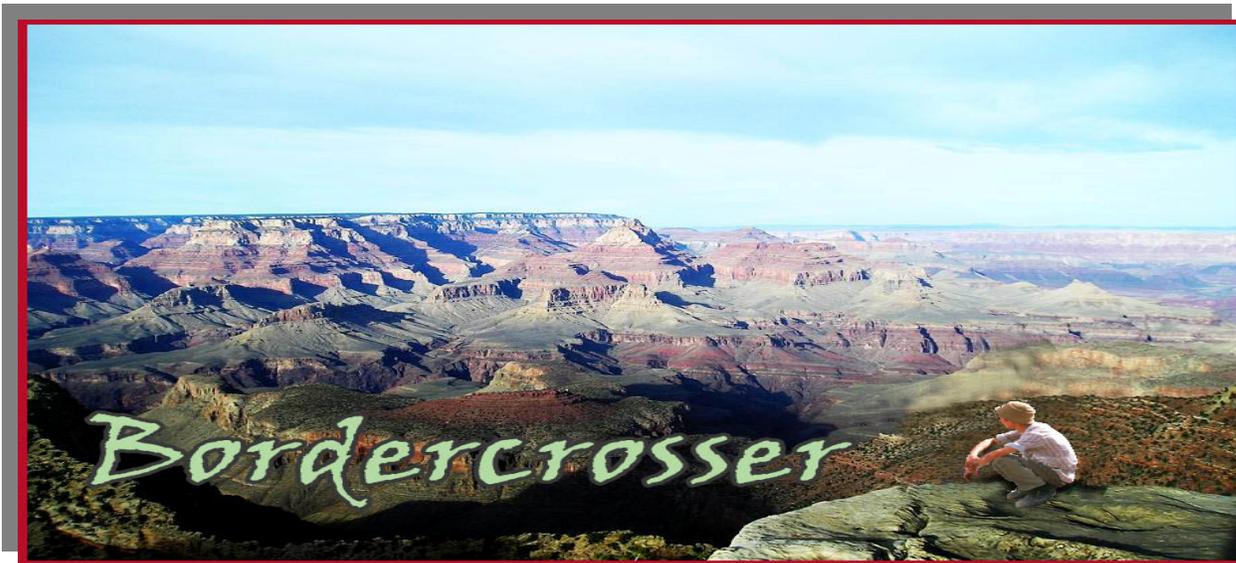


Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

By God's grace, tremendous strides have been taken in recent years to make the gospel understandable within people groups who, until only recently, had yet to hear the Good News at all. This has been done relentlessly by the work of missionaries offering their

To bordercross, we need to address the *quality* of mission activity among a people. We aren't looking simply for any effort that contains "evangelistic activity," but instead for strategic activity which will most likely produce "fruit that remains." So perhaps the term should be

1. *apostolic effort in residence;*
2. *commitment to work in the local language and culture;*
3. *commitment to long-term ministry;*
4. *sowing in a manner consistent with the goal of seeing a church emerge.*



Once an individual steps in the mission lands, he is bound to continually cross the border physically, mentally and emotionally.

lives for the benefit of the young in mission lands.

"effective bordercrossing".

We remove our sandals in respect and deference to the people who have gone before us but we engage the future with strength and determination to border cross with all courage and trust!

Once an individual steps in the mission lands, he is bound to continually cross the border physically, mentally and emotionally.

