



**GENESIS**  
*Grace from the Beginning*

**16/17 September 2017**  
Vol. 39, No. 38

## We are Either Recipients or Witnesses of Judgment

*Genesis 8:13-22*

**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  
Testimony  
Scripture Reading  
Worship in the Word  
*Pastor Larry Pabiona*  
Benediction

**Filipino Service**  
(3 n.h.)

Paghahanda  
Mga Patalastas  
Tawag sa Pagsamba  
Pagsamba sa Pag-awit  
Pagkilala sa mga Bisita  
Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay  
Patotoo  
Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos  
Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos  
*Pastor Erik Dizon*  
Pangwakas na Panalangin  
at Basbas

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



# We are Either Recipients or Witnesses of Judgment

Today's Message (16/17 September 2017) /  
*Genesis 8:13-22*

HOLD ON TO THE  
PROMISES OF  
GOD, AND TRUST  
GOD ESPECIALLY  
WHEN THE  
CONSEQUENCES  
OF MAN'S SIN AND  
GOD'S JUDGMENT  
ON EARTH ALSO  
AFFECT US.

How do you respond when you witness how God spares believers and judges those against Him? In our story, God commanded Noah to exit the ark with his family and the animals, so they could replenish the earth. Then He promised never to destroy the world again in the same way, despite knowing the continued inclination of man toward evil.

As believers, God's grace preserves us in the midst of a world under judgment, despite our own unfaithfulness. That's why instead of always complaining how the unsaved have much better lives, we Christians must realize how favored by God we are. How should we then live?

## 1. GOD HAS A PLAN FOR EVERY BELIEVER'S LIFE THAT EVEN TRAGEDY CANNOT DERAIL (VV. 13-19)

- God commanded Noah to bring his family and all the creatures out of the ark.
- God affirmed His original purpose for mankind to fill the earth.

Hold on to the promises of God, and trust God especially when the consequences of man's sin and God's judgment on earth also affect us.

### **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

Preparatory Hymn

Worship in the Word

*Pastor Larry Pabiona*

Response Hymn

Benediction



# We are Either Recipients or Witnesses of Judgment

Today's Message (16/17 September 2017) /  
*Genesis 8:13-22*

## 2. GOD DESERVES OUR WORSHIP AS A RESPONSE TO HIS GRACE (V. 20)

- Noah built an altar and sacrificed burnt offerings on it.

Praise God for His preserving grace in the midst of tragedies. God accepts our worship when it comes from a grateful heart.

## 3. GOD'S CARE FOR CREATION IS SUCH THAT EVEN WITH THE PERSISTENCE OF EVIL, HE VOWED NEVER TO USE THE SAME MEANS OF JUDGMENT AGAIN (VV. 21-22)

- God promised not to curse the ground because of man, and to never destroy all living creatures in the same way (i.e., through a global flood) (v. 21).
- God reestablished the cycle of seasons, which will continue until the end of the earth (v. 22).

Worship God for His faithfulness despite our frequent unfaithfulness. And love those under judgment—“snatch them from the fire” (*Jude 1:23*).

## FINAL THOUGHTS

While Christians are still on earth, we will always face the consequences of sin upon mankind. Even the tragedies of nature and of life are all because of sin—Adam's sin, mankind's sin, and our own.

So the answer to the question “How should we then live?” is really summed up in this way: find life through Christ (*John 14:6*), and continue living through Christ (*Galatians 2:20*). It's as simple as that ■

## SABBATH: GCF YOUNG ADULTS' RETREAT 2017

Last month, the young adults ministry of our church went to a retreat at Balai Indang in Cavite. With the theme "Sabbath", we rested in God and worshipped Him in our rest through prayer and the study of the Scriptures. Elder Dylan Halili shared God's Word and discussed what Sabbath means for us today as God's people. Pastor Ian De Ocampo, meanwhile, facilitated large group prayer gatherings during our retreat and taught us about giving space for silence and doing common prayer as a community. We also heard and listened from one another through an afternoon *merienda* open forum, where participants asked questions about their life struggles, spiritual walk, current social issues, and matters concerning faith.

The retreat allowed our young adults to rest not just physically but also spiritually. We were all reminded that Sabbath is not just a matter of rest doing nothing, it must include worshipping God. We were reminded that true rest is the rest that only Jesus can offer (*Matthew 11:28*), and that He is the One who gives us peace in all our strivings. We learned that we are able to abide in Him through the assurance that He freely gives as our Lord and Savior (*Matthew 12:28; John 15:1-11*).

We praise God for 81 attendees, 59 of which belong to 19 various discipleship relationships and young adult Growth Groups. We also rejoice for the six who

committed their lives to Jesus as their Savior and Lord, as well as the 23 who made recommitments of faith. Eight expressed desire to lead others to Jesus Christ, and nine expressed interest in joining a Growth Group.

Continue praying with us that more young people would surrender their lives to Christ by finding rest in him as their Lord and Savior. Pray also that our **Growth Groups would be venues for refuge and rest**, that we may apply what we learned at the retreat by corporately listening to God's Word, and that we may abide in our Lord Jesus Christ by being able to encourage and spur one another in prayer.



