



# He Chose the Cross

*John 18:1-11*

## **English Services**

*(8 & 10:30 a.m., & 5:30 p.m.)*

Prelude  
Announcements  
Call to Worship  
Worship through Praise  
Worship through Fellowship  
Worship through Giving  
Worship in Music  
Scripture Reading  
Anthem  
Worship in the Word  
*Dr. Patrick Zukeran*  
Celebration of the  
Lord's Supper  
Benediction

## **Filipino Service**

*(3 n.h.)*

Paghahanda  
Mga Patalastas  
Tawag sa Pagsamba  
Pagsamba sa Pag-awit  
Pagkilala sa mga Bisita  
Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay  
Natatanging Bilang  
Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos  
Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos  
*Pastor Emer Manaloto*  
Pagdiriwang ng Banal  
na Hapunan  
Pangwakas na Panalangin  
at Basbas

*See inset inside for the **Traditional Service (Sat., 6 p.m.)** program.*



**2/3 September 2017**

Vol. 39, No. 36



# He Chose the Cross

Today's Message (2/3 September 2017)

*John 18:1-11*

**DISCIPLESHIP  
MEANS  
COMPLETE  
SUBMISSION TO  
THE WILL OF  
THE FATHER,  
EVEN IF THAT  
MEANS GOING  
WHERE WE  
WOULD NOT  
CHOOSE TO GO  
ON OUR OWN.**

## INTRODUCTION

- Jesus had made two trips to Jerusalem (*cf. John 2 and 7*).
- It was on His second trip that the religious leaders tried to arrest Jesus and have him killed (*John 7*).
- The religious leaders were looking for an opportune time to arrest and kill Jesus, but were afraid to do so publicly because of the crowds (*Matthew 26:3-5*).
- In chapter 17, Jesus just finished meeting in the Upper Room. He identified Judas as a traitor and prayed for His disciples.

## I. HE CHOSE THE PLACE

- A. Jesus chose the place of meeting (*18:1-3*)
1. Jesus was orchestrating events to bring about His purpose.
  2. The religious leaders were afraid of the crowds. Had Jesus remained in Jerusalem, he would not have been arrested.
  3. Jesus purposely went to the Garden of Gethsemane, which was outside Jerusalem.
  4. Jesus went to a place Judas knew (*18:2*).
  5. Judas gathered a squad of Roman soldiers, the officers of the chief priests and Pharisees.
  6. The force came fully armed with lanterns, torches, and weapons, expecting Jesus to resist arrest or attempt escape.
  7. The success of “trapping” Jesus was not due to planning or superiority in number, but because it was Jesus’s hour. He was the one in control.
- B. Life Application: *God's plans are not thwarted by the schemes of men.*

### Traditional Service

*(Saturday, 6 p.m.)*

Prelude

Announcements

Call to Worship

Worship through Praise

Worship through Giving

Worship in Music

Doxology

Worship through Fellowship

Scripture Reading

Anthem

Worship in the Word

*Pastor Emer Manaloto*

Celebration of

the Lord's Supper

Benediction



# He Chose the Cross

Today's Message (2/3 September 2017)

*John 18:1-11*

## II. HE CHOSE TO MEET HIS ENEMIES

- A. Jesus chose to confront His enemies (18:4-9)
  - 1. Verse 4 states that "Jesus knew everything that was going to happen to him."
  - 2. Instead of retreating in fear or trying to run, Jesus stepped forward and met them asking, "Who are you looking for?"
  - 3. When Jesus identified himself, "I am He," the men fell to the ground surprised by His commanding figure, boldness, and statement.
  - 4. Jesus requested that His disciples be set free, displaying His selfless love and fulfilling His prophecy.
- B. Life Application: *God's plans are not thwarted even when evil appears to triumph.*

## III. HE CHOSE TO SUBMIT TO HIS ENEMIES

- A. Jesus chose to submit to His enemies (18:10-11)
  - 1. Jesus had just secured the release of His disciples, but Peter acted foolishly and struck the ear of the Temple servant, Malchus.
  - 2. Luke tells us that Jesus healed the ear of the Temple servant, which would have calmed down the mob instantly (*Luke 22:51*).
  - 3. Jesus informed Peter that He could call twelve legions of angels to deliver Him from His enemies (*Matthew 26:52-54*).
  - 4. The only reason the crowd could lead Jesus away was because Jesus chose to obey the will of the Father.
  - 5. Jesus submitted to the will of the Father even though it meant going to a place He did not want to go to.
- B. Life Application: *Discipleship means complete submission to the will of the Father, even if that means going where we would not choose to go on our own.*

## CONCLUSION

Death on the cross was the path Jesus chose. He could, at numerous moments, have chosen another option. Instead, He chose the path of the cross for you and me ■

How may we  
**SERVE YOU BETTER?**

Fill-out this tear off form and drop it in an offering bag/box or at the Ministry Information Booth. Please check all that is applicable:

- I am a first-time guest.
- I prayed to receive Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord today.
- I would like to know how to become a Christian.
- I am interested in becoming a member of this church.
- I want to join a Growth Group.**  
(Specify age group: \_\_\_\_\_)  
(Specify group composition: \_\_\_\_\_)
- I want to start a Growth Group.
- I want to host a Growth Group.

