

GCFSM

SUNDAY BULLETIN

AUGUST 9, 2026

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GCF SOUTH METRO CHURCH

SERMON

OUTLINE

#REALTALK 6

CLICK WISELY - FOLLOWING

JESUS IN A DIGITAL WORLD

PHILIPPIANS 4:8 | REV. LITO VILLORIA

Every day we make hundreds of choices about what we allow into our minds. In today's digital world, every click, post, video, headline, and conversation influences our thinking. However, God has not left His people to be shaped by the world. Long before smartphones existed, He gave believers a better filter for the mind. Philippians 4:8 teaches us how to cultivate a Christ-centered mind.

After assuring the Philippians that the peace of God would guard their hearts and minds through prayer (Philippians 4:6-7), Paul taught them how to cultivate a Christ-centered pattern of thinking. His command was simple: "Think about these things" (Phil. 4:8). Believers were to continually evaluate what occupies their minds because their thoughts shape the way they live. Paul began with "whatever is

true, whatever is honorable." God's people must fill their minds with what reflects His truth and the dignity of Christ rather than deception, falsehood, or dishonorable influences. He then added "whatever is just, whatever is pure." Truth must produce righteous living. God calls believers not only to do what is right before others but also to cultivate purity of heart before Him.

Next, Paul emphasized that, "whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable." Christian character should display the beauty of Christ and strengthen a credible witness before a watching world. Our words and conduct should encourage others rather than promote conflict, bitterness, or division.

Finally, Paul summarized with "if there is any excellence and if there

is anything worthy of praise." Rather than adding more virtues, he gathered everything into one comprehensive standard: believers should intentionally pursue whatever reflects the character of Christ and deserves God's approval. In a world filled with competing voices, Paul called Christians to cultivate a Christ-centered mind by allowing God's truth—not the culture around them—to shape their thoughts, decisions, character, and lives.

God transforms His people into the likeness of Christ by renewing their minds with His truth (cf. Romans 12:1-2). Therefore, believers must intentionally evaluate everything that occupies their minds through the biblical filters of Philippians 4:8 so they will increasingly think, live, and reflect the character of Christ. ✱

BUILT FOR HIS GLORY

ACCORDING TO GOD'S PURPOSE

REV. LITO VILLORIA

In my devotion last Friday, the Lord reminded me through Exodus 25:8-9 that whenever He entrusts His people with a work, He first reveals its purpose and its pattern. He commanded Israel, "Let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst," and then added, "Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern... so you shall make it." God did not simply tell His people what to build. He told them why it was to be built and how it was to be accomplished.

That reminder is especially timely as we continue preparing for our 30th Anniversary in January 2027 and looking ahead to Vision 2037. We are not merely organizing events, improving facilities, or planning a celebration. We are seeking to accomplish God's work according to His revealed purpose and pattern. Our anniversary is not ultimately about looking back on thirty years. It is about thanking God for His faithfulness, renewing our commitment to follow Jesus, strengthening our disciplemaking mission, and preparing for the future He is entrusting to GCF South Metro.

One practical way our church family can participate is through our 30th Anniversary T-Shirt Design Contest. I encourage our artists, designers, young

people, families, Growth Groups, and ministry teams to prayerfully consider submitting an original design that reflects God's faithfulness, our journey as a church, and our anniversary theme, "Built for His Glory." Entries must be submitted by September 6, 2026, at 11:59 PM. The submitted designs will be featured for public showcase and congregational voting from September 10-13, together with evaluation by representatives from our Pastoral Staff, Board of Elders, and Board of Deacons. The winning design will be announced on September 16, and pre-orders for the official anniversary shirt will begin on September 27.

The anniversary shirt will be much more than a souvenir. It will serve as a visible expression of our gratitude for God's faithfulness, our unity as one church family, and our shared commitment to the mission He has entrusted to us.

As we continue preparing for our anniversary, I also encourage the men of our church to prayerfully set aside August 21-23 for our Men's Crossroad Weekend with the theme, "Follow in Jesus' Steps," based on 1 Peter 2:21. Please pray that God will use this retreat to deepen the men's walk with Christ, strengthen their spiritual leadership in their homes and

ministries, and encourage them to become faithful disciples who help others follow Jesus. If you are one of the men in our church and have not yet registered, I encourage you to make this weekend a priority. I also encourage our wives and families to support the men in your homes as they take this opportunity to grow in their walk with Christ.

Finally, may I encourage our entire church family to continue praying for our 30th Anniversary preparations in light of Vision 2037. Pray for wisdom for every ministry and committee, unity among our leaders and co-ministers, and God's blessing upon every activity. More importantly, pray that our anniversary theme, Built for His Glory, will be more than a slogan. May it become the sincere desire of every heart as we deepen our love for Christ, strengthen our disciplemaking mission, and prepare for the greater work God is calling us to accomplish in the years ahead.

Vision 2037 will not be fulfilled simply through good plans or successful programs. Like Israel in Exodus 25, we must continually seek God's purpose and faithfully follow His pattern. May the Lord continue building us before He builds through us, so that everything we do—from a T-shirt design to every ministry initiative—will truly be Built for His Glory. ✱

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