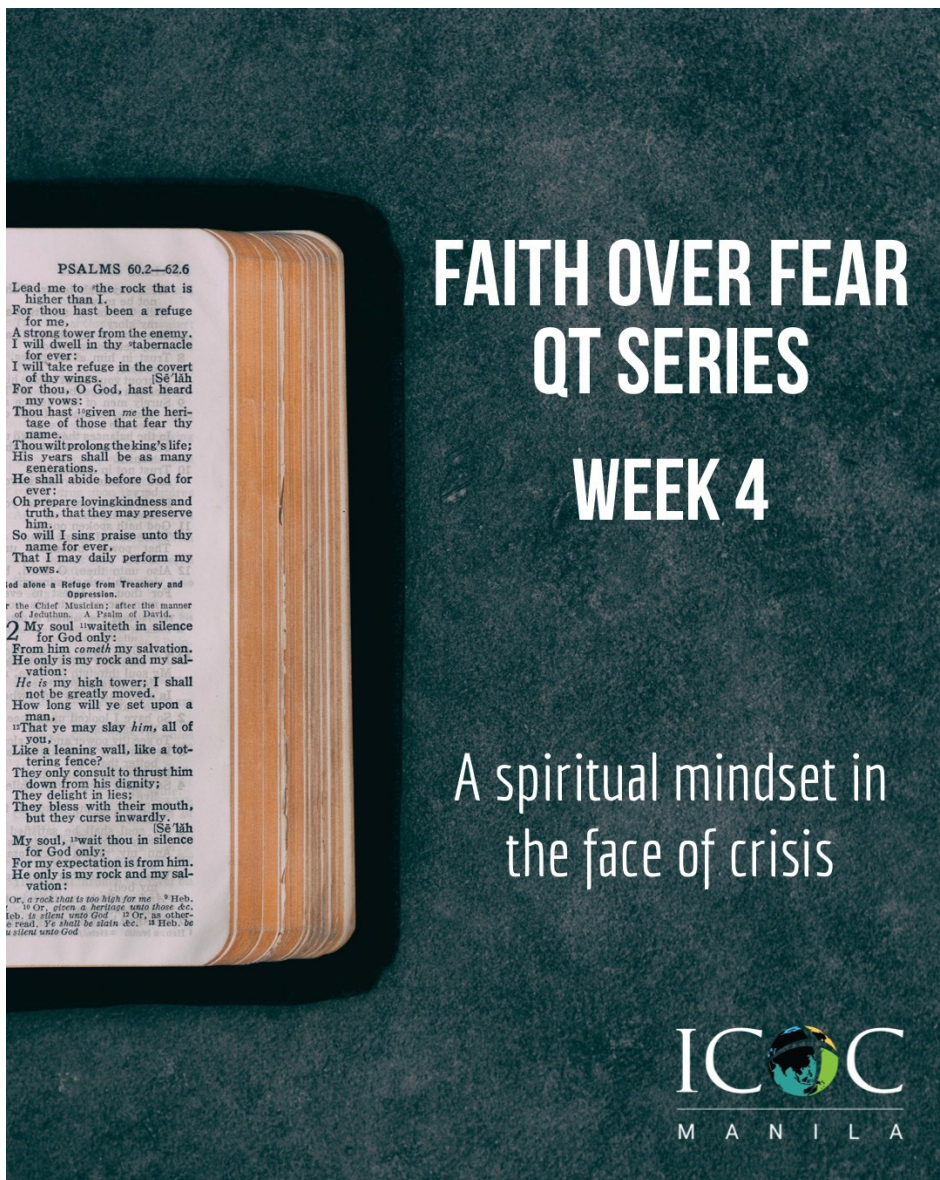


## FAITH OVER FEAR



### Day 10

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 31:1-8; Hebrews 13:5

Question to ponder:

1. How do you see God's faithfulness during this Covid-19 global pandemic?
2. How do you respond to God's faithfulness?

**Thoughts:** Three weeks and counting, and the number of confirmed Covid-19 cases are constantly increasing. Numerous measures are being implemented and some are continuously searching for the right formula to contain and put the spread of the virus to a halt. Being one of the so-called "FRONTLINERS", I can say things are still uncertain. Each day as I report on duty, my mind and my heart asks, "When will this end?" I worry on getting the virus because of my work and passing it to people having contact with me. But my outmost concern is how my heart will react during this crisis. This is when my faith comes in. For even if we are faced with so many uncertainties, God's faithfulness to us remains certain.

God will never desert us, specifically in the most difficult moments. (Deut. 31:6). God's protection is upon us. Not being infected is a great reason to be thankful to God. This Covid-19 is far different from other pandemics we've seen in the past, but God will take care of us. God also provides for our needs (Heb13:5). If you still have food to spare, a place to stay or even if you're a recipient of food packages or help from others, that's how God provides for you. God uses the goodness of others to provide for us.

As days go by and we face the uncertainties of this crisis, it became clearer to me that it's not only about my faith, but God's faithfulness to me. God is faithful to all of us.

**Practical Application:** Have a daily inventory of God's blessings. Be thankful. Do something in your own way that you can be a blessing to others. Continue to pray for others (disciples, government, front liners and patients) who are affected by this crisis.

## FAITH OVER FEAR

### Day 11

**Scripture Reading:** Eph 2:1-10

**Question to ponder:**

1. Have you ever felt helpless in your entire life as if the situation you are facing is indescribable?
2. What do you have in life that you value the most?

**Thoughts:** It's been 3 weeks since the ECQ, the first week was the most uncomfortable. It was difficult to adjust. I am not used to staying home that long doing nothing but waiting, eating, resting and so on. In my heart the fear of losing your life or someone in your family because of Covid-19 is the most unthinkable of all. I know that the grace of God is the ultimate gift that I received – it's the most important possession that I have – but when this quarantine started, my heart became so ungrateful. I grumbled. I felt like I was losing a lot of opportunity. In my heart I noticed I really displeased God. So, I got back up. I prayed a lot, read the scriptures, and meditated. Now my heart softened, and I get connected to God. I am once again filled with gratitude and awe. I relish the whole day with my wife and kids, having lots of good times and creating unforgettable memories during this ECQ.

**Practical Application:** Prepare yourself spiritually, physically, mentally and financially, if in case the ECQ will be extended. Identify the negative effects of the quarantine on your heart and pray about it. Make a daily plan on what you are going to do to be more spiritual.

### Day 12

**Scripture Reading:** Psalm 16:5-8

**Question to ponder:**

1. What fears and insecurities do you have at this moment of time?
2. Do you believe that your current situation is where God wants you to be right now? Why?

**Thoughts:** Recently, I was in contact with a COVID-19 Positive and had to be quarantined for days. Alone, I spent the first nights worrying if I got infected – if the virus would trigger my asthma, if I would contract pneumonia, gasp for breath, and many more negative thoughts! I knelt in prayer, lifted my tears and fears up to God, and asked for protection and waited for His peace. While in isolation, I dedicated my time for bible study, listening to worship songs and messages, praying with sisters online, and get encouragements from family and friends. Thank God I ended the quarantine-period without symptoms!

As a disciple for more than 25 years, I have been in countless hardships and struggles. With God, the bad times have always turned out to be pleasant and delightful places filled with lessons and miracles. God has faithfully carried me through, as I strive to be faithful to my pledge (1 Peter 3:21) at baptism.

**Practical Application:** Write down the good things this quarantine resulted on you. See the pleasant place and happiness you are presently in and spread that joy and love by personally sharing it with other people through phone or video calls.