Please share with us some information about yourself:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_ Landline no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Growth Group (if you already have one): \_\_\_\_\_

*Today is 2/3 September 2017, and I attended the 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. (Sat) (encircle the time).*

Write below *any* inquiry or prayer item that you want to ask or share.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# The Shepherd's Voice

Dr. Larry Pabiona  
Senior Pastor

## BLESSED TO HAVE DR. ZUKERAN TODAY!

We are greatly blessed to have as our guest preacher for our Sunday Worship Services, Dr. Patrick Zukeran. Dr. Zukeran is a leading apologist who graduated from Dallas Theological Seminary, was mentored by Dr. Norman Geisler, and is the Director of Evidence and Answers, an apologetics ministry based in Hawaii. He hosts the radio show, Evidence and Answers, which airs on DZAS every weekend. This September 9, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. here at GCF, he will be speaking at the apologetics seminar "If God is good, why is there evil and suffering in the world?" All GCFers are invited to attend. Please prepare your hearts to be warmed and your lives challenged as Dr. Zukeran preaches our Communion message from our series in the Gospel of John.

## SOME USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT SHARING YOUR FAITH

This helpful information is from the 9Marks Facebook Page (facebook.com/9Marks):

QUESTION: *What content is necessary in order to share the gospel?*

ANSWER: In order to share the gospel you must tell someone the truth about:

1. **God.** God is the creator of all things (Gen. 1:1). He is perfectly holy, worthy of all worship, and will punish sin (1 John 1:5, Rev. 4:11, Rom. 2:5-8).
2. **Man.** All people are sinful by nature (Gen. 1:26-28, Ps. 51:5, Rom. 3:23). By nature, all people are alienated from God, hostile to God, and subject to the wrath of God (Eph. 2:1-3).
3. **Christ.** Jesus Christ, who is fully God and fully man, lived a sinless life, died on the cross to bear God's wrath in the place of all who would believe in him, and rose from the grave in order to give his people eternal life (John 1:1, 1 Tim. 2:5, Heb. 7:26, Rom. 3:21-26, 2 Cor. 5:21, 1 Cor. 15:20-22).
4. **Response.** God calls everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and trust in Christ in order to be saved (Mark 1:15, Acts 20:21, Rom. 10:9-10).

This does not mean that you must communicate all of these things in every encounter with a non-Christian. This does mean that you haven't shared a complete gospel unless you include these four things ■

For hospital or house visitation, dedication service, or funeral service requests, please call or text 0917 532 7794.

# Ablaze Devotional

**I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world.**  
- John 16:33 (HCSB)

Our Father in heaven has called us to Himself and transforms us in the likeness of Christ. Our hearts are restless until they find rest and security in Him. And this longing is fulfilled through Jesus, the bread of life. As we partake of this bread, and drink from His cup, we also bear witness to Him who alone satisfies the hunger and thirst of the human family. By the power of the Holy Spirit, God leads us to His table, where we may delight on the vision of His glory.

The table is a place of welcome. It is a place where we can slow down, let down our guards, tell our stories, and connect with our God and with each other. This is our communion, not just declaring Christ's death, but also His work—reconciling us to Himself and to each other, teaching us to both receive and dispense forgiveness.

As we share in the Lord's table, let us reflect: If I partake of Christ's body and blood, can I confidently say that I partake of His life as well? In my communion with Him, do I show the same communion with my brothers and sisters, with my enemies and even with strangers? We lift the bread and the cup declaring Christ's death for our ransom. We also lift the bread and the cup in union with Him in His resurrection and triumph over death and injustice that separates us from Him and from each other ■

**GCF PRAYER  
GATHERINGS  
AT THE CHAPEL:**  
**The GCF Hour of Prayer**  
*Tuesdays, 6-7 a.m.*  
**Midweek Prayer Service**  
*Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.*

## Ministry Opportunities + Other Announcements

### Welcome, NEW MEMBERS!

Estelita Beliganio  
Alberto Timoteo Jazul  
Rosanna Pucan  
Jeramie Berja

Sean Russell Estrella  
Mason Choa  
Kyra Choa

### Weekly Stewardship REPORT

- Week of August 27, 2017 -

General Fund	5,226,035.70
Missions Fund	628,845.35
Designated	445,925.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,300,806.15</b>

### Flower Ministry

*The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to God for His love, mercy, grace and faithfulness by an anonymous donor, Ms. Valerie Joy Aganon, the Basilad family, the Bordador family and the Messiah College. The flowers are also given in praises and thanksgiving to the Lord by Ms. Gai Buce for all these years of her life.*

Please call 632 1354 to 56 for inquiries on how to participate in this ministry.

