

Sis. Danica Sotto-Pingris Visits NCF's Last 19th Anniversary Sunday

“At the end of the day, you may have all the riches in the world, great fame, and a good family, but without God, you would eventually fall apart.”

This was how Sister Danica Sotto-Pingris understood her Christian testimony, as she related to NCF's congregation on its last Anniversary Sunday. All ears were on the celebrity's humble testimony of how God has changed her life.

Coming from a family under the limelight of showbiz, she narrated a long journey to salvation. Though having attended church in her earlier years, she admitted that she had not yet found a personal relationship with God.

“Hindi yung parang kinakausap mo siya bilang Ama... Dati po, lumalapit lang ako kapag may kailangan,” she said.



Like many growing in a celebrity family – and becoming a well-known personality herself – the pressure of the public lifestyle brought all sorts of temptations, from being rebellious at home to staying with a very worldly company outside. Alcohol, gimmicks, parties and unstable relationships marked her lifestyle, the actress said.

“Umabot sa point na parang empty na... na nilololoko na lang ang sarili na you're happy.” All the while, her Christian aunt was praying for her, steadily keeping in touch. “She kept reaching out to me, sharing words from the Bible; I know she was praying for me as well,” she said.

One day, she was brought along to a Bible study, where the Pastor told her that her presence that day was no accident.

“I suddenly burst into tears. Eventually, the more I got interested in these things, parang nawalan ng bigat sa puso ko.”

Finding salvation soon enough, she had also undergone struggles in her Christian life – “living a life of compromise” and having a “Genie God” relationship as she put it. Relationships were cut, friends were lost, and she suffered all over again.

“Parang sinadya ni God na,--ayan, tama na ang kayabangan na iyan. Wala ka nang masasandalan, there is nobody else but Me,” she said.

She was starting to hear more of God’s Word at that time through study groups, until she opened her Bible one day to John 15:5 – “apart from Me, you can do nothing.” The verse brought her to tears – and a beautiful realization that became a key to her Christian growth.

“God always wants the best for us. I once settled with wrong relationships, thinking *na ito na ang best – pero* worldly *pala ang* standard,” she said. “You have to believe that He will take care of everything, that He is powerful enough to erase all sins.”

Now happily married and having a wonderful family, she exhorted the listeners, and especially the youth, to never waste their time and energy apart from God.

She also felt inspired with the example set by the Dance Ministry, hoping that her child would be as eager and talented in the Lord’s service. The dancers earlier performed an interpretative dance on the song, “Will You Go?”

The grateful congregation has welcomed the lessons of her testimony greatly, and the church joined together in a prayer of blessing for her before the worship service has ended.