

# GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

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## SERMON OUTLINE

# #REALTALK: FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP IN A DIGITAL WORLD

PSALM 78:1-8, 70-72 | REV. LITO VILLORIA

God calls His people to whole-life devotion – to love Him with our entire being and pass that faith on to the next generation. Deuteronomy 6:4-9, known as the Shema, is a foundational passage that expresses this total commitment. It is not simply a call to religious duty, but an invitation to joyful, wholehearted relationship with the one true God. In this passage, we learn what it means to know, love, keep, and teach the Lord's commands – not as burdens, but as life-giving truths.

Our journey of whole-life love begins with truly knowing who God is. The Shema declares that the Lord alone is God—there is no other (v. 4). This foundational truth calls us into intimacy with Him and guards us against divided allegiances. When we know God deeply, our hearts are anchored. This knowledge gives clarity in confusion, focus in

distraction, and stability in the midst of life's challenges.

From this foundation flows the command to love God fully – with all our heart, soul, and strength (v. 5). This love is not meant to be half-hearted or occasional, but complete and consistent. True love for God naturally leads to obedience. It shapes the way we live, guides our priorities, and influences every decision we make. Loving God is not a moment, it is a way of life.

But this love must be rooted in something solid – God's Word. His commands are not just rules to follow, but truths to be treasured in our hearts (v. 6). When we internalize His Word, when it lives in our hearts, it becomes our guide, our filter, and our strength. It shapes our thoughts, renews our minds, and equips us to live faithfully in every circumstance.

And this life of devotion is not meant to stop with us. We are called to teach and live out God's Word, especially within our homes (vv. 7-9). Faith must be passed on intentionally, woven into the rhythms of everyday life. Our conversations, habits, and family culture should reflect the truth we believe. In doing so, we create spaces where God's Word takes root and grows in the next generation.

Because the Lord is our one true God, our response must be a life marked by complete devotion – knowing Him intimately, loving Him fully, treasuring His Word deeply, and passing it on faithfully. May we commit to making our faith visible, vibrant and alive, beginning with our own families and extending into every part of life. ✨

## THE LOVE THAT ABOUNDS

TEACHER CAROL FELIPE

*"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God."*  
Philippians 1:9-11 (ESV)

Paul's letter to the Philippians was warm and affectionate. These believers stood with him in trials, supported him, and partnered in the gospel. Filled with joy, Paul prayed that their love "may abound more and more, with knowledge and discernment," overflowing with Christ's love in every part of their lives.

This prayer shows us what happens when God's love takes root in His people. It reshapes the way we think, it changes the way we live, and it redefines who we are.

### The Love of God Renews Our Thinking (Philippians 1:9)

Paul prayed for their love to grow in knowledge and discernment. Love is not meant to be shallow or sentimental, but anchored in God's truth. Without knowledge, love can easily drift into mere emotion or even compromise. But when it is shaped by Scripture, love becomes wise, discerning, and lasting.

God's Word is the standard that teaches us how to think rightly. As Hebrews 4:12 reminds us, "the word of God is living and active... discerning the thoughts and

intentions of the heart." When we let His Word fill us, our love gains depth and clarity. We begin to think God's thoughts after Him. We learn to test what we hear, what we believe, and even what we feel by the light of Scripture. Love shaped by truth is love that sees clearly.

### The Love of Christ Transforms Our Living (Philippians 1:10)

Renewed thinking leads to transformed living. Paul says that when love grows with discernment, we will "approve" what is excellent. The word approve (dokimazō) means to test, to examine carefully, to choose what is genuine. A discerning love can shape our daily decisions. We no longer settle for what is convenient, popular, or merely good—we choose what is excellent, what reflects Christ.

This results in a life that is pure and blameless—not in perfection, but in progression. Our choices, habits, and relationships increasingly align with God's will. As Romans 12:2 reminds us, we are "transformed by the renewal of our minds, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." When love transforms our living, people around us see a life that is Christlike!

### The Love of Christ Defines Our Being (Philippians 1:11)

At the deepest level, Paul showed that this transformation flows from who we are in Christ—our being. He prayed that the Philippians

would be "filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God."

This new identity is secure, not in our performance, but only by Jesus' finished work at the cross - with love as His compelling reason! Jesus' love does not merely change the way we think or live; it reshapes who we are at the core. And because only the love of Christ can truly change us, Paul ended it with doxology- "to the glory and praise of Jesus", the One who can only make it possible only the abounding love of Christ can renew our thinking (v.9), transform our living (v.10), and define our being (v.11) *This is not human effort but the overflow of God's love anchored in His Word, producing excellence in our choices, and bearing the fruit of righteousness through Christ.*

When love overflows in wisdom, excellence, and righteousness, it naturally attracts others. Our friends begin to notice the difference and hopefully desire who we have—the Lord Jesus Himself. This is the heart of Each One Disciple One - a disciple's life, marked by excellent love. We do not only speak of the gospel; we display it through a life that overflows with Christ's love. And in God's time, opportunities open to share the message of salvation. Our overflowing love becomes the bridge to show and share the love and gospel of Jesus Christ!

May the abounding and life changing love of Christ be experienced and displayed in our lives everyday! ✨

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