

HAGIOS SCHOOL OF LIFE'S NEWSLETTER

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Sosrowijayan 80, Yogyakarta



ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

An experiment called "Biosphere 2" was conducted in the 1990s. Eight scientists attempted to survive in a replica of Earth's ecosystem, attempting to replicate the ability to live in outer space. However, the experiment failed miserably. The scientists survived, though not exactly healthy. Many animals died, and the plants didn't thrive. Specifically, they discovered that the trees they planted there became weak and easily broken. Why? It turned out that this was precisely because the trees weren't exposed to enough wind!





Is wind a friend or foe to trees? It turns out that wind plays a crucial role in tree growth. It shakes the trunk and roots, making them thicker and stronger against harsh weather. Wind facilitates the transport of nutrients from the roots to the leaves, making the trees healthier. Wind also clears the surface of the leaves of fungal and bacterial spores that could interfere with their growth. And trees accustomed to wind exposure learn to adapt and develop stress wood, which keeps them upright and less prone to breaking. Wow, who would have thought that wind, which was supposed to be destructive, would be so helpful!





Let's use this lesson about wind as a reflection on how to raise our children.

Undeniably, we all say we love our children and would do anything for them. We're ready to be "gardeners" who care for and guard our "saplings" so that they will eventually grow into healthy, strong, resilient, and fruit-bearing "mature trees"!

However, some of us take extreme measures, like the Biosphere 2 scientists mentioned above. We assume that it's best to protect and shield our children as much as possible from external influences or shocks that seem likely to damage and destroy them. We even build "safety booths" for them, so they're never exposed to the "winds" we suspect will harm them.

As caregivers, we're busy "protecting and rescuing them." When our children don't do their homework, we fill in for them. We do their homework so they won't be disciplined the next day for not completing their work. When our children have a conflict with friends, we immediately jump into the middle of the problem, looking for the parties involved, and pretending to find a solution, under the pretext of preventing our children from being treated unfairly.

So what should children do? They just stay silent, their parents have resolved the problem. So what do they learn? Mom and Dad are always there for me, I don't have to bother thinking or trying to be responsible for my actions and decisions.

Unfortunately, this act of avoiding the wind actually weakens our children. They never experience what it means to master what they learn, take responsibility for tasks, speak honestly, resolve conflicts, exercise self control, be fair, make decisions, express opinions, apologize, admit mistakes, accept consequences, and so on.





These are things that they have to learn as they grow up. But if we take over everything at that stage, and then children quickly become adults, they can no longer practice. They must immediately face life and all its harsh and indiscriminate realities. So, can we expect them to be ready to withstand those winds and storms? Or, will we be strong enough to witness it "break"?

I deeply appreciate the love that parents feel for their children today. It is the love of our heavenly Father, bestowed upon you all so that you can be guardian angels and nurturers for your children. However, our job is not to always make the children comfortable. Let them learn to feel the rain, the strong winds that hit, and let them find ways to survive. Resist the urge to replace them, because heavy winds strengthen, not destroy.



NEWS

Hagios School of Life continually strives to provide better service for students and parents. This new academic year, to accommodate students' need, the school has completed some renovation projects that include:

- classroom enlargement for junior secondary students
- two function classrooms for primary students
- new classes for kindergarten students
- additional CCTVs

Realizing that technology, especially IT, plays an important role in this modern world, Hagios School of Life expanded its academic program by adding Coding class, which is compulsory for junior and secondary students, and is offered as an extracurricular activity for primary students grade 4-6.



UPCOMING EVENTS

RiSE (Rejoice in Speaking English) is back!

Date:

Preliminary: 01-04 September, 2025

Final round: 08 September, 2025

Introducing our new event:
SHINE (Sportsmanship Honor
Integrity Nobility Endurance)

Date:

Preliminary: 01-04 September, 2025 Final round: 09 September, 2025

Indonesia 2025 ACE Student
Convention
Taman Bukit Palem Resort, Bogor
13 - 17 October, 2025





STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations on your university acceptance!

May God always guide you as you walk your new journey.

Eleora Jacinta Zareka Suwondo



Program S1 - Bimbingan Konseling, Universitas Sanata Dharma

Eunike Graceila Atmadja



Program S1 - Ilmu Komunikasi, Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta

Henokh Sean Christiawan



Proogram S1 - Computer Science Bina Nusantara University

Justhyn Ezequiel Louk



Bachelor's Degree - Energy and Environment Engineering City University of Hong Kong

ALUMNI STORY







God opened the way!

Hello everyone, my name is Justhyn and this is my story. I felt left out and sad when I saw all my friends going to college, and I was left alone knowing that I would become a gap-year student. Even though I applied to multiple universities abroad and one even accepted me and awarded me a half tuition scholarship, I had to decline the offer because the other half of the tuition was still too much for my family. It was as if God only stopped halfway, He only unlocked a door but did not open it.

During the one year gap, God did not leave my side. He gave me the strength and spirit to keep walking with Him even though it was painful. I applied to multiple universities abroad but still got rejected. I felt that God chose to not listen to my prayers and He ignored my dream of being able to study overseas. Despite all of that, He prepared me for a life out there by putting me back in Hagios School of Life to teach and serve there.

Little did I know that behind all those struggles and prayers, God did not stay quiet. God continued to answer my prayer when He sent a representative from the City University of Hong Kong just to meet with me. Not only that, their arrival made me a pioneer for my school to be recognized by a well-known international institution.

On April 3rd, 2025, God answered my prayer with more than I could imagine. I was accepted to the City University of Hong Kong with a full tuition scholarship. Unknowingly, God did not only guide me when I became a gap-year student, He was there when I did all the preparations for study abroad. Studying in Hagios School of Life without extra lessons, I was able to achieve an SAT and TOEFL iBT scores more than I had prayed for. All of this happened as a lesson and a testimony of how big and powerful the God of believers is.

Thank you, for all of the people whom I cannot mention individually, for keeping your faith in me, for strengthening me with your encouragement and prayers. I hope that my testimony would be a blessing to all of you.





HAGIOS SCHOOL OF LIFE

Phone

+62 812-2571-2198

Mail

info@hagiosschooloflife.sch.id

Site

https://hagiosschooloflife.sch.id/

Address

Sosrowijayan 80, Yogyakarta

Instagram

@hagiosschooloflife