

## A Successful Experiment!

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It's been 20 years since we started an experiment of marrying the Bible into our business. I decided to do this then since I had nothing to lose anyway, having given up my job in Hewlett-Packard to move to Bukidnon and live in a 20-foot container van. I wanted to see if the stories in the Bible and the promises of the Lord would apply to me as it applied to people like Abraham, David, Joseph, etc. I obeyed whatever the Bible said, even to the extent of resting our soil every 7 years.

Since then, we have experienced many miracles in Moriah Farms. But, we also went through a lot of trying times to the extent of almost closing down the business. One such miracle was the fact that while a piggery is known to be the dirtiest livestock farm, ours did not have any foul smell nor flies. But one of the best things that happened to us was when we became the preferred lettuce supplier for McDonald's nationwide. However, it was also the most painful experience as it ended abruptly due to changes in their priorities. As we tried to find our way, we lost most of our gains in the process. If that was not enough, in 2015 and 2016, we went through the worst El Nino ever. But as our resources continued to dwindle, the creativity inside the farm increased more and more.

Here, I would like to share with you where the farm is today! In spite of us being the oldest hog farm in the Monterey system, we continue to be at par with their best growers. At wala pa rin kaming amoy at langaw! As for our vegetable business, we have become pesticide-free the past year, we have doubled the efficiency of our people and have learned to maximize the use of our meager resources. We have also developed a new approach to managing our finances so that the farm would continue to survive should calamities come our way in the future.

I want you to know today that the experiment we started many years ago, succeeded!

As I pondered on everything that has happened, I realized that the miracles we experienced did not come like manna falling down from heaven but as by-products of the Biblical principles we applied as we conducted our business. While God blessed us with many opportunities, He also sent us many trials to push us to directions we did not want to take and to do some things we did not want to do. He also sent us problems, like the loss of McDonald's and the coming of the El Nino, to give us opportunities to apply His principles and laws so we may see that they really work. I, therefore, conclude that the stories in the Bible and the promises God has given apply to me as it applied to His people in the past. And they can definitely apply to you as well! Because if God can prosper a farm business, which I believe is one of the most difficult businesses there is, He can also prosper whatever business you are in, whether as an employee or as an

entrepreneur. But before you can experience His blessings to the full, you must also be willing to follow His ways in full as well!

I hope you would dare to test and see that the Lord is good. I hope too that you will know that the God who was alive during the time of Abraham is still alive today! But for you to experience His grace, you must give Him a chance to show you what He can and will do if you obey His laws and follow His ways!