

GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

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SERMON OUTLINE

PRAISE THE LORD THROUGH

PSALM 150
REV. REVIN VASALLO

As we study this clear and simple psalm, here is an outline of the passage:

- WHAT: Praise the Lord (v.1a)!
- WHERE: In His sanctuary and in His mighty heavens (v.1b).
- WHY: For His mighty deeds and excellent greatness (v. 2).
- HOW: By making music (vv. 3-5)!
- WHO: Everything that has breath (v.6).

Psalm 150 closes the fifth and final volume of the collection of psalms, and also serves as the doxology of the entire

Book of Psalms. In this closing psalm, the author gives us a clear and direct response to all who read Psalm 1 to 149, and that is to praise the Lord through music!

In the previous psalms, we are exhorted to praise God for who He is, what He has done, and what He is capable of. And in those psalms, the exhortation to praise God comes with a number of reasons why we should praise the Lord. However, in Psalm 150, we see a different approach. Instead of giving more reasons why, this psalm focuses on giving us ways on how we should praise the Lord through music.

In this short psalm of 6 verses, the word 'praise' is mentioned 13 times. And in

those 13 times, the psalmist used half of them to instruct the congregation of Israel to praise the Lord by playing a number of musical instruments. These musical instruments could be their whole orchestra as they gather for congregational worship during their time. And the kind of worship they were exhorted to do, is not just a mellow one, but a loud music with trumpets and clashing cymbals!

Indeed, as we learn more about who God is, what He has done, and what He can do, one proper response is for us to praise God together as a church, by using every instrument available to make loud music for the Lord! Hallelujah!✳

CENTERING ON JESUS

BY: TEACHER CAROL FELIPE

Christmas is always a busy time for everyone! Traffic is at its worst. Celebrations happen left and right. It is the time of year when we lose grip of our rhythms because of the busyness that prevails. But I pray that even in this eventful season, we will also take the time to commune with the Lord and meditate on His Word.

As I take this time to slow down, I would like to share with you what the Lord has put in my heart, recognizing that He is the Lord and knowing that He is good and sovereign in all His ways.

1. Make time for God. We can all succumb to the busyness of life. As a church worker, I should never think that what I do for the Lord and the church is my Christian life. My spiritual life should always be anchored on God's Word and prayer. His Word is my anchor and compass. Prayer gives me the confidence that the Lord directs me to do His good and perfect will for my life. Putting God's Word and prayer together allows me to live and work in His wisdom. As His child, I should always prioritize and fight daily for my special time

PARSON TO PERSON

with God. I am God's child first, and the Lord desires that I abide in Him, in His Word and prayer.

2. Live in the Power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the power that allows us to live and move according to God's ways. The Holy Spirit is in me, in the life of every believer, to convict me of my sins. The Spirit is my teacher. He gives me the power to understand God's Word so that I may apply it, making me wise in Him. The Holy Spirit is my enabler every day. He is the power that I need to do the work of the Lord according to His ways and plans. My prayer is that I will not grieve the Spirit of God but always keep in step with the Holy Spirit

3. Be Grateful and Gracious. My life is God's gift to me. I need to always be grateful to the Lord for a good and meaningful life under His care. I thank God for allowing me to live a full and joyous life with Him. All of what I can do for Him and others is just a manifestation of His grace towards me. And for that, I am truly grateful beyond words. My life in the Lord is about grace after grace, and that is why, as a grace receiver, I should be a grace releaser. The grace I

receive from the Lord is meant to be shared and given away so that others may see the goodness and generosity of God in our lives. May my life always be a conduit of God's grace to others.

4. Live Out God's Joy. Joy is a fruit of the Spirit that I truly embrace. Joy is not about an event but about an inner condition of the heart and mind. Every day, I pray for God's joy to be upon me. Every day, I ask the Lord to grow His joy in my life, even when circumstances around me do not agree with such mood and heartset. Every day, I always choose to find the good and to share the joy that the Lord deposits. May His joy always be my strength as I go through life's challenges every day.

May you find encouragement in what the Lord has allowed me to share with you for now. My prayer for all of us is that we will find time to enjoy the Lord, His Word, and the Spirit's fellowship, knowing fully well that He is always good, gracious, and great. Have a joyous communion with Jesus!

May the peace and joy of the Lord be upon you and the rest of your family. ✳

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