GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

JULY 19, 2026
BULLETIN ISSUE #29

GCF SOUTH METRO CHURCH

SERMON OUTLINE

FOLLOWING JESUS #19

STEWARDSHIP OF LIFE AND WEALTH

LUKE 16:1–31 | ELDER RAYMUND SANCHEZ

Luke 16 begins a new mini-series in our journey through the Gospel of Luke: The Cross of our King Jesus. In this section, Jesus continues toward Jerusalem and teaches what it means to follow Him with a surrendered life. In this chapter, we are confronted with a truth we easily forget: everything in our hands belongs to God. We are not owners but stewards, and one day the Owner will require an account from us. Jesus asks the central question of this passage: Who is our Master—God or money?

Jesus told of a manager accused of wasting his master's resources. Knowing that his stewardship was ending, he acted decisively. Jesus did not praise his dishonesty but his shrewdness—his wisdom, foresight, and urgency. The manager understood that an accounting was coming and used his remaining opportunity intentionally. Jesus then taught His disciples to use wealth generously for eternal purposes. Money will not last, but the way it is used reveals whether a person is living for this age or the age to come. The section reaches its climax in Jesus' warning that no one can serve both God and money. (Luke 16:1–13)

The Pharisees ridiculed Jesus because they loved money. Although they justified themselves before people, God knew their hearts. Jesus affirmed that God's Word remains authoritative and exposed the danger of selective obedience. Their attitudes toward wealth and marriage showed how personal desire can resist divine truth while maintaining an outward appearance of righteousness. They wanted the authority of Scripture without submitting their hearts to what Scripture required. (Luke 16:14–18)

Jesus then contrasted a rich man living in luxury with Lazarus suffering at his gate. The rich man's sin was not wealth itself but self-indulgence that ignored a need placed directly before him. After death, their conditions were reversed, and the great chasm showed that judgment cannot be undone. The rich man requested a warning for his brothers, but Abraham declared that Scripture was already sufficient. The problem was not lack of revelation but refusal to listen. An unwilling heart will resist God even when confronted by resurrection. (Luke 16:19–31)

God owns everything, entrusts resources temporarily, knows every heart, and judges every life eternally. Therefore, the purpose of this sermon is to call every believer to use life and wealth faithfully for God's glory, serve Him alone, show compassion to others, and respond to His Word while opportunity remains. ❋

PARSON TO PERSON

GOD IS ALREADY OPENING THE WAY

REV. LITO VILLORIA

This week, the Lord reminded me through Psalm 48:12–14 that His people must remember His faithfulness, proclaim it to the generations who will come after them, and trust Him for the future:

"Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers, consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels, that you may tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will guide us forever."

The people were told to look carefully at what God had preserved. They were to count the towers that remained standing and then recount His faithfulness to the next generation. What they had witnessed was meant to become a testimony for those who would follow them.

As we look toward Vision 2037, we also need to recognize what God is already doing among us. Vision 2037 is not merely something we hope to begin many years from now. The Lord is already opening doors and entrusting opportunities that point toward the future He is preparing for GCF South Metro Church and GCFSM Christian School.

Let me remind our church family of our Vision 2037 statement:

"To heed God's call for GCF South Metro Church and GCFSM Christian School to be a greater blessing to our community, throughout the Philippines, and across other nations—reaching people of all generations for Christ by being a global disciplemaking and leadership center through the expansion of the strategic facility He has entrusted to our care, in fulfillment of His global purpose."

This vision is local, national, and global. We desire to serve our community, strengthen churches and leaders throughout the Philippines, and contribute to God's work among the nations. The expansion of our facility is not the final goal. It is intended to strengthen our capacity to make disciples, prepare leaders, serve families, invest in the next generation, and equip churches.

Over the past weeks, several opportunities have emerged that appear connected to this direction.

On July 8, I met with Bishop Ephraim Tendero regarding my continuing involvement in the Galilean Movement. He asked me to consider visiting at least one of the nine regional evangelical alliance areas of the world each year. These alliances connect national evangelical movements across Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Central Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa, North America, and the Pacific.

The exact nature and timing of these visits will still need to be prayerfully evaluated together with our leaders. We must consider ministry priorities, schedules, responsibilities, and available resources. Nevertheless, this represents a possible opportunity for GCF South Metro to contribute to the strengthening of churches, leaders, and disciplemaking efforts beyond our own country.

Dr. Bambang Budijanto, General Secretary of the Asia Evangelical Alliance, has also invited me to help national evangelical alliances strengthen disciplemaking movements in their respective countries. The first possible opportunities involve Myanmar and India, with the possibility of serving other national alliances in the future.

These invitations appear to be a natural continuation of the relationships God strengthened through the Asia Conference on Church and Mission 2026 and the Disciple or Die movement. God is allowing the disciplemaking journey of GCF South Metro to become a resource beyond our own congregation.

I have also been invited to participate in the Advancing the Kingdom Initiative Launching Meeting in Vancouver, Canada, from March 11 to 13, 2027. This gathering will bring together approximately 800 strategic participants involved in a global initiative seeking to advance disciplemaking and strengthen the growth of Christianity worldwide.

In connection with this trip, GCF Canada has formally invited me to preach and minister in several churches during March 2027, including possible visits to Vancouver, Kelowna or Squamish, Calgary, Winnipeg, Toronto, and York. I am also considering possible IDMC-related conferences or clinics with ministry partners in Boston and New Jersey.

These are not merely personal invitations. I receive them as ministry opportunities entrusted to GCF South Metro and as expressions of the larger calling God has given us.

Vision 2037 speaks of becoming a greater blessing throughout the Philippines and across other nations. God appears to be opening these opportunities even while we continue preparing our people, leaders, ministries, school, organization, finances, and facilities for the years ahead.

This does not mean that we should accept every invitation without discernment. We must continue to pray, seek the counsel of our elders, evaluate our responsibilities faithfully, and remain attentive to the needs of our own congregation. Our first responsibility remains to shepherd and strengthen the church God has entrusted to us.

At the same time, we should not fail to recognize the doors He is opening. The God who has guided GCF South Metro in the past is already leading us toward a broader contribution to disciplemaking, leadership development, denominational ministry, and the strengthening of churches in the Philippines and among the nations.

Psalm 48 ends with this assurance: "This is God, our God forever and ever. He will guide us forever."

Our confidence is not in invitations, influence, relationships, resources, experience, or plans. Our confidence is in God Himself. He is the One who has protected, provided for, sustained, and guided this church. He is also the One who must lead us into the future.

Let us pray for wisdom, humility, courage, and discernment. Pray that every involvement will strengthen rather than distract us from our calling. Pray that God will continue preparing GCF South Metro Church and GCFSM Christian School to become a global disciplemaking and leadership center for His glory.

The doors opening before us remind us that Vision 2037 is not merely a distant aspiration. God is already preparing the way.

May He find us faithful to follow wherever He guides. ❋

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