

GCFSM

SUNDAY BULLETIN

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GCF
SOUTH METRO
CHURCH

SERMON
OUTLINE

FOLLOWING JESUS #22

THE KING WHO SEEKS
FOLLOWERS

LUKE 18:31-43; 19:1-44 I REV. MIKE DUCO

In Luke 18:1-30, Jesus taught that persistent faith continues in prayer, receives God’s mercy, and surrenders fully to Him. As Jesus approaches Jerusalem, Luke reveals the King whom His followers must trust—the Savior who gives His life, seeks the lost, entrusts His servants with responsibility, and offers true peace.

Jesus told the Twelve that everything written about the Son of Man would be fulfilled in Jerusalem through His suffering, death, and resurrection. Although the disciples could not understand, a blind beggar recognized Jesus as the Son of David, cried out for mercy, received his sight, and immediately followed Him while glorifying God. (Luke 18:31-43)

In Jericho, Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Jesus, but Jesus took the initiative by calling him by name and entering his home.

Zacchaeus received Him joyfully and demonstrated genuine repentance through generosity and restitution. Jesus declared that salvation had come because the Son of Man came to seek and save the lost. (Luke 19:1-10)

Because the people expected God’s kingdom to appear immediately, Jesus told them about a nobleman who departed to receive royal authority and later returned. He entrusted resources to his servants and commanded them to put these to work. The faithful servants received greater responsibility, while the unfaithful servant was exposed and those who rejected the king faced judgment. (Luke 19:11-27)

Jesus then entered Jerusalem as the promised King, fulfilling Scripture by humbly riding on a colt. His disciples praised God for His mighty works, and Jesus affirmed their witness. Yet as He drew near, He wept because

Jerusalem failed to recognize God’s visitation and rejected the peace He offered. The King would secure peace through the cross, but those who rejected His gracious rule would face judgment. These scenes distinguish those who merely gather around Jesus from disciples who trust, receive, serve, worship, and obey Him as King. (Luke 19:28-44)

Jesus is the promised King who gave His life to accomplish our salvation, seeks and transforms the lost, entrusts His followers with responsibilities until He returns, and alone reconciles sinners to God. Therefore, His followers receive His mercy, serve under His authority, and submit every area of life to His rule. In this sermon, we will learn what kind of followers Jesus, our King, seeks.✱

TRUSTING GOD AS WE
FAITHFULLY SERVE

REV. LITO VILLORIA

In my devotion last Thursday, the Lord reminded me through Jeremiah 39:18 of His promise to Ebed-melech: “For I will surely save you, and you shall not fall by the sword, but you shall have your life as a prize of war, because you have put your trust in me, declares the LORD.”

Ebed-melech was a Cushite official who trusted God and courageously acted when the prophet Jeremiah was unjustly thrown into a muddy cistern and left to die. At great personal risk, he approached King Zedekiah, spoke against the injustice, and helped rescue Jeremiah. When Jerusalem later fell to the Babylonians, God assured Ebed-melech that He would preserve his life because he had placed his trust in Him.

His story reminds us that trusting God does not make us passive. Genuine trust gives us courage to obey, serve others, and do what is right even when the outcome is uncertain. Because we know that our lives are in God’s hands, we can faithfully carry out whatever responsibility He places before us.

This weekend, I am in Davao for several ministry opportunities. Last Friday, I had the privilege of conducting an IDMC Clinic for pastors and leaders representing various churches. The clinic was designed to help churches examine and strengthen their ministries so that they can become increasingly intentional in helping people follow

Jesus and disciple others. Please pray that the conversations and lessons shared during the clinic will continue bearing fruit in these churches. Pray that the pastors and leaders will receive wisdom as they apply what they learned within their respective congregations.

Also this weekend, I am ministering at Christ Fellowship Church (Davao City). Yesterday, I conducted an IDMC 101 Seminar-Workshop for their leadership team and co-ministers. And today, I will preach from James 2:14-17 about “Faith That Works.” Please pray that God will use His Word to strengthen the church and encourage His people to demonstrate genuine faith through compassionate action and faithful obedience.

Next weekend, August 21-23, our men will gather for the Men’s Crossroad Weekend with the theme, “Follow in Jesus’ Steps,” based on 1 Peter 2:21. Let us pray that the Lord will prepare every participant and use the weekend to deepen their walk with Christ, strengthen their relationships with one another, and renew their commitment to serve faithfully in their homes, workplaces, church, and community. Pray also for our speakers, facilitators, and co-ministers as they prepare to guide and serve the men throughout the weekend.

As we continue preparing for our 30th Anniversary in January, let me also remind everyone about our Anniversary T-Shirt Design Contest. We are inviting our artists, designers, young people, families,

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TO PERSON

Growth Groups, and ministry teams to submit an original design reflecting God’s faithfulness, our journey as a church, and our theme, “Built for His Glory.” Entries must be submitted by September 6 at 11:59 PM. Please consult the official announcement for the complete mechanics and submission instructions.

Even if you will not be submitting a design, you can participate by encouraging our creative members, voting when the designs are presented, and praying for everyone involved in the anniversary preparations.

Above all, let us continue praying for our 30th Anniversary celebration. May it become a meaningful season of remembering God’s faithfulness throughout the past thirty years, renewing our commitment to Christ and His mission, and preparing together for Vision 2037. Pray for wisdom, unity, provision, and strength for our leaders, committees, and co-ministers. Pray that every activity will help us become a stronger discipling church across generations.

Like Ebed-melech, may we confidently entrust ourselves to God’s saving care while faithfully fulfilling the work He has placed before us. Whether we are strengthening churches in Davao, preparing our men to follow Jesus, creating an anniversary design, or serving through our various ministries, may everything we do express our genuine trust in God as we pursue our vision of becoming an intentional discipling church built for His glory. ✱

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