## God's Way to Heaven

### THE GOSPEL

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."  
(1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

### THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD

**God is holy and righteous:** "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty, the whole earth is full of his glory" (Isaiah 6:3). **He requires holiness of us as well:** "Be holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16).

### THE TRUTH ABOUT MAN

**Man is sinful:** "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). **Sin demands a penalty:** "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

### THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRIST

**Christ is the expression of God's love for us:** "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). **Christ paid the penalty of our sins and died for sinners:** "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God" (1 Peter 3:18). **Through Christ, God offers man reconciliation:** "God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them" (2 Corinthians 5:18).

### WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

**Believe and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior:** "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

**PRAYER:** *Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. I believe that you died on the cross in my place, to save me from my sins, and I accept you as my Savior, and the Master of my life forever. Amen.*

### Need someone to talk to?

Visit the Emmaus Road Counseling Center at the GCF Mezzanine floor or contact 632 1354 to 56, 635 0078 to 80 or 0917 532 7794 for inquiries.



### 3Rs FOR WOMEN

*Refresh. Renew. Revive.*

*An Annual Retreat of GCF Women's Ministry*  
September 22-24 at Mt. Makiling Rec. Center  
Reg.: PhP 3,000; PhP 2,000 early bird (\*til Sept. 3)  
Contact **0917 532 1921** to register (\*til Sept. 10)



### RIGHTLY HANDLING THE WORD

*Workshop on 2 Timothy for Preachers and Bible Teachers*, November 16-18 at GCF  
Reg.: PhP 1,000; PhP 500 early bird (\*til Sept. 30)  
Tickets are available at the lobby every Sunday  
Contact **0917 532 1921** for more info



### CALLIGRAPHERS NEEDED

The *Christmas Decoration Committee* is in need of calligraphers. If you are interested in joining, contact Lily Cheng at **0917 562 6060**.



## Love God, love others. THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

Faith Albis was raised in a household where she was taught that good works lead to salvation and that they would cancel out her sins. But after joining a retreat and eventually getting plugged into a Growth Group, she understood that all she needs is faith.

She knows that as a sinner, there is nothing she can do to save herself. She is saved and her sins are forgiven because she decided to trust in Jesus Christ alone.



As an IT Software Quality Analyst, she was invited to the Connect Ministry\* Retreat. There she learned that baptism is an act of obedience to God. She decided to publicly proclaim Christ as Lord and Savior, and be part of the GCF family. She is now experiencing the joys of being a member—growing in a community of believers who strive to love God and love others ■

\*Connect is GCF's ministry to Call Center agents/BPO workers.

*You may also bless others by sharing your own shepherding or discipleship journey in loving God and in loving others. You may e-mail your story to [lifejourney@gcf.org.ph](mailto:lifejourney@gcf.org.ph).*

This week's bulletin cover shows pre-Ottoman olive trees still alive today in the traditional Garden of Gethsemane in Jerusalem. The picture is a CC0 public domain photo available for download at Wikimedia Commons.

# Join a GROWTH GROUP

## OVERCOMERS SUPPORT GROUP

*For those recovering from any form of addiction*

Thursdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at GCF (Room B122)

## HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE Y-GROUP

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m., and 4:30-5:30 p.m.

At GCF (Youth Center, 6th fl.)

## ICU (Intimacy Care Unit) GG

*for Couples aged 30 up*

Saturdays, 4-6 p.m. at GCF (Rm. A109)

## CHESED 3 GG

*for Single Men and Women aged 20-35*  
Sundays, 8-10 a.m. at GCF (Rm. BM04)

## HEBRON GG

*for Single Men and Women aged 30 up*  
Saturdays, 3-5 p.m. at GCF (Rm. BM03)

## B KEEPERS GG

*for Single Men aged 20-35*  
Saturdays, 5-8 a.m. at UP Technohub, Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City

## Pass by the GGEX (Growth Group Express)!

Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Room B123  
Get a feel of what a Growth Group is like before you participate in one. Come and join us!

*If you are interested in joining any of the small groups above, fill out the tear-off form inside this bulletin, drop it in the offering bag or submit it to the Growth Group booth at the lobby. For more information, you can text or call us at 0917 532 7740.*



# Greenhills Christian Fellowship

Know Christ and Make Him Known

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