

GCFSM

SUNDAY BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

BULLETIN ISSUE #39



SERMON

OUTLINE

FOLLOWING JESUS #26

GETHSEMANE: FOLLOWING IN

SURRENDER

LUKE 22:39-71 | DEACON PHILIP BLANCO

Luke 22:1-37 revealed that Jesus knowingly moved toward the cross, gave His body and blood for His disciples, taught them to serve, and warned them of coming tests. The remaining chapter presents His suffering and sharply contrasts Jesus’ faithful surrender with the disciples’ weakness, fear, violence, and denial under pressure.

At the Mount of Olives, Jesus twice warned His disciples to pray against entering temptation. Facing the cup of suffering and divine judgment, He honestly expressed His desire to be spared, yet submitted Himself to the Father’s will. An angel strengthened Him, while the disciples slept and remained unprepared for testing. Prayer prepared Jesus, but grief weakened the sleeping disciples. (Luke 22:39-46)

Judas approached Jesus with a kiss, turning a sign of affection into betrayal. When a disciple responded with a sword, Jesus stopped the violence and healed the wounded servant. He willingly submitted to arrest, recognizing the power of darkness while remaining confident that even this hour was under God’s sovereign authority. His healing miracle displayed His compassion toward an enemy. (Luke 22:47-53)

Peter followed Jesus into the high priest’s courtyard but denied knowing Him three times as public pressure increased. When the rooster crowed, Jesus looked at Peter, who remembered Christ’s warning and wept bitterly in deep remorse. His failure was serious, but Jesus had already anticipated his return and future ministry. Christ’s prediction had been fulfilled exactly as He said. (Luke 22:54-62)

The men guarding Jesus mocked, beat, and insulted Him. Before the council, Jesus recognized that His accusers had rejected the truth. Nevertheless, He affirmed that the Son of Man would sit at God’s right hand. Though condemned by earthly judges, Jesus would be exalted and exercise permanent authority. He remained faithful to the truth about His identity, although affirming it led to condemnation. (Luke 22:63-71)

At Gethsemane, Jesus followed the Father’s will in prayerful surrender, extending mercy to an enemy and grace to Peter while testifying to the truth. God remains completely sovereign, and believers can obey Christ, the exalted Son, regardless of cost. In this sermon, we will learn how to follow Jesus in complete surrender. ✱

MAKING THE MOST OF EVERY

OPPORTUNITY

REV. LITO VILLORIA

“Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.” – Ephesians 5:15-16

As we celebrate the final Sunday of Family Month today, we praise God for the many opportunities He has given us to strengthen and disciple families.

Yesterday, we had the joy and privilege of hosting the first-ever CrossGen Family Summit, in partnership with the Family Commission of the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches. More than 800 people attended. We pray that this summit will help launch a nationwide discipleship movement in which churches intentionally walk alongside families in discipleship and discipling.

Today, after our second service, we will conclude our Family Month celebration with our special **Family Potbless**. More than 800 Growth Group members and a handful of guests have registered to attend. We look forward to a joyful time of fellowship, sharing food, strengthening relationships, and celebrating God’s goodness together as one church family.

Ephesians 5:15-16 reminds us to walk wisely and make the best use of every opportunity. The opportunities God gives us to disciple our families are precious and often brief. Our children grow quickly, family seasons change, and the opportunities we have to

guide them today may no longer be available tomorrow.

Therefore, our emphasis on the family must not end when Family Month concludes. Let us continue teaching our children how to walk with Jesus. Let us model what it means to know Him, love Him, abide in Him, serve Him, and proclaim Him. Let us seize every opportunity to pray together, speak God’s Word, listen carefully, extend forgiveness, and point one another to Christ.

This call to faithful stewardship also applies to our journey toward Vision 2037. During our special 30th Anniversary service on January 24, 2027, the fourth Sunday of January, we will formally launch Vision 2037 and receive our initial offering, which will serve as the seed fund for the building project.

Last Sunday, we distributed our first booklet, From Calling to Courage: The Story of Our Vision 2037 Journey. Our forthcoming second booklet, Built for His Glory: Preparing the Church for Vision 2037, will be available in October. It reminds us that Vision 2037 is more than a building project or financial campaign. It is a spiritual assignment to build lives, strengthen Christ’s church, disciple the next generation, develop leaders, steward our school and facilities faithfully, and participate in God’s global mission.

As we prepare spiritually, organizationally, physically, financially, and pastorally, our part is

PARSON

TO PERSON

to obey, pray, give, and steward well. We trust God to provide, sustain, and complete the work according to His will, in His time, and in His way.

Today, I have personally invited my son-in-law Philip, the husband of our daughter SJ, to preach in our continuing Following Jesus series. The Lord has blessed Philip and SJ with Eliana Grace, our first grandchild. At GCF Main, Philip currently serves as a presider, occasionally speaks to the Youth and Young Adults, and is a member of the GCF Fellowship of Business Stewards. He previously served on the Council of Deacons from 2022 to 2024, led a Growth Group with SJ, and served on the Young Adults Core Team and in the Ushering Ministry.

Let us also warmly welcome Philip’s parents, Elder Jun and Corinne Blanco of GCF Main. Linda knew them even before she and I met. Nearly 30 years ago, God used them to help plant the seed for our church’s first Growth Group. How amazing it is to see the Lord weave our stories together and bring forth fruit across generations!

As we conclude Family Month, let us thank God for every opportunity He has placed before us—opportunities to disciple our families, strengthen His church, serve the next generation, partner with the wider body of Christ, and participate in Vision 2037.

May we recognize these opportunities and faithfully act while they are before us—all for His glory. ✱

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