## JOIN A GROWTH GROUP!

With that said, we encourage our young adults to join a GG. Send us your name and contact details through the tear-off portion of this bulletin, or you may also visit the Growth Group Center at the lobby so we may help plug you to a Growth Group or help you start a new one. It is my prayer that our young men and women here would experience love in our church family through our GGs, and discover rest that can only come be found in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ ■

# Ablaze Devotional

**For the creation eagerly  
waits with anticipation for  
God's sons to be revealed.**

- Romans 8:19 (HCSB)

God has called His creation good, manifesting the peace and harmony, and the life and beauty of its Creator. It points to the wonder and power of God, carrying the message of God's divine provision and sustenance—"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it."

But man overstepped in the created order, and missed the mark of God's righteousness. Sin brought death and decay, taking both humanity and all of creation hostage.

However, God who is full of compassion and justice, sent His Son. Through Christ's death and resurrection, He reconciled all creation to Himself and brought salvation to those who believe. To be saved means to be restored as His image-bearers. As God's sons and daughters, we restore and cultivate life and beauty in His created world.

The Lord promised never to curse and destroy; let us be part of the fulfillment of that promise. As we have committed this year to pray for the prosperity of our city, let us move forward into calling forth for the good and the beauty of our city. Let us take part in conserving and cultivating the created order, through prayer and mission.

Visit the Prayer Wall at the lobby, and go to the places in Ortigas where you can pray. Pray not just for the people, but also for the place, ask that the beauty and wonder of God be manifested in those places. Pray for the Ortigas Center Association, Inc. (OCAI), that God will grant them wisdom in maintaining and developing Ortigas.

Let it be our prayer that the goodness and beauty of God take shape in our lives and in the work of our hands ■

## 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



### PARENTS AS DISCIPLE-MAKERS

*Impacting One's Children for Eternity*

September 15, 22 & 29, 7:00 p.m.

at GCF, 4th floor Assembly Area

Call or text **0917 532 7768** to reserve a slot



### 3RS FOR WOMEN

*An Annual Retreat of GCF Women's Ministry*

September 22-24 at Mt. Makiling Rec. Center

Reg.: PhP 3,000; extended registration

until Sept. 17 (today)

Contact **0917 532 1921** to register/for more info



### LUNCH WITH LEGALS

*Lunch fellowship for lawyers, paralegals, and others working in the legal discipline*

September 23, Saturday, 11:00 a.m. here at GCF

Contact **0932 371 3457** for more information



### 2017 COUPLES' RETREAT

*Marital Conflict: Why Do We Hurt the One We Love?*

November 4-5, Sat. & Sun., at CCT Tagaytay

PhP 1,000 for first 40 couples, PhP 3,500 thereafter

Registration is until October 15

Contact **0932 532 7713** to register/for more info

## Weekly Stewardship REPORT

- Week of September 10, 2017 -

General Fund	2,724,628.80
Missions Fund	171,820.00
Designated	130,000.00
<i>Total</i>	<b>3,026,448.80</b>

### Flower Ministry

*The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to God for His love, mercy, grace and faithfulness by Ms. Valerie Joy Aganon, the Bordador family and the Messiah College.*

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



## Love God, love others.

THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

*"Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another." – 1 Peter 4:9-10*

What ultimately made Julius Umali stay in GCF is the heart of the church not just for God and His gospel, but also for people and for service.



He felt that the intentionality of the church in the shepherding process (from membership classes to Growth Groups), signifies that GCF is a church very welcoming to all who would come. It also shows that the church intends to take care and equip its flock for works of service.

Having recently joined the full-time staff and having been engaged in various ministry activities, Julius has also experienced firsthand how it is to serve in an environment such as GCF.

As a staff, he saw that even the church's leaders, as they dispense God-given grace to the flock, also need grace from the flock. As a volunteer, he is amazed at how God is continuously working for His glory and His people's good through the gifts He blessed its members with. Indeed, he counts it a privilege to be part of what he believes is an expression of imperfect but authentic hospitality that is grounded in the realities of the gospel—a grace that is sorely needed by today's world ■

*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 features Mt. Ararat in Turkey, with the Khor Virap monastery on the foreground. The picture was uploaded by user MrAndrew47 to Wikimedia Commons.

## Join a GROWTH GROUP

### 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)

### GREEN MEADOWS GG

*for Couples aged 40 up*  
Every other Thursday, 8-10 p.m.  
at Green Meadows Subdivision

### HEBRON GG

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

### YACIES TUESDAY GG

*for Single Men and Women aged 30 up*  
Tuesdays, 7-10 p.m. at GCF (Rm. BM07)

### SPORTS GGs (THREE GROUPS)

*for Boys aged 11 to 18*  
Saturdays, 12 nn.-3 p.m. at GCF Multi-  
purpose Gym (6th fl.)

### 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

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605  
Tel. Nos. 632 1354 to 56, 635 0078 to 80, 635 0082 to 83 | Fax No. 632 1357  
Mobile No. 0920 961 2964, Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
E-mail: [email@gcf.org.ph](mailto:email@gcf.org.ph) • Website: [www.gcf.org.ph](http://www.gcf.org.ph)

# 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 **9/10 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.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

# 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*).

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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.