

## Welcome

On a scale of 1-4 (4 being the highest, and 1 being the lowest), how would you rate your love for the Philippines? What made you give the rating that you answered?

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## Review

When you think of the Philippines, what comes to mind? Does your heart swell with pride?

The sad reality is, the Philippines' poor performance can be attributed to bad governance. Mismanaged resources, culturally ingrained graft and corruption, all contribute to the deterioration of not only our economy, but of our morality.

The world was meant to be governed right. Is there a particular form of government that we need to ascribe to for good governance to happen?

### 1. GOD'S DESIGN FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE

The best functioning governments, regardless of form, abide by values enshrined by God in His Word (The Bible). These values include:

#### a. Justice and the rule of law

*"Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue, that you may live and possess the land which the Lord your God is giving you." - Deuteronomy 16:20*

#### b. The Character of honesty and integrity

*"Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!" - Isaiah 5:20*

#### c. Individual freedom and personal responsibility

*"I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore, choose life, that you and your offspring may live." - Deuteronomy 30:19*

*"So then everyone of us shall give accounts of himself to God" - Romans 14:12*

#### d. Respect for private ownership

*"You shall not steal...you shall not covet your neighbor's house...or anything that belongs to your neighbor." - Exodus 20:15, 17b*

### 2. HOW CHRISTIANITY AND ITS VALUES CHANGED THE WORLD

All the great achievements of Western civilization, such as the granting of property rights, the rise of science and technology, the abolition of slavery, the outlawing of abortion, the protection of women, the banning of racial discrimination are just among the notable examples of how Biblical principles have revolutionized governments and societies throughout history.

# Have you invited others to **join this movement?**

Invite them to sign up today via [cvm.com.ph](http://cvm.com.ph) or download the app in the App Store (iOS) or Google Playstore, just search for **“Christian Values Movement”**

### 3. THE KEY TO TRANSFORMING THE NATION

If good governance is the answer to the Philippine’s woes, then the key to transforming our nation is good leaders and good citizens.

Think of the United Kingdom, a nation that had a poor economy in the past. The exploitation of workers, child labor and slavery proliferated in 18th century Britain. William Wilberforce, a Member of the Parliament led a movement to abolish the slave trade in Britain. Private citizens and government officials like them led the way for a transformed and prosperous Britain to emerge in the 19th century.

For instance, Singapore, a tiny but prosperous “city-state” governed by leaders with high integrity, and its citizens for the most part follow the law. You can leave your personal belongings such as umbrellas to reserve seats without fear of someone else stealing them!

### 4. THE GOOD NEWS FOR TRANSFORMING THE NATION

Our country needs not only good governance but also good citizenship who love God and their fellow Filipinos. The heart of the problems of our nation is the problem of the hearts of its citizens. Man’s heart is self-centered: greed and the desire for power. That’s the bad news, and that is the state we are in today as a nation. But the Filipino does have a real reason to be optimistic because there is great news!

What is this life-altering good news that will lead to change? It is no other than the Good News of a new life found in Jesus Christ alone. 2 Corinthians 5:17 states,

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”

**Let us pray for and work towards a true transformation for our beloved Philippines! Don’t miss the next session entitled, “The Manual for Loving our Nation”, as we look into the basis of all these values we learned in this session.**

1. As you have learned, Christianity has changed the world; and the Philippines is dubbed as the only Christian nation in Asia. Despite this, how come our country is still in this condition –a Third World country with Third World problems? What went wrong?
2. What do you want The Philippines to be known for in the generations to come? What Christian values do you believe we, as a nation, should embody? How will you teach such values to your children/family members, the youth, etc.?

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**Discussion Questions**

**Action Points**