

# GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

MAY 11, 2025  
BULLETIN ISSUE #19



## SERMON OUTLINE

## GODLY CONVICTIONS IN A COMPROMISED SOCIETY

DANIEL 3:1-30 | REV. DONG VILLATITO

**D**aniel 3:1-30 tells the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who refused to obey King Nebuchadnezzar's command to worship a golden statue. As a result, they were thrown into a fiery furnace but were miraculously saved by God. This chapter emphasized faith, obedience, and God's power to rescue, leading the king to recognize God's authority.

King Nebuchadnezzar built a large golden statue and ordered all his officials to worship it, threatening to burn anyone who refused to do so. The story begins with Nebuchadnezzar trying to force everyone to worship the statue to show his power. This act shows great human pride and sets up a conflict between obeying the king and staying loyal to God. (Daniel 3:1-7)

Some Chaldeans accused Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego of not following the king's order, which angered

Nebuchadnezzar. He called the three men and gave them one last chance to obey, mocking their faith and questioning if their God could save them. Despite the threat of death, the three men firmly refused to worship the statue. They expressed their complete trust in God, whether He saved them or not. (Daniel 3: 8-18)

Furious, Nebuchadnezzar ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter and had the men thrown in. His strongest soldiers carried out the order, but the intense heat killed them instead. Amazingly, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were seen walking unharmed in the furnace with a fourth figure who looked like an angel. This shows God's power and His ability to protect His faithful followers. (Daniel 3:19-25)

Surprised, Nebuchadnezzar called the men out of the furnace and recognized the power of their God. He praised their

God for sending an angel to save them and ordered that anyone who speaks against their God would be punished. The king then gave the three men higher positions in Babylon, acknowledging their faithfulness and God's supremacy. ( Daniel 3:26-28)

The chapter ends with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego being proven right, showing the victory of faith and obedience over human pride and earthly power. Their story is a strong example of staying true to one's beliefs and trusting in God's power to save and ultimately prove the faithful right. (Daniel 3:29-30).

I pray that through this message, we will be encouraged to remain faithful and obedient to God, even as we face challenges or pressure to compromise, by trusting in His power to protect and ultimately deliver us. ✨

## CROSSING CULTURES, SHARING CHRIST—ONE GIFTBOX AT A TIME

PATTY NERMAL AND TEACHER CAROL FELIPE

**A**s disciples of the Lord Jesus, participating in missions is not optional. In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus commissioned His disciples—through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit—to make disciples of all nations. Missions is not merely about the place we go to, but the people we reach with the Gospel. Growth Groups (GGs) are being equipped in Cross-Cultural Missions (CCM) through the Growth Group Leadership Institute (GGLI) to strategically reach people groups different from their own culture. However, the church's equipping program is not limited to GG members only. For years, CCM has been part of the Grade 11 curriculum at GCFSM Christian School, which is also a ministry of the church. In addition to classroom training, students are sent beyond their comfort zones to experience sharing God's Word and love in a cross-cultural setting.

This year, the Grade 11 students, together with selected CCM finishers from GGLI, went to Iloilo and Guimaras from April 21 to 25 to bless 300 children with boxes full of school supplies. Through the partnership with GCF Iloilo and the Giftbox Project, the students were exposed to different communities in a new culture. One of the objectives of this trip is to show and share the love and Gospel with less privileged children, and to expose the students to missions work in unfamiliar settings.

As their teachers, it was a blessing to witness how God has spoken to both our Grade 11 students and

fellow church members through this experience. The mission trip allowed them to catch a glimpse of God's heart for the nations—and it definitely left a lasting impact on their lives. Here are some of their impressions on the trip:

*“He reminded me to stop feeling so pessimistic about missions and realize that these things (gifts) can call the saved even if it doesn't feel that way all the time. He also reminded me that I am not the one saving them, nor the boxes, or our class but it's Christ and His Word. I think this trip would help me learn to humble myself as a believer, that I am not special for doing this, I am simply a humble servant of God who wants others to know how good He is.”* - Eli Filio

*“This is my first time doing a mission trip outside of my family. Now that I am one of the front runners, it is way harder than I expected. But even through the problems and discouraging factors, I have definitely seen how God works and guides us. This has taught me that sharing His Word is no joke. It's crucial and it needs more workers. To see some children curious and smile because of the Word makes the whole experience worth it. I hope that God provides more opportunities like this in my walk with Him.”* - Ethon Santos

*“The truth is we can't give all their needs, or force them to understand the Gospel, but it's what God can do. More than the goodness in giving, God is blessing these children with His Word that is sufficient for us. It also shows how*

## PARSON TO PERSON

*“this is a matter of faith in God's power to work through all of us. This mission has taught me the importance of letting God take control which I certainly struggle to do.”* - Akina Lim

*“I learned that God's mission doesn't start with something grand, but with small acts of love and kindness. A gift doesn't have to be expensive but if it's filled with love, or even just spending time with someone, it can become a great comfort and lasting memory. I came to understand that God's love can be felt and shared across borders and languages.”* - Taehee Kim

*“God's mission is not just in one place but in the whole world. He hopes that everyone will turn to Him. Moreover, God's mission is not only to preach the Gospel, but also to love everyone and become a witness of the Gospel.”* - Yayi Miao

While selected participants were able to go, the church has been a crucial part of this mission trip. The 300 boxes were raised through the generous support of GCFSM members. The rest of the GGLI class and their respective Growth Groups also became our committed prayer warriors. Missions is not the work of one or a selected few but it is the task of the whole church. Thus, we are all called to go and make disciples of all nations, regardless of our status or situation in life, because this is God's work, and He will empower us to do it. ✨

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