

REAL TALK ON THE END TIMES: URGENCY FOR THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 24:14 | REV. LITO VILLORIA

In a world gripped by fear and fascination about the end times, Jesus directs His followers away from speculation and toward participation in God's mission. During this October Missions Month, with the theme *"Sent: Carrying Christ's Message into the World,"* we are reminded that our calling is not to predict when the end will come, but to proclaim the gospel until it does. The heart of Jesus' teaching on the end times is captured in one verse that unites hope and the mission: *"And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."*

Matthew 24:14 stands as the anchor of the Olivet Discourse, linking eschatology—the study of Christ’s coming—with missiology—the church’s calling to proclaim

the gospel. Jesus declares that the end of human history is not determined by political turmoil or natural disasters but by the completion of God's redemptive plan. The phrase "*this gospel of the kingdom*" points to the royal announcement that Jesus reigns, redeems, and restores. It is a message of forgiveness through His cross and victory through His resurrection.

The scope of this mission is vast: the gospel must reach all nations—every tribe, tongue, and people. The sequence is also clear: *“then the end will come.”* History moves toward its appointed goal when the gospel has been proclaimed globally. The surrounding signs—wars, famines, and persecution—are not triggers of the end but the setting in which faithful witness continues. Amid these signs,

believers are called to endurance
and urgency.

This verse reveals the missionary shape of the end times: the certainty of the mission—it *will* be fulfilled; the scope—to all peoples; the sequence—proclaim, *then* the end; and the spirit—faithful endurance and hope.

The theology of this passage is simple yet profound: Christ's coming is certain and sudden, His call is readiness and focus, and His judgment is final and eternal.

The purpose of this sermon is to remind God's people that in light of Christ's certain and sudden coming, we are called to live with readiness and focus, and to persevere in carrying His gospel to the nations until His final and eternal judgment. ✱

SUSTAINED BY HIS STEADFAST LOVE

"A reflection on prayer, providence, and progress toward Vision 2037—reminding us that every plan we make is sustained by His steadfast love." BY: ELDER GABBY MEJIA, CHAIRMAN VISION 2037 COMMITTEE

Prayer is one of the most essential spiritual disciplines through which we discern and receive the greatest and most transformative things that God intends to accomplish for His glory. As a congregation, while we aspire toward the gargantuan task of Vision 2037, we must continue to pray and seek God's wisdom and guidance. This is why we declared, "2025 will be a Year of Prayer."

During our recent Business Meeting last Sunday, Pastor Lito led us in a devotion from Psalm 118, reminding us that *"The steadfast love of the LORD endures forever."* He emphasized that it is God's steadfast love that sustains us through both highs and lows, in challenges and in victories. As we pursue Vision 2037, we are called to continually trust the Lord and to keep pointing people back to Jesus—the One who is our unshakable foundation.

He also shared how God has been moving since January, weaving together stories of faith, prayer, and providence in our journey as a church. Our January Anniversary launched Vision 2037 as a faith journey for the next 12 years—a reminder that what we are building is not just a structure, but a testimony of God's enduring faithfulness. The 40 Days of Prayer that followed deepened our dependence on Him, and a Holy Wednesday meeting brought fresh confirmation that this vision is from Him and for Him.

Through encounters with various people—from church members to ministry partners—the Lord has shown His providence and encouragement. Engagements with

the Conservative Baptist Association of the Philippines, the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches, the National Disciplemaking Campaign, and the Galilean Movement affirmed our place in the wider disciplemaking movement and strengthened our DNA as an Intentional Disciplemaking Church (IDMC).

Finally, Pastor Lito reminded us that not every day is a “high moment.” Yet the Lord, in His steadfast love, continues to speak through His Word, reminding us to keep directing people to Jesus. Vision 2037 is not just about projects and plans—it is about people and prayer, shaped by God’s enduring presence.

For this very purpose, allow me to share the *hands of Vision 2037*—joined in reverence and petition as we seek the Lord’s leading:

- By January 2026, during the 29th Anniversary of GCF South Metro, our aspiration is to share with the congregation the visual design development of the new facility, which will feature:
 - A twelve-floor building with a footprint of around 1,440 square meters per floor, where five floors will be allocated for parking space accommodating around 200 vehicles, apart from the ground-floor parking dedicated to school buses, and seven floors dedicated to school and church facilities such as a coffee shop, baptistry, and multipurpose sports center.
 - Additional classrooms and school facilities to accommodate 1,000 students.

- o An auditorium, mini-auditorium, lecture hall, conference rooms, and parsonage designed to serve other Christian organizations and host leadership conferences.
- o An area for a columbarium.
- o A building design compliant with green standards, emphasizing sustainability and stewardship of God's creation.
- Let us lift to the Lord our financial obligations. During the Business Meeting, I shared that we have two major figures to keep in prayer: P31 million for the full design phase, and an estimated P1 billion for the construction budget—exclusive of the structural integrity assessment, project management, furniture, and equipment for the facility.
- Let us seek the Lord's favor that the Local Government Unit of Las Piñas will graciously approve all submitted plans for construction.
- Let us ask for the Lord's intervention in our pending petition with the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) Commissioner's Office, seeking a donor's tax exemption for the GCF Ortigas land transfer title to GCF South Metro. A favorable ruling will significantly reduce our tax liability and potentially save the church millions of pesos. This will also be crucial when presenting the property title under the church's name to the LGU.

Indeed, God is faithful. He is gracious. He will continue to provide. As we press on toward Vision 2037, may His steadfast love continue to sustain and guide us every step of the way. To Him be all the glory! ✱

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

Let us continue to be found faithful in our giving. You may deposit your giving to:

ACCOUNT NAME:
GCF South Metro, Inc.

BDO
BRANCH: MADISON

Current Acct. No:
00650-802-2882

SECURITY BANK
BRANCH: ALABANG ACACIA

Current Acct. No:
0000-0063-65400

CHINABANK
BRANCH: AYALA ALABANG

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128-195-0910

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1591-0091-56

SECURITY BANK DOLLAR SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BRANCH: ALABANG ACACIA

Dollar Account Number:

0000013183012

Swift Code:

SETCPHMM

Bank Code:

CHIPS UID 010457