



(God's) Truth and (Man's) Consequences

Genesis 25:19-34

English Services

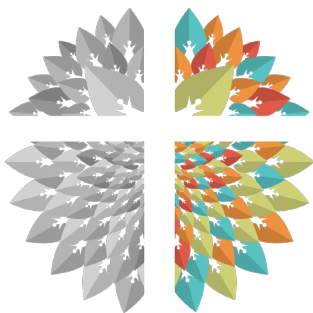
(8 & 10:30 a.m., & 5:30 p.m.)

Prelude
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
Tawag sa Pagsamba
Pagsamba sa Pag-aawitan
Pagkilala sa mga Bisita
Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay
Patotoo
Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos
Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos
Pastor Dags Miguel
Pangwakas na Panalangin
at Basbas



GENESIS
Grace from the Beginning

23/24 June 2018
Vol. 40, No. 24

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



(God's) Truth and (Man's) Consequences

Today's Message (23/24 June 2018) /
Genesis 25:19-34

GOOD OR
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BUT GOD CAN
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God is always working behind the scenes to fulfill His purposes, whether we realize it or not. That's why we say that all circumstances fit into the plan of our sovereign God. Even our personal choices play into the eternal design of God, baffling as that may be. Good or bad, our choices will always have consequences and we are responsible for them. But God can use even our mistakes to advance His purposes.

Esau and Jacob were born to Isaac and Rebekah, and it was prophesied that the older would serve the younger, which began to be fulfilled when Esau sold his birthright to Jacob. This is where we see that God sovereignly determines how people fit into His eternal purposes, and factors in even our human weaknesses and strengths:

1. AN I _____ M _____ (vv. 19-23)
 - a. **The Pregnancy: Isaac prayed about Rebekah's barrenness and was granted twins.**
 - Prayer is God's divinely appointed way of creating solutions to our earthly situations.
 - Children don't have to repeat their parent's mistakes. Abraham was still alive and perhaps taught Isaac a way that was better than he and Sarah tried. Grandparents do have a valuable role in blessing their children and upcoming grandchildren.
 - b. **The Prophecy: God gave a preview of His sovereign plan to Isaac and Rebekah.**
 - God sovereignly determines how people will fit into His eternal purposes (*Romans 9:10-13*).
 - God's choice here did not predestine Esau to hell, but only defined his role in history with regards to the Messianic line. It was his personal choice to be a godless person, and that is why you will not see him in heaven.

Traditional Service

(Saturday, 6 p.m.)

Prelude
Call to Worship
Worship through Praise
Worship through Fellowship
Worship through Giving
Doxology
Scripture Reading
Worship in the Word
Pastor Larry Pabiona
Benediction



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Today's Message (23/24 June 2018) /
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2. AN I _____ M _____ (vv. 24-28)

a. The Problem with Jacob's Personality

- Jacob was born a deceiving, grasping person. It appears he deserved being the recipient and carrier of the Promises to Abraham much less than Esau, but this is the nature of grace. Neither of them deserved it from the start, but God often chooses the least likely and least qualified “so that no one may boast before Him” (*1 Corinthians 1:27-31*).

b. The Problem of Parental Favoritism

- Isaac and Rebekah each chose a son to give special attention to.
- Parental favoritism never generates positive outcomes. Let this sad story of sibling war be a reminder to us who are parents to make sure all of our children feel equally loved.

3. AN I _____ M _____ (vv. 29-34)

We are never free from the consequences of the choices we make.

a. Jacob swindles Esau by asking for his birthright in exchange for food.

- Deceiving others never leads to a problem-free future. Short-term gain is accompanied by lifelong problems that eventually catch up with you.
- Jacob could have gotten the blessings by God's way, because this was guaranteed by the prophecy. But he resorted to his own tricks and this would cost him a lot of heartache in the future.

b. Esau throws away his birthright out of wrong values.

- Esau demonstrates the bad consequences of living for the moment and having the wrong value system. You may never regain what you have lost (*Hebrews 12:16-17*).

FINAL THOUGHTS

While God is sovereign and a genuine believer's life will always end up as God intended it to be, we are nonetheless never free from the consequences of the choices we make.

