

# GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

MAY 19, 2024  
BULLETIN ISSUE #20



## SERMON OUTLINE

## JESUS AS THE ONE HATED BY THE WORLD

JOHN 7:1-52 | REV. DON GUICO

*"Jesus said to them, 'My time has not yet come, but your time is always here. 7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil.'" - John 7:6-7*

Chapter 7 opens during the Feast of Tabernacles or Feast of Booths. This feast commemorated God's provision when they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Jesus' brothers were going to Judea, and they challenged Jesus to go so that many would see the work he was doing. Even with such a request, the truth is that they did not believe in Jesus (v. 5). Thus, He told his brothers that he would not go because it was not time and that the world hated him because He declared its evil works (vv. 6-7). Jesus chose to delay going to the feast. In this section, we see that Jesus was hated by his brothers (vv. 1-13).

During the feast, Jesus began to teach at the temple. The

Jews could not find fault in his knowledge and authority of Scripture; they questioned his education and authority (v. 15). They also accused Jesus of having a demon (v. 20). They were also angry that he violated the law by healing on a Sabbath (v. 23). And they objected that he couldn't be the Christ because they knew where he came from, as many held the belief that the Christ would suddenly appear, as if from nowhere (v. 27). In the end, Jesus asserts his relationship with the Father, that he came from God, and that his authority is from God, as he sent him. Their conversation's intensity shows us that the people also hated Jesus (vv. 14-31).

Jesus' declarations made the religious leaders seek to arrest him. He then said that he would soon be going to the one who sent him, a place where they could neither find him nor come.

And on the last day of the feast, he cried, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me..." (v. 38)—his great invitation for the people to put their trust in him. Jesus' teachings left the people divided. Indeed, some believed, but some wanted to arrest Him until Nicodemus reminded them that anyone accused deserves to be heard before he is judged. Indeed, Jesus was hated by the religious leaders (vv. 32-52).

Despite Jesus' teaching and the wonders he performed to authenticate his message, many did not receive him because of their disbelief (his brothers), their doubts (the people at the temple), or their denial (the religious leaders).

In today's sermon, let us all reaffirm our faith, trust, and confession that Jesus is the Son of God, the Christ, the Savior of the world. ✱

## BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS!

REV. PARKIN YOUNG

GCF South Metro was honored to host the baccalaureate service for Muntinlupa National High School last Wednesday, May 15, 2024. It was an opportunity to encourage the youth to be strong and courageous as they transition to another phase in their lives. It was a blessed time for our church to impact our community with the gospel message. We indeed praise God for the 556 youth who heard the gospel!

As they transition to a new chapter in their lives, we desire them to be prepared to face the challenges and uncertainties that will come. Deuteronomy 31:6 says, "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you." Moses's encouragement to Israel was given during a challenging period in their lives. They will walk the journey with a new leader, Joshua. I am sure they were nervous, for they did not know what to expect

when entering the promised land. All they knew was they had to drive the strong and numerous Canaanites out of the land. It was not an easy thing to accomplish, but as a people, they held on to the promises of Yahweh- that the land is theirs!

Moses encouraged them to be strong and courageous! We, too, shared this with young graduates. We all need to be strong because there will be hardships. We need to be courageous because there will be times when we do not see what is ahead of us. And in these seasons of uncertainties, we need to anchor our minds, actions, and hearts to the One who knows what the future lies ahead. We all need to put our trust and faith in God, who never leaves, who never forsakes, and the One who is always with us and for us.

The certainty of the Lord in our lives makes us strong and courageous. We learn to become fearless as we grow in our loving and

reverential fear of the Lord. If we remember that God is with us, we have the one who created the world and everything in it. That same encouragement that Moses had for Israel also rings true for us today. When facing challenges and transitions in our lives, we need to be strong and courageous! We need to persevere in seeking God's will and direction for us. In challenging times, we learn to boldly yet cautiously take that step of faith. We learn to walk the hidden path, trusting that the Lord leads and walks with us every step of the way.

So, church, if God is calling you to take a step of faith, trust in Him, trust His Word. Trust that God is indeed with us, and we will find that whatever God calls us to do will be the best decision that we will ever make! The Lord's abiding presence in our lives will enable us to walk in faith. Let us all be strong and courageous at all times.

Blessed Sunday! ✱

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