

# GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

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## SERMON OUTLINE

# JESUS AS THE ONE SENT BY THE FATHER

REV. MARK MAGANGAT | JOHN 5:19-47

In the preceding passage from John 4:43-5:18, we find Jesus boldly asserting His identity as the Son of the Father. His words resound with divine authority as He declares His intimate partnership with the Father in their ongoing work. Yet, the response from the Jewish leaders is not one of acceptance but of hostility, fueled by their perception that Jesus is not only violating the Sabbath but also claiming equality with God Himself (vv. 17-18). This sets the stage for a profound discourse in John 5:19-47, where Jesus further unpacks the implications of His divine relationship with the Father.

Jesus responds to the criticism of the Jewish leaders for healing on the Sabbath. He asserts that His actions are in perfect alignment with the Father's will, as He only

does what He sees the Father doing. Jesus emphasizes His complete unity with the Father, indicating that the Son's actions are not independent but are intricately connected to the Father's purposes. Moreover, Jesus claims the authority to give life and to judge, roles traditionally attributed only to God, thereby asserting His divine identity (vv. 19-23).

Jesus speaks of the present and future aspects of salvation. He declares that those who hear His word and believe in the One who sent Him have eternal life and will not be judged but have passed from death to life. This highlights the universal nature of the resurrection and the final judgment, where each person will be held accountable for their deeds (vv. 24-29).

Jesus also presents various witnesses that affirm His divine authority, including John the Baptist, His miraculous works, and the Scriptures. He challenges the Jewish leaders' unbelief and urges them to embrace His testimony (vv. 30-38).

In the last section, Jesus confronts the Jewish leaders' reliance on Moses while discrediting His own testimony. He asserts that their rejection of Him stems from their refusal to believe the Scriptures and Moses' writings (vv. 39-47).

In this sermon we will be challenged to consider the claims of Jesus Christ, respond to Him in faith, and embrace God's will for our lives. ✱

## ONE PURSUIT

TEACHER CAROL FELIPE

We praise God for giving us the wisdom and joy to pursue "Each One, Disciple One". Reaching one for Christ, much more, discipling the person to know and love Christ, is a great privilege of a lifetime. As I gleaned from Paul's second letter to Timothy, these, too, are what I will tell those with whom I have the privilege of walking the Christian journey.

The second letter of Paul to Timothy expresses his love and concern for his spiritual son, Timothy. He desires and prays that Timothy will stay true and faithful to the Lord and His Word. He also encourages Timothy to be faithful in his calling as a pastor - to be faithful in His pursuit of Christ, His Word and His work!

Among other things, Paul reminds Timothy about the state of their times. In Chapter 3, Paul wants Timothy to understand that the days are evil (vv. 1-9). Paul presented to Timothy the state of the people's hearts and minds. In verses 2-4, he enumerates that people are lovers of self, money, pride, arrogance, and disobedience. In essence, the people's concern was not about God or others but only about themselves! He continues to tell Timothy in verse 5 that the evil in their time is also displayed by the believers themselves, "having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power". This is the kind of Christian life they were living - powerless because, as they say they follow Christ, and

they continue to live a life under the influence of evil.

In verses 10-17, Paul gives us a glimpse of how Timothy can navigate the challenging world. First, he reminds his spiritual son that while he has followed Paul's way of life and calling, he, too, will experience suffering. In verses 10-13, Paul tells Timothy that in following Christ, he will experience challenges along the way. As he serves the Lord, storms will come because this is part of our Christian life and service.

After this, Paul reminds Timothy in verses 14-17 to continue what he learned from childhood - the sacred writings. Whatever he knows about God and His Word is the legacy of Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice. Their impartation of the Scripture made Timothy wise for salvation. This means that Timothy has allowed the Scripture, the Word of God, to navigate this life in the fear of Yahweh. His wisdom for salvation brought him to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ! Truly, God's Word leads us to Him. God's word leads us to life - eternal life!

Paul carries on that God's Word...  
*<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

Yes, all of Scripture - both

the Old Testament and New Testament are from God and have the authority of in the life of the Christian. We stand on the truth of God's Word and are called to obey its commands. The Word is what we need to live a life pleasing to God in this world because 1. it is sufficient (useful for teaching as it instructs us in God's ways); 2. it rebukes (convicts us when we stray) 3. it corrects (sets us right when we err); and 4. it trains in righteousness (equips us for godly living). As we immerse ourselves in Scripture, we become thoroughly equipped for every good work in service to God and others. As God's people, this is what we should be doing now because we all live on borrowed time.

In this letter, Paul wrote to Timothy with the thought that he would be gone soon. Paul himself says he is being poured out as a drink offering (4:6-8). As disciplers and disciples, we need to multiply our lives in others. And the best multiplier of life is the Word of God.

We never know how much time we have wasted until it is time to leave. So, while we still have time, and the time is now, we need to continue knowing Jesus and His Word. While we are privileged to experience Christ and His Word, let us allow the Word of God to teach us and change our lives. While given the time, let us make Jesus our one true pursuit in life. ✱

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