

## **The Essence of CFO**

Many have attended a CFO camp but they go home without learning the real essence of CFO. Or what is the purpose of a Camp Farthest Out. Some attend a CFO Camp because they have been invited or they were given camperships so free food and free registration. Still others attend seeking for salvation.

There are four important essences we have to acquire and learn and learn again in a CFO camp. (1) How to pray in various ways – like singing as prayer, speaking as prayer, dancing as prayer and more ways of prayer. (2) How to acquire humility in our speech, our thoughts, our actions in dealing with other campers. (3) How to learn to be silent in the camp and learning how to pray silently for five to 15 minutes. (4) Learning how to live harmoniously with other campers from different denominations. So, a CFO Camp is not a CFO Camp if there is only one denomination or faith represented therein. How can harmonious living be achieved when the essence of harmonious living cannot be tested or exercised.

### **What is the purpose?**

The purpose is orienting and preparing each camper how to participate and act in Kingdom Living. What will we do in the presence of Jesus Christ in His Kingdom, when we are already before His throne in His Kingdom, thus we continue to attend a CFO Camp because it is a continuing process, this learning how to act and to serve before His throne.

Those who attend a CFO Camp do not seek salvation because by their faith in Jesus Christ they are saved already so the camp does not evangelize nor does it proselyte others to a new faith. Nor is a CFO Camp reformatory where recalcitrants are sent to reform.

Thus, CFO leaders should choose whom they will invite to a CFO Camp to experience Kingdom Living. Be sure to choose those who can be assets in all the prayer requests. When campers have learned to pray deeply from their hearts, miracles will happen in the camp. Campers can pray to alter national decisions in our country if they pray deeply enough.

The essence of CFO is not and should not be self-serving but letting others experience Christ's love. There is great joy when miracles happen at the camp peopled by campers from different denominations. CFO leaders should have the inner character to find joy when campers learn the essence and they come to attend again and again. So, offer camperships to those of other faiths or denomination.

Learn from the stalwarts of Aaron de Oro Camp who have allowed Aaron de Oro Camp to exist until now. Cheding Roa, Paking and Trining Melicor, Boy and Annie Javelosa, Nong Imong and Ate Beth Bergado, Beth Bagundol who sponsored the birth of many camps and campers; Nene Vivares, longest serving local treasurer; Pearl Ramiro, who offered her home as CFO venue; Rolly Arong, serving CFO many years without murmur; Goel Bagundol, loyal CFO'er since 8 years old yet, serving as CFOI East Asia Vice President and now International Board; All those who offered camperships – Annie Javelosa, Mars and Marissa Ramiro, Wennie Labitad, Lucile Romblon, Ed and Pemmy Calumpang, Jun Melicor and others inadvertently omitted here. Those who travelled for CFO Camp revival – Leymis Cabonialda – Zamboanga City; Lily Millan, Elving Noro, Haydee Pallay – Camiguin, Gingoog, Agusan del Sur; and of course, Pearl Maravillas who is most of the time present.

God bless past and present leaders. Let us allow Aaron de Oro to be vigorously active again. Since Beth Bagundol left, Aaron de Oro had never birthed another CFO Camp again. Who will take up the challenge?

*Rudy Maravillas*

**Note:**

One important Camp Rule that should not be missed is based on Christ's words, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am in the midst." Thus, scheduled meetings of CFO should not be postponed or cancelled for the Holy Spirit is waiting at the venue. Do not let the Holy Spirit wait. If there are three only present at the meeting, that will do. Their decision is the decision of all. Allow the Holy Spirit to bless that decision. Remember: Never fail the Holy Spirit.