

GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

MARCH 29, 2026
BULLETIN ISSUE #13



SERMON OUTLINE

FOLLOWING JESUS #08

FOLLOWING THE LORD OF THE SABBATH

LUKE 6:1-49 | REV. LITO VILLORIA

Following Jesus is not admiration but submission. In Luke 6, Jesus confronts a religion that honors rules yet resists His authority. The issue is not whether people understand God's Word, but whether they will follow Him as Lord. True discipleship begins when we recognize and submit to Christ's authority over every area of life.

Luke recorded two Sabbath encounters that revealed the central issue of authority. The disciples plucked grain on the Sabbath and were questioned by the Pharisees, but Jesus pointed to David and declared, "The Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath," asserting His authority over the law and its purpose (Luke 6:1-5). In the synagogue, He healed a man with a withered hand, exposing the hardness of those who valued rules over mercy and resisted the

very work of God before them (Luke 6:6-11).

Jesus then advanced His authority through His mission. He spent the night in prayer, showing dependence on the Father, then chose the twelve apostles, extending His authority through them, and ministered to the crowds as power flowed from Him to heal all who came. People gathered from different regions, revealing the growing reach of His ministry and the undeniable impact of His authority (Luke 6:12-19).

In what is known as the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus defined life under His authority. He declared blessings and woes that reversed human values, calling His followers to depend on God rather than worldly security. He commanded them to love their enemies and reflect God's mercy, and warned

against hypocrisy, teaching that a transformed heart produces a transformed life that honors Him (Luke 6:20-45).

Finally, Jesus showed that true discipleship is proven through obedience. Those who hear and do His Word are like a man who builds on a firm foundation, able to withstand the storms of life, while those who do not obey face sudden and complete collapse (Luke 6:46-49).

Because Jesus is Lord over all, true discipleship is wholehearted submission to His authority, expressed through a transformed life and consistent obedience to His Word. This passage calls believers to follow Christ as Lord by submitting every area of life to Him, participating in His mission, and building their lives on His Word. ✱

JOURNEY THROUGH THE CROSS

REV. DON GUICO

Every year, Christians around the world pause to observe Good Friday, a solemn day that remembers the suffering and sacrificial death of Jesus Christ on the cross. While it is marked by grief and reflection, it is not without hope. Good Friday reminds us that through Christ's death on the cross came redemption, forgiveness, and the promise of new life. The cross, once a symbol of pain and shame, has become for believers a powerful sign of love, grace, and victory. Our theme, "The Cross: From Sorrow to Hope," invites us to enter into this sacred tension, honoring the depth of Christ's sacrifice while anticipating the hope it brings.

To help us meaningfully engage with this day, our observance is divided into two main parts: a 1.5-hour Silence and Solitude experience followed by the Good Friday Service.

The Silence and Solitude portion is designed as a personal and reflective journey. Participants will move through eight stations set up in designated rooms throughout the facility. Each station will focus on the following themes – surrender, personal failure, injustice, salvation by grace, lament, forgiveness, restored access to God, and waiting with hope. At every station, you will find selected Scripture passages, prayer guides, and in some cases, simple activities to help deepen your reflection. This self-paced experience allows each person to linger, listen, and respond to God in

a quiet and intentional way. You are encouraged to move prayerfully from one station to another, allowing the Holy Spirit to guide your thoughts and reflections.

As we enter the Silence and Solitude portion, we ask everyone to observe a spirit of quietness and reverence. Please refrain from conversations, silence mobile devices, and be mindful of others who are also seeking a sacred space to pray and reflect. Move slowly and intentionally through each station, resisting the urge to rush. This is not a checklist to complete but a spiritual encounter to experience. If you feel led to stay longer at a particular station, you are free to do so. Let this be a time of listening, not only speaking, to God.

Following this time of solitude, we will gather as a community for the Good Friday Service. This corporate gathering will include worship, where we lift our voices in reverence and gratitude; a message centered on the significance of the cross; and Holy Communion, where we remember Christ's body broken and blood shed for us. This movement from personal reflection to communal worship mirrors our journey of faith – individual encounters with God that ultimately draw us together as His people.

To fully benefit from this observance, spiritual preparation is essential. We encourage you to come with a humble and open heart, ready to reflect on your own life in light of Christ's sacrifice. Take time

beforehand to pray, asking God to reveal areas where you need repentance, healing, or renewal. You may also consider fasting or setting aside distractions earlier in the day to center your thoughts on the significance of the cross. Most importantly, come with a posture of surrender, willing to encounter both the sorrow of Good Friday and the hope it offers.

As we journey together through this sacred time, may we not only remember what Christ has done but also experience anew the transforming power of His love. In the stillness and reflection, may our hearts be softened, our lives re-centered, and our faith renewed as we behold the depth of His sacrifice and the wonder of His grace.

In response to this overwhelming love and mercy, may we be led into a deeper commitment to God. Let us intentionally make space each day to seek Him, listen to His voice, and walk in faithful obedience. As we are renewed inwardly, may that transformation be evident in how we live for God and how we love others.

And as we go beyond this gathering, may we carry this hope with us, inviting our family, friends, and neighbors to encounter it for themselves. May we courageously share the message of Christ in our everyday lives, living as faithful witnesses who reflect His grace not only in devotion, but also in mission. ✱

PARSON TO PERSON

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