

# GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

JANUARY 19, 2024  
BULLETIN ISSUE #03



## SERMON OUTLINE

## DRAW STRENGTH FROM GOD'S GRACE

PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11 | REV. LITO VILLORIA

As we celebrate God's abundant grace to GCF South Metro over the past 28 years, may God give us confidence that the same grace will strengthen us to pursue Vision 2037. Exactly 28 years ago, on January 19, 1997, the late Dr. Luis Pantoja Jr., former Senior Pastor of GCF Main, delivered the inaugural message, "Turning Vision Into Reality," based on Philippians 1:1-2 and Acts 16:6-40. This milestone affirms that God has been actively at work in our church family from the very beginning. From One Legacy Place in Alabang 400 (1997) to the IIAP Building in Madrigal Business Park (2000) and now to this facility in Daang Hari (2005), God's grace has clearly been our source of strength.

The Apostle Paul began his letter to the Philippians by describing himself and Timothy as servants of

Christ. He addressed the believers, who are "saints in Christ Jesus," as well as the overseers and deacons in the church. The concluding greeting of "grace and peace" serves as a strong foundation for the key themes Paul developed in his letter (vv. 1-2).

Paul praised God for the Philippians' partnership in the gospel from the very beginning. He expressed confidence that God would complete the work He started in them until the end. Every time Paul recalled what God had accomplished through them; it brought him joy (vv. 3-6).

Paul prayed for the Philippians' love for God and one another to abound so they would grow in spiritual wisdom. He held the believers very close to his heart because they shared in the grace

of being his ministry partners. They supported his work through prayers and provisions, even while he was imprisoned (vv. 7-9).

Paul prodded the Philippians to focus on the day of Christ's return. He encouraged them to discern what is truly valuable in God's sight and live accordingly. They needed to always choose to do God's will for His glory (vv. 10-11).

As we look forward to Vision 2037, we need to draw strength from God's grace. God will surely complete His work in, through, and for GCF South Metro, as well as in our own personal journeys. In this sermon, we will learn how we, both individually and corporately as a church, can draw strength from God's grace in the years ahead.✳

## GREAT AT 28!

REV. MIKE TRINIDAD

Warm greetings, GCF South Metro Church, as we celebrate our 28th Anniversary! Our years have been marked by the Lord's grace, faithfulness and tender mercies as we have witnessed His mighty hands at work over the past 28 years. The inaugural service was held on January 19, 1997 at One Legacy Place Building along Don Jesus Blvd, outside Alabang 400 Village. Henceforth, we transferred to the former IIAP Building along Alabang-Zapote Road (where Avida Towers now stand) in 2000, before we transferred to our current location along Daang Hari in 2005.

As one of the early members of the church, I can attest that through the many (and believe me there have been many!) challenges we faced, our faith and trust in our mighty God and His wonderful plans for the church have been the driving force that have kept the leadership of the church focused on the mission that God has impressed in our hearts.

From the early days, under the able leadership of Senior Pastors Narry F. Santos, Larry P. Pabiona and Lito G. Villoria, these faithful and dedicated men of the faith have ably steered the church in pursuing our initial goal of being a Purpose Driven Church, later to shift our focus as we transitioned to become the Disciple Making Church that we are today.

Much has been accomplished, we have made inroads in bringing disciple making to the fore using growth groups as the main vehicle in our disciple making efforts. Evangelistic Growth Groups (EGG's) have likewise been established to bring home the message of obedience to the Great Commission to disciple the nations. We realize, however, that much more needs to be done and we need the collective efforts of all our stakeholders - the members of the church, together with the pastors and pastoral team and church leaders in bringing to fruition our declared mission and vision to be a disciple making church to impact our communities, the Philippines and beyond!

Thus far, our growth groups have made significant contributions to fulfill our declared mission to disciple the people in our spheres of influence. We currently have 1,077 people plugged into 106 growth groups with 1,354 multiplying disciples! We give all the glory, honor and highest praise to our Almighty God for these people and how He will move mightily to bring about the further multiplication of these numbers for the glory of His name!

We thank God for the confidence He gives us to look forward to what He has in store for us in the coming years! Moving forward, as Pastor Lito has shared the vision to expand the church facilities through Vision

2037, let us rally behind this God-sized task and not be daunted by the enormity of this undertaking. Rather, let the exhortation of the writer of Hebrews move us, **"look to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted"** Hebrews 12:2-3 ESV.

As we therefore look at the greater things that lie ahead, let us do so while looking to the Lord Jesus Christ and to seek His purposes in our declared mission to disciple His people. Let us not allow ourselves to get waylaid by the enemy and his schemes to sow fear as we trod on the path before us. It is likewise important to always remember to ascribe honor and glory to the Lord for His steadfast love, all-sufficient grace and tender mercies toward GCF South Metro Church. After all, this is His work and we are here merely to witness and partake of the blessing to witness and be a part of His work being accomplished in our church.

Glory to God as we look forward to the greater things the Lord has in store for the church!✳

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