

GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

JULY 5, 2026
BULLETIN ISSUE #27



SERMON OUTLINE

FOLLOWING JESUS #18

THE HEART OF GOD FOR THE LOST

LUKE 15:1-32 | REV. REVIN VASALLO

In Luke 14, Jesus taught that true discipleship begins by receiving God's kingdom invitation with humility, reordering one's life around Christ, and remaining faithful to Him. Luke 15 now reveals the heart of the King toward those whom He invites. Through three parables, Jesus answers the criticism of the Pharisees and reveals God's compassion, grace, and joy toward the lost.

Luke 15 began when tax collectors and sinners drew near to Jesus while the Pharisees and scribes grumbled because He welcomed them. In response, Jesus told the parables of the lost sheep and the lost coin. Together they revealed that God's compassion moved Him to seek sinners. The shepherd searched until he found the lost sheep, and the woman diligently searched until

she found the lost coin. Both parables emphasized God's initiative in pursuing those who are far from Him and the joy that fills heaven when one sinner repents. God's compassion moves Him to seek sinners. (Luke 15:1-10)

Jesus then told the Parable of the Prodigal Son, where a rebellious son wasted his inheritance and discovered the emptiness of life apart from his father. Yet when he returned in repentance, the father ran to him, embraced him, restored him, and celebrated his return. The focus is not on the son's worthiness but on the father's gracious reception, demonstrating that God's grace welcomes the repentant. God's grace welcomes the repentant. (Luke 15:11-24)

The chapter concluded with the older brother, who refused to celebrate

because he cannot accept the grace shown to his younger brother. Though outwardly obedient, his self-righteous heart kept him from sharing his father's joy. The father lovingly invited him into the celebration, revealing that God's joy exposes self-righteous hearts and calls His people to rejoice whenever sinners return to Him. God's joy exposes self-righteous hearts. (Luke 15:25-32)

God actively seeks the lost, graciously receives the repentant, and rejoices when sinners return to Him. The purpose of this sermon is to call believers to share God's heart for the lost by seeing the lost with God's compassion, welcoming the repentant sinner, and celebrating God's salvation. ✨

FOLLOW JESUS TO BE BUILT FOR HIS GLORY

"Be strong and courageous and do it." – 1 Chronicles 28:20

REV. LITO VILLORIA

This year's Midyear Week of Prayer invited our entire church family into a spiritual journey with the theme, "Reset. Return. Rebuild. Following Jesus to Be Built for His Glory." Its objective was to call us to pause, reflect, and return to what matters most—our relationship with God, our obedience to His will, and our readiness to be rebuilt by Him for His purposes.

Through the message of Haggai, the Lord reminded us that spiritual renewal begins when God's people honestly consider their ways. In Haggai's time, the people had become preoccupied with their own houses while the house of the Lord remained unfinished. Their priorities had drifted, their obedience had weakened, and their calling had been neglected. Yet in mercy, God called them to return, rebuild, and realign their lives with His purposes.

That is also God's reminder to us as a church. Before God calls us to build anything outwardly, He first calls us to return to Him inwardly. Before the work of our hands can truly honor Him, the direction of our hearts must be aligned with Him. Prayer is therefore not a pause from the work. Prayer is where God prepares us for the work.

This is especially timely as we look forward to 2027, when GCF South Metro celebrates its 30th anniversary. By God's grace, 2027 will not simply be a year of remembering the past. It will be a year of responding to God's present call and preparing for the future He is entrusting to us. Our anniversary theme, "Built for

His Glory," reminds us that God is building both His people and the work He has placed in our hands.

David's charge to Solomon gives us the anchor for this journey: "Be strong and courageous and do it. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed, for the LORD God, even my God, is with you" (1 Chronicles 28:20). Solomon faced a great task, but the greatness of the work was not because of Solomon's ability. It was great because it was for the Lord. In the same way, whatever God calls us to build must never be for our name, our comfort, or our achievement, but for His glory alone.

This connects directly to the larger burden of Vision 2037. As we look toward the next decade, we are not merely thinking of buildings, budgets, or expansion. We are asking what kind of church God wants us to become. Vision 2037 calls us to become a stronger discipling church, a leadership development center, a blessing to families and the next generation, a partner to our school, a servant to our community, and a church that participates more faithfully in God's mission to the nations.

Therefore, 2027 must become a crucial bridge toward Vision 2037. It is a year for spiritual preparation, congregational alignment, courageous obedience, faithful stewardship, and renewed commitment to discipling. The building of facilities must serve the building of lives. The strengthening of structures must serve the strengthening of disciples. The gathering of resources must

serve the greater work of proclaiming Christ, forming His people, raising leaders, and reaching others with the gospel.

This is the core reminder God gave us through Haggai: consider our ways, realign our hearts, work with courage, live consecrated lives, and hope in His promises. God is not only concerned that His people build. He is concerned that His people build with hearts fully returned to Him.

So as we move from this Week of Prayer toward 2027 and onward to Vision 2037, let us not simply resume our routines. Let us carry the burden God has placed before us. Let us ask Him to reset our priorities, return our hearts to Him, and rebuild our lives around Christ. Let us follow Jesus more deeply, serve Him more faithfully, and prepare ourselves for the work He is entrusting to us.

May every prayer offered, every heart renewed, every disciple strengthened, every family aligned, every ministry revived, every leader prepared, every resource given, every future stone laid, and every life transformed be for the glory of God alone.

May the Lord build us before He builds through us. May He make us strong and courageous. And may He find GCF South Metro ready, willing, and faithful to be Built for His Glory as we move toward Vision 2037.

In the coming weeks, I will share more about how we can continue to prepare together for Vision 2037. ✨

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