

GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 1, 2026
BULLETIN ISSUE #05



SERMON OUTLINE

FOLLOWING JESUS #02

TRUSTING GOD'S PROMISES

LUKE 1:26-80 | REV. REVIN VASALLO

Following Jesus is not sustained by emotion, impulse, or good intentions. It is sustained by confidence—confidence that God is faithful and His word can be trusted. Before Jesus calls anyone to deny themselves and follow Him, Luke shows why such trust is warranted by revealing a God who faithfully keeps His promises. Discipleship rests not on human resolve, but on the proven faithfulness of God.

Luke 1:26-80 unfolded in five movements that together established the reliability of God's promises. Through divine announcement, Spirit-given confirmation, worshipful response, fulfilled word, and prophetic interpretation, Luke showed that God's promises were neither fragile nor uncertain. What God spoke, He confirmed, fulfilled, and explained so that His people could trust Him with confidence.

First, God initiated salvation through the announcement of Jesus' birth to Mary (Luke 1:26-38).

The angel Gabriel declared God's sovereign plan, emphasizing divine action, covenant fulfillment, and God's power to accomplish what was humanly impossible. Mary responded not with disbelief but with humble submission, trusting God's word.

Second, God confirmed His promise through Elizabeth's Spirit-filled affirmation (Luke 1:39-45). Elizabeth blessed Mary because she believed God's word would be fulfilled, reinforcing that God strengthened faith through Spirit-guided witness within the community.

Third, Mary responded with praise rooted in Scripture (Luke 1:46-56). Her song interpreted God's work as consistent with His mercy, power, and covenant faithfulness to Abraham. Praise became an act of theological understanding, not mere emotion.

Fourth, God fulfilled His word in the birth of John (Luke 1:57-66). Despite

delay, doubt, and human limitation, God's promise unfolded exactly as spoken. Zechariah's restored speech confirmed that God's purposes were not hindered by human weakness.

Finally, God interpreted His saving work through Zechariah's prophecy (Luke 1:67-80). The events surrounding John and Jesus were declared to be the fulfillment of God's covenant promises, pointing toward redemption, forgiveness, and peace. Luke established that God's promises were trustworthy because He revealed, confirmed, fulfilled, and explained them in history.

Following Jesus is a trustworthy path because God reveals, confirms, fulfills, and interprets His saving promises in history, proving Himself faithful across time and human weakness. The purpose of this sermon is to assure believers that discipleship begins with confidence in God's faithfulness, making obedience, trust, and perseverance possible as we follow Jesus. ✨

RESET: ALIGNMENT BEFORE ADVANCEMENT

A LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2026 UPDATE
REV. LITO VILLORIA

As we step into 2026—our Year of Preparation, we want to update the congregation on the outcome of our recently concluded Leadership Summit 2026, themed RESET—Following Jesus with Accountability, Intentionality, and Sustainability. This gathering was not designed to generate new ideas or launch new initiatives. Its purpose was simpler and more important: to realign our leadership posture as we prepare to follow Jesus faithfully in the season ahead.

What became evident throughout the summit was a strong and encouraging alignment among our leaders—not only in vision, but in biblical conviction. The conversations revealed shared clarity about how we are called to lead, steward, and sustain the life and mission God has entrusted to GCF South Metro.

Accountability: Faithful Stewardship Before God

Our leaders consistently expressed accountability in covenantal terms. Accountability was understood not as control, pressure, or mere reporting, but as faithful stewardship before the Lord. Words such as commitment, faithfulness, stewardship, obedience, consistency, and alignment reflected a shared biblical understanding that leadership is a responsibility carried together under God.

There was also a sober awareness that faithfulness can quietly drift if it is not guarded. Leaders recognized the need to protect devotion, unity, and integrity—especially after seasons of progress and blessing. Accountability, therefore, was embraced as a means of guarding what God has entrusted, ensuring that convictions and practices remain aligned across ministries, Growth Groups, and leadership layers.

Intentionality: Ordered Lives Before God

When leaders reflected on what must be intentionally prioritized in 2026, the emphasis was unmistakable. Rather than programs or expansion, leaders pointed to time with God, Scripture, prayer, and daily consecration. This revealed a shared conviction that effective leadership flows from spiritual alignment, not activity.

Leaders affirmed that courage, direction, and endurance come from Christ's presence, not favorable circumstances. Intentional leadership begins with ordered lives before God—protecting rhythms that sustain obedience amid increasing responsibility. As we prepare for the year ahead, this commitment to personal spiritual faithfulness stands as a foundational priority.

Sustainability: Shared Partnership in God's Work

Sustainability was understood first in relational and missional terms. Leaders prioritized protecting people and core ministries, strengthening discipleship pathways, and carrying responsibility together rather than individually. Financial discipline was affirmed, but always as a means to support people, discipling, and long-term ministry health.

This reflects a mature understanding that sustainability is not about survival or contraction, but about shared stewardship—allowing faithful ministry to endure and be passed on with integrity to future generations.

Personal Ownership and Commitment

Most encouraging was the personal ownership expressed by our leaders.

PARSON TO PERSON

Commitments centered on obedience, discipleship, prayer, and faithfulness. These were not abstract ideals, but concrete commitments leaders intend to carry forward in their walk with Christ and their service to the church.

Taken together, these outcomes confirm that the Leadership Summit achieved its purpose. Our leaders did not simply listen—they aligned. They did not leave with ideas, but with commitments. By God's grace, GCF South Metro enters 2026 not rushing ahead, but realigned—ready to follow Jesus with accountability, intentionality, and sustainability.

Pastoral Ministry Update

I am currently in Naga City on ministry assignment. Yesterday, I had the privilege of leading the National Disciplemaking Campaign with various ministerial groups across the Bicol Region, encouraging pastors and leaders toward faithful and intentional disciplemaking.

Today, I will be ministering at GCF Naga, preaching in their morning worship services and conducting a discipleship seminar in the afternoon. I am expected to return to Manila tomorrow, Monday, after lunch.

I appreciate your continued prayers for the leaders and churches I am serving, that God's Word may be faithfully proclaimed and that partnerships in disciplemaking may be strengthened.

As we gather for worship today, I am grateful to have Rev. Revin Vasallo, our Muntinlupa Cluster Growth Group Mentor, bring God's Word to us on "Trusting God's Promises" based on Luke 1:26-80. May the Lord use His Word, through Pastor Revin, to strengthen our faith as we follow Jesus together. ✨

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