There are four essential elements which constitute effective Engagement in every bordercrossing:

SIMPLE HINTS: BORDERCROSSER

1. *Make one step forward and volunteer*
2. *To the world you might be one person, but to one person, you just might be the world.*
3. *If a drop of water falls in a lake there is no identity; but if it falls on a leaf of lotus it shine like a pearl. So choose the best place where you would shine.*
4. *Never expect things to happen, struggle and make them happen. Never expect yourself to be given a good value create a value of your own.*

MISSIONARY SONG

SET SAIL INTO THE DEEP
 WATERS
 BE NOT AFRAID
 CHRIST GOES BEFORE YOU
 HAVE NO FEAR
 COURAGE YOUNG MISSIONERS
 SEEK GENTLE LANDS, CROSS
 OVER SEAS AND OCEANS.
 DON BOSCO'S THERE BEFORE
 YOU
 STAND BRAVE AND TALL

(Fr. Ariel Macatangay SDB is a missionary in Papua New Guinea for the last 9 years. He is the present master of Novices and Rector in Don Bosco Technical School Kumgi in the highlands. He has previously served as Rector of Vunabosco in East New Britain. Fr. Ariel took time out to share his thoughts and experiences while he was in vacation in Manila, Philippines.)

... the most rewarding experience in his stay is to witness non-selected students graduating from school. It is the chance for the boys to join mainstream society again...

It was in August 1999 when Fr. Ariel was assigned in Vunabosco Agro-Technical School initially as a professor to young seminarians studying in Rapolo Diocesan Seminary. However, due to lack of personnel, he assumed the Headmaster of the school beginning from 1999 – 2001. At the same time, he took up simultaneous roles as a concurrent philosophy professor from 2004 – 2005; and the school economist and extended Rector again from 2005 –

having the curriculum of the school upgraded and implemented and Fr. Ariel made sure that all the preparations were realized. He recalls that it was a tough decision to make one self available for the missions inasmuch as he did not want to, but the continuity of the work in Canlubang was essential.

The time finally came when Fr. Capelli, the then Provincial approached him about his desire to go to the missions. It was

whether one volunteers or is volunteered, the individual is primarily a missionary. Two important things that have kept him strong throughout these years is first: the love for Jesus who is the number one missionary and the love for neighbor in the person of the boys under one's care; and second: the ability to grow in one's vocation through asceticism living out the prayer of the saints "My body given up for you."



2006.

Fr. Ariel shares that his missionary vocation began as early as his novitiate life. He quips that "once I become a Salesian, I will be ready to go anywhere." He went by the usual stages of formation taking his vows as a brother in Canlubang and soon to Paranaque. It was a

significant event as a 4th year student of theology that somehow God shook him again if he can make himself available to work in the missions. However, God's stirrings will be actualized much later.

Fr. Ariel worked as one of the full time professors of the province for the post novices. Moreover, much later in his academic occupation, he was very much immersed in administrative work as Dean of Don Bosco College in Laguna. There was the process of

memorable because it was the time of his birthday too. Fr. Ariel knew that he can no longer buy some time and it was the moment to let go of his comfort zone. After his discernment, he believed that no one is indispensable and this time he answered the call to go to the missions.

Missionary life has not been wanting in happy moments. Fr. Ariel singles out as the most rewarding experience in his stay is to witness non-selected students graduating from school. It is the chance for the boys to join mainstream society again. This is further significant as some of the students nurture vocations to the religious and priestly life both for the diocese and the Salesians.

The work in Papua New Guinea and for any mission territory for that matter is unending. Fr. Ariel tells that the whole idea of answering the call to the missions is the ability to say yes to God. It is evident from the Latin word *MISSUS* which means "one who is sent." Hence,

Nevertheless, it is vital that missionaries are also reenergized through ongoing formation which has been lacking. It would be good to look at the opportunity to strengthen and organize communities in the mission areas as support group for formation.

Fr. Ariel took over as Master of Novices in the year 2006 from Fr. Odorico transferring the Novitiate from Savio House in Port Moresby to Don Bosco Kumgi. There have been constraints in the work because he is also the concurrent Rector of the school. Nevertheless, this does not deter him from continually being of service to others dedicating his energies to the young and the novices. He envisions one day that Don Bosco can contribute and make a significant mark in facilitating a drug rehabilitation center which is under a feasibility study at present. This is an important intervention with the proliferation of marijuana better known as PNG gold present in the locality.

