GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

NOVEMBER 22, 2026
BULLETIN ISSUE #47

GCF SOUTH METRO CHURCH

SERMON OUTLINE

FOLLOWING JESUS #31

SENT TO FOLLOW AND PROCLAIM

LUKE 24:36-49 | REV. LITO VILLORIA

Luke 24:36–49 continues as the gathered disciples discussed Jesus' resurrection appearances. Jesus stood among them, addressed their fears, and confirmed that He was bodily alive. He then explained the Scriptures and commissioned them as witnesses, connecting confidence in His resurrection with the responsibility to proclaim His gospel.

Jesus greeted the disciples with peace, but they were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a spirit. He invited them to examine His hands and feet and touch Him, declaring, "It is I myself." His flesh and bones confirmed His bodily presence. While they marveled and struggled to believe for joy, He ate broiled fish before them, providing further evidence that the crucified Jesus was truly alive. (Luke 24:36–43)

Jesus reminded them that everything written about Him in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms had to be fulfilled. He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures and explained that the Messiah must suffer and rise on the third day. His death and resurrection fulfilled God's saving purpose. Understanding the Scripture prepared them to explain the meaning of the events they witnessed. (Luke 24:44–46)

Jesus declared that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. The message called the people to turn to God and receive forgiveness through Him. Its authority rested upon His name, and its scope crossed national and cultural boundaries. Jesus appointed the disciples as witnesses whose testimony would establish the foundation for the church's continuing proclamation. (Luke 24:47–48)

Jesus promised to send what His Father had promised and commanded the disciples to remain in Jerusalem until clothed with power from on high. This promise referred to the Holy Spirit, who would empower their witness. Their mission required dependence upon God's provision, and their waiting expressed obedience to Christ's instruction. (Luke 24:49)

The risen Christ establishes and empowers His people to proclaim God's promised salvation to all nations. This sermon assures believers of a trustworthy gospel and the Spirit's power, calling us to trust Christ, proclaim His grace, reach people nearby and far away, and depend upon the Holy Spirit. ❋

REMAINING FAITHFUL TO BIBLICAL TRUTH, RESPONDING WITH CHRISTLIKE LOVE

REV. LITO VILLORIA

"They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?'" – Luke 24:32

Last Friday, the Lord reminded me through this passage to allow Christ to renew our hearts through His Word. The two disciples traveling to Emmaus were disappointed and confused because they did not understand how Jesus' death fulfilled God's redemptive purposes. As the risen Christ explained the Scriptures, He corrected their understanding, renewed their hope, and redirected their response.

We likewise need to allow God's Word to shape our understanding of the issues we encounter in life. Through the illuminating work of the Holy Spirit, Scripture enables us to examine our assumptions, establish biblical convictions, and respond to our circumstances in ways that honor Christ.

This is particularly important as we address contemporary issues affecting our lives, families, churches, and communities. We need to understand these issues accurately, evaluate them in light of Scripture, and respond with wisdom, humility, and love.

SOGIESC Bill: A Church Orientation

In light of recent legislative developments concerning the proposed SOGIESC Equality Bill, we recognize the importance of equipping our congregation to understand the issues involved and respond biblically.

On **Sunday, November 29, from 1:00 to 3:00 PM,** I will conduct a church-wide orientation entitled **"Understanding the SOGIESC Bill: A Biblical Perspective."**

During this orientation, we will examine the proposed legislation, establish our biblical and theological convictions concerning human identity, marriage, and sexuality, consider the possible legal implications for our families, church, and Christian school, and identify biblical and practical ways by which we can respond as followers of Jesus Christ.

Our guiding principle for this orientation is anchored in Ephesians 4:15: *"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ."*

In every issue in life, we need to remain faithful to biblical truth while responding to people with Christlike love.

Our faithfulness to Scripture must be evident in how we listen to, speak with, and care for others. We must treat every person with dignity, respect, and compassion without compromising our biblical convictions.

I encourage everyone, especially our parents, young adults, Growth Group leaders, and ministry leaders, to attend. As followers of Jesus Christ, we must equip ourselves to understand contemporary issues in light of God's Word and help those entrusted to our care do the same.

The orientation will be held at our church, either in the YDT or the auditorium, depending on the number of attendees. We would appreciate it if you could register in advance so we can prepare accordingly.

PARSON TO PERSON

December 6 – Twelve Baskets of Christmas and Annual Business Meeting

On Sunday, December 6, we will observe our traditional Twelve Baskets of Christmas, an opportunity to express our thanksgiving to God through a special Christmas offering beyond our regular giving.

Twelve baskets representing the twelve birth months will be placed in front of the stage. During a special segment of our worship services, we will be invited to place our offerings in the baskets corresponding to our birth months. I encourage every member and household to prayerfully prepare and set aside an offering as the Lord enables.

After our second worship service, we will hold our Annual Business Meeting, during which our congregation will consider the proposed 2027 Annual Ministry Plans and Budgets (AMPB) for approval and participate in the election and affirmation of our elders and deacons.

I encourage all church members to attend and participate prayerfully. Let us ask the Lord for wisdom, discernment, and unity as we prepare for another year of ministry.

May we continually allow Christ to renew our hearts through His Word. Whether addressing contemporary issues, making decisions as a congregation, or stewarding the resources God has entrusted to us, may we remain faithful to biblical truth and demonstrate Christlike character for His glory.
His continuing provision.❋

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