

SERMON OUTLINE

FOLLOWING JESUS #03

THE SAVIOR WORTH FOLLOWING

LUKE 2:1-52 | REV. LITO VILLORIA

Luke 2 reveals who Jesus is before He ever calls anyone to follow Him. Before discipleship requires obedience or commitment, God establishes clarity. This chapter shows that following Jesus rests not on sentiment or familiarity, but on recognizing the Savior God has revealed in history and made known with certainty.

Luke anchored the birth of Jesus in real historical events by naming Caesar Augustus and the Roman census (Luke 2:1-5). What appeared to be a political decree became the means by which God fulfilled His promise to bring the Messiah to Bethlehem. Jesus was born in humility and obscurity, revealing that God's saving work entered the world through ordinary circumstances rather than power or prestige (Luke 2:6-7).

God then revealed the meaning of this birth through divine

announcement. Angels appeared to shepherds and declared that the child was Savior, Christ, and Lord (Luke 2:8-11). Heaven interpreted the event before the world noticed it, declaring peace rooted in God's saving initiative (Luke 2:12-14). The shepherds responded by seeking, testifying, and worshiping, confirming that revelation produced faithful response (Luke 2:15-20).

Luke next showed Jesus' identification with God's covenant people. Mary and Joseph obeyed the Law through circumcision, naming, purification, and presentation at the temple (Luke 2:21-24). In the temple, Simeon and Anna recognized Jesus as God's promised salvation, interpreting His identity through Scripture and hope shaped by the Spirit (Luke 2:25-38). Simeon also declared that Jesus would

bring both salvation and division, exposing the hearts of many.

Luke concluded by showing Jesus' growth in wisdom, obedience, and favor. Even as a child, Jesus was oriented toward the Father's purposes while remaining submissive within His family (Luke 2:39-52). Luke established who Jesus was before describing His public ministry, showing that discipleship began with recognition of the Savior.

Luke 2 shows that Jesus is the Savior God has revealed in history and clearly identified as Savior, Christ, and Lord. The purpose of this sermon is to call believers to follow Jesus with confidence, obedience, and clarity—grounded not in sentiment or familiarity, but in the certainty of who He is and what God has made known. ✨

UNSHAKABLE: BOASTING ONLY IN THE LORD

REV. LITO VILLORIA

There is something profoundly freeing when we finally admit that we are not strong enough, not smart enough, and not spiritual enough. In that very moment of honesty, God's power breaks through. This is why our **IDMC Manila 2026**, happening on **March 28, 2026**, carries the theme: **"Unshakable: Empowered in Warfare, Weakness, and Witness."**

Our entire day will be anchored in this key verse:

"Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." - 2 Corinthians 10:17

We are living in a shaking world. Many are weary. Many are anxious. Many are tempted to measure stability by money, health, influence, or control. Scripture, however, calls us to a different kind of strength. The Apostle Paul wrote 2 Corinthians as a defense—not merely of his ministry, but of a life that truly honors Christ. It is a life that may appear unimpressive by worldly standards, yet one that boasts only in the Lord. In a culture that prizes self-promotion and visible success, Paul reminds us that true power is never found in ourselves, but always in God.

To be *unshakable* does not mean we are untouchable or invincible. It means we are empowered by the Spirit—even in seasons of warfare, weakness, and witness. This is our prayer for IDMC 2026: that we would boast only in the Lord, trust Christ's sufficiency, and live anchored lives shaped by His power.

This conference also aligns closely with our church direction of **Following Jesus** and our **Year of Preparation**.

As we follow Jesus together, the Lord is forming our convictions, strengthening our habits, and preparing our church to stand firm in the days ahead—not through self-reliance, but through dependence on Christ.

For the plenary sessions, I will lead three key messages from 2 Corinthians:

- **Session 1: Empowered in Warfare (2 Corinthians 10:3-4)**
- **Session 2: Empowered in Weakness (2 Corinthians 12:8-9)**
- **Session 3: Empowered in Witness (2 Corinthians 13:4)**

Through these sessions, we will learn to fight with God-given weapons, endure with Christ-sufficient grace, and live as Spirit-empowered witnesses who boast only in the Lord.

After lunch, we will offer **five parallel workshops** that apply these truths across life stages and callings:

1. **Family Workshop** - A House That Stands: Unshakable Christ-Centered Family - Elder Raymund Sanchez
2. **Marketplace Workshop** - Called Not Compromised: Unshakable in Faith, Integrity, and Witness at Work - Justice Macky and Atty. Mikee Ong

3. **Senior Citizens Workshop** - Still Standing, Still Serving: Unshakable Faith, Hope, and Witness in the Later Seasons of Life - Capt. Jun and Marivic Parcon
4. **Pastors Workshop** - Shepherded Before Shepherding: Unshakable Pastoral Leadership Through Weakness and Dependence - Rev. Don Guico and Rev. Dong Villatito
5. **NextGen Leaders Workshop** - Rooted and Resilient: Unshakable Leadership Amid Pressure, Opposition, and Fatigue - Teacher Mir Monroy - Salvador

These tracks are designed to help every generation—home, work, ministry, and leadership—apply the same gospel-centered strength where God has placed them.

I encourage all our Growth Groups, including those from GCFSM Bacoor and GCFSM Alfonso, to come together as one. We also extend this invitation to our partner churches within CBAP, PCEC, and other like-minded fellowships. Attend as a group, register together, sit together, and debrief together. Let IDMC be more than a one-day event—let it be a shared discipleship moment where convictions are reinforced and lives are aligned.

The conference fee is P500, inclusive of lunch, snacks, and access to the online conference handbook. More than the cost, I pray we see this as an investment in our spiritual health and readiness. The world may continue to shake, but our Savior does not. May we be rooted, ready, and resilient—empowered in warfare, weakness, and witness. And may our only boast be in the Lord. ✨

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