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My Vocation Stories

A priest, brother, sister or a seminarian will have their own tales regarding the call to religious life. Some may surprise you, make you think, educate you, inspire you, etc. but for some, they may change your life. Therefore, here I want to write about my vocation (priesthood vocation) stories.

The priesthood vocation or the call to become priest arose when I was in grade twelve (2008). In that grade on the same year, I had decided to withdraw due to school fee problem. For me, I knew that education is vital and beneficial to life. Hence, I did mini sales so that I can help myself to pay for the following year. Eventually, I managed to earn the amount which has been proposed by the school (Mogol Secondary School).

However, one day I asked one of my brothers (extended), inap yu kisim mi igo long bisop (Steven Reichart, OFM, Cap), bai em iken helpim mi long skul fi? (would you take me to the bishop so that he can help me with the school fee?). I said that because Catholic Christians talked around that he used to help students with their school fees. And yet the response was: 'yu ino Katolik' (you aren't Catholic). This statement challenged my life. I was troubled with this statement. Therefore, in the night too, I couldn't sleep. I concluded within myself that I will go for Mass on Sunday.

When this very day (Sunday) came, I went to the church. After the Eucharistic Celebration I confronted the catechist. I told him that, mi laik baptais (I want to be baptized). The feedback was, kam long narapla Sande (come next Sunday). The following Sunday he said the same thing until on the fifth Sunday. He wrote my name together with others. He prepared us to be baptized on Christmas (2008).

My faith (Catholic) has huge impacts. On 24th December, 2008, I was baptized. I received the sacrament of baptism by my parish priest (Fr Robert Gigmai). The following year (2009), I continued my twelfth year in Mogol Secondary School in Mendi. In the middle of the same year, the Vocation Director, Fr Robert Gigmai, came to the school to conduct the seminary's entry test. I sat for it. Somehow, I passed the entry test. I was accepted to do my propaedeutic year one in St Fidelis Minor Seminary in Madang, Madang Province.

In 2010, I completed the formation year successfully. The following year I was suspended due to possessing a cellphone. I guess, the force inside me didn't cease from going back to the seminary program. Which is why, in 2013, I was told to continue the program in Good Shepherd Seminary, Fatima, Banz, Jiwaka Province.

However, I was suspended the second time in Good Shepherd Seminary, Fatima, Jiwaka Province in 2015. The reason was drinking beer. I was troubled. What would I say when the people in the diocese and parish asked me? Whom shall I blame? What will I do? These questions were floating in my head. Only one answer for these questions was: "face the current." One of the passages in the Old Testament that supports the answer is: "God walks on a crooked line."

Therefore, I survived all my calamities, agonies, struggles, hardships, etc. through this passage. Believe in God and act according to His will.

God Bless you.