

GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

OCTOBER 13, 2024
BULLETIN ISSUE #41



SERMON OUTLINE

SHARING JESUS AMIDST HUMILIATION AND PERSECUTION

1 PETER 4:12-16 | PASTOR REX VASALLO

In 1 Peter 4:12-16, Peter offered profound pastoral wisdom for Christians facing persecution. He gave three key truths so that the believers might endure suffering with faith and joy.

First, Peter encouraged believers to expect persecution. He began by referring to the scattered believers as "beloved," a reminder that even in the midst of trials, they were deeply loved by God. Peter assured them that persecution was not a strange or unusual occurrence for Christians, rather, it was part of what it meant to follow Jesus. Just as Christ suffered, so too will His followers. Instead of seeing suffering as something to fear or avoid, they were made to understand that it was a

refining process—an evidence of God's work in their lives.

Second, Peter exhorted the believers to rejoice even in suffering. While this seemed counter intuitive, he explained that their suffering for Christ connected them to the Lord in a profound way. When believers endured trials for the sake of Jesus, they also shared in His sufferings. And the suffering was not without a purpose for it pointed us to the joy of knowing that we shared in His suffering and a future joy that we shall be with Him when He returns in glory!

Finally, Peter urged Christians to glorify God through their suffering, and not to be ashamed of it. When they were insulted for the name of Christ, Peter assured them

that the Spirit of God rested upon them in a special way. This presence of God's Spirit gave them strength and comfort in the face of opposition. They were not ashamed of being identified with Christ, but rather saw it as an honor. To suffer for His name was a privilege that reflected their true identity as His people.

As a church, we are called to expect, rejoice in, and glorify God through suffering. In our trials, may we all find strength in His presence and joy in knowing that our suffering is not in vain but part of His redemptive plan. Let us continue to share the love of Jesus and share in His suffering and glory, as well! ✨

MISSION POSSIBLE - EVERYONE IS A MISSIONARY

REV. MIKE TRINIDAD

Make no mistake about it, our mission as believers and followers of Jesus Christ is quite clear as it was given by no one but Christ himself. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age" Matthew 28:19-20.

As Jesus met the eleven remaining disciples after His Resurrection, He gave this command to the eleven, and subsequently to all followers who came after them (us included) to make disciples of all nations. It behooves that you and I are called to obey Jesus' direct command wherever we are and whatever we do for Him in His Kingdom. It is our responsibility to lead

people who are caught in darkness, those who may have been left without hope in life - the destitute, the sick, the desperate, those trapped in a life of sin or unforgiveness, etc.

Jesus Himself declared, "I am the light of the world" John 9:5. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are likewise called to be that light as we point people to Christ, for that is the only way that the blind can be brought to the light. May we be the instruments to lift people out of darkness and lead them to the righteous life that Jesus desires for those who call upon His name and repent of their sins.

Whether God has placed you, make it your mission to make Christ known among the people in whatever sphere of influence you are in. Whether in the workplace, school or community, be

prepared to share about Jesus and pray for that person that needs to be disciplined for Christ.

As you disciple a new follower, an important aspect of this mandate is to teach your disciple to follow and obey Jesus' ways. This may be the part of the process that may take time as you invest in the life of your disciple for him to learn about Jesus' will and His ways, and in the process, unlearn the lies and deceptions that the enemy may have wrongly impacted his life. Consider it a small price to pay for the ultimate reward of following Jesus' command to disciple His people.

The mission is clear - it is for everyone to obey. Take part in the mission - disciple someone for Christ! ✨

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