



Revisiting the past; Living right in the present; Preparing for the future

Scholars' field trip

Thirty-eight people from the Foundation—28 GEESE scholars, 4 TRACE scholars, 4 volunteers, and the 2 Foundation staff—had a different kind of learning experience on January 9. They visited Fort Santiago and Casa Manila in Intramuros. Fort Santiago is a defense fortress built in 1571 by the then Spanish governor of Manila, Miguel López de Legazpi. José Rizal, the Philippines' national hero, was imprisoned there before he was executed in 1896. Casa Manila is a museum that depicts life in the Philippines during the Spanish colonization. (Wikipedia)

Based on the questions of the students, the tour, led by a proficient guide, renewed interest in the country's history and provided lessons for paving a better path to the future. The calesa (one-horse carriage) ride around Intramuros and lunch at a popular chicken restaurant rounded out the trip.



Continuing Bible study

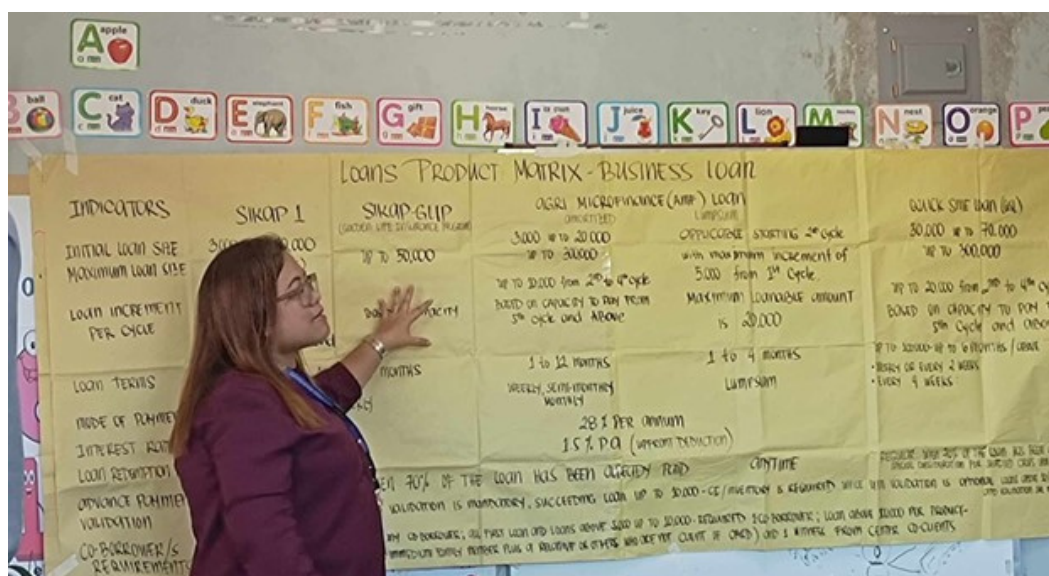
To continue gleaning more life lessons from the Rick Warren book *Purpose Driven Life*, 30 GEESE scholars attended the Bible study on January 3, facilitated by Trustee Lily Torrente and volunteer Cora Cabaron. Trustee and Foundation Administrator Nadine Sarreal, assisted by volunteers Be Bunsoy and Priscilla Madella, prepared food plates and distributed the scholars' allowances.

The scholars discussed their thoughts on using their God-given abilities to serve others, overcoming weaknesses and challenges to become true servants of God, and staying passionate in service.



CARD microfinance presentation

CENEP parents are building toward their future. A presentation by CARD Bank, Inc., a microfinance oriented rural bank, was attended by 28 of the 45 parents in CENEP Mandaluyong and 17 of the 30 parents in CENEP Marikina. Of these, 9 are already CARD members. Others who expressed interest in the program will be visited directly by CARD personnel. Thus far, CENEP parents in Project 8 who have been CARD members have already availed themselves of loans provided by the bank.



Do visit our website www.ucmphilfoundation.org to know more about the Foundation's activities and to participate in continuing to provide a better life to these children and young people. For your inquiries, please call (63 2) 8812-6062 or 8812-5609 or email us at info@ucmphilfoundation.org.