A deceitful Jacob would in turn be constantly deceived, and a self-indulgent Esau would never recover what he lost in a moment of weakness—because you may choose the sin, but never the consequences ■

The Shepherd's Voice

by Pastor JP Kabuhat

VERIFIED CHILDREN OF GOD

"For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."—Galatians 1:10

Imagine the difference if all 184 campers and 77 leaders live this passage out in their lives? Picture them as husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, professionals, public servants, and ministers making decisions unaffected by the world's approval, since every affirmation they need are soothed because they know they are verified children of God, and therefore heirs with Jesus Christ. How would the news change? This was the camp's purpose. Out of the 184 campers, 19 pledged their allegiance to Jesus Christ and 122 recommitted to no longer live to please man.

We may feel helpless whenever we witness the decadence deeply ingrained in our society. Often this helplessness birth grumbling and hatred as it seems like there's nothing else we can do but share a fiery piece of our minds on social media. I should know because I felt this way earlier this year. I asked God to give me opportunities to channel this angst to something He will be glorified with, because I do not want to sit around while our nation crumbles. And then it hit me—discipleship is nation building! One can impact his land one life-change at a time. And in the case of the youth ministry, it may not be as immediate as my frail human craving for immediate returns demands, but it

sure is long-term. Every young person I see is a potential future nation builder who would not succumb to the lure of wealth, fame, power nor flesh because they live to please God alone. All the filth I read on the news added fuel to the pastoral fire God has placed in my heart to mentor leaders who would mentor leaders to live no longer as pleasers of men, but as servants of Christ. The youth camps are a few of the many opportunities God gave myself and my co-leaders to channel our zeal for His glory.

The hard work is not done, though, even as we concluded the high school camp. For the 25 new discipleship group leaders birthed from the camp, myself and my co-leaders, it only has begun. Pray with us as we are in the thick of the preparations for the college camp. Please contact us if you want to sponsor campers who need financial help specially from our outreaches. Please pray for the upcoming talk I will be giving to the senior high school student leaders of the University of Makati this July 2, as we hope it will be the beginning of our expanded ministry in the said school. Also, we recently formed a youth parents' team as well as we seek to support and partner with them in discipling their youth. Parents, please let us know* if you want to join.

Imagine the difference with us.

**For more information regarding this, you may contact me through johnpaul.kabuhat@gcf.org.ph or 0917 532 7741 ■*

Ablaze Devotional

And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men." And immediately they left their nets and followed him.—*Mark 1:16-18 (RSV)*

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.

In the preceding verses of chapter 1, we are introduced to a Messiah who will set up the kingdom of God. People were coming to John the Baptist to hear about this kingdom. So, after he points to Jesus, it is safe to expect for a momentous event. But the gospel narrative makes anticlimactic turns: Jesus announces the kingdom of God by going to the people, and now we see Him talking to common laborers.

Imagine, in that country and culture, a small family business (e.g. fishing, carpentry) are handed down through generations. This kind of culture provides safety and security to the members of the family. Since it is a familiar way of life, even though times may get hard, they just simply have to work harder. They wouldn't have to leave their trade.

Then, we see Jesus come along, calling these fishermen. He invites them to follow Him as their rabbi or teacher. In their time, it was expected that students sought out schools to learn from rabbis. However, this kind of school is only accessible to well-to-do families. So, Jesus opened the way not just to learn the ways of God, but to follow God Himself.

These turns allow us to see new possibilities of what the kingdom of God looks like. Here, we see that the call of Jesus to follow Him—the discipleship journey—is the very realization of that kingdom. The call to be fishers of men is an invitation to a discipleship that would make a difference in the fabric of reality. It calls people to turn from both their securities (e.g. family trade) and their insecurities (e.g. level of education), leaving their trust on such things to follow Jesus and be citizens of God's kingdom ■

Ministry Opportunities + Other Announcements



BEAUTY FROM ASHES

S.H.E. Fellowship, a ministry for God's single women
June 30 (Sat), 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Auditorium B
All single women and single moms are invited
Contact **0917 532 7725** to register/for more info
Registration is **free**



CAMP LIVE: VERIFIED

Youth camp for college students
July 19-22 (Thu-Sun) at Batangas Country Club
For more details/to register, please visit the Youth L.I.V.E. Camp booth at the G/F lobby.



EVERY DAY A NEW PAGE

Mugs 'N Muffins with Rica Peralejo-Bonifacio
July 21 (Sat), 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon at Auditorium B
Open to **all women** aged 18 and above
Contact **0917 532 7725** to register/for more info



IMPULSE

Connect Ministry Camp 2018
August 3-5, at Word of Life (Calauan, Laguna)
For more details/to register, please contact Noli at **0917 625 0244** or visit the ministry info booth at the G/F lobby.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT:

June 2018

	June Budget	Received, June 1-19
General	7,923,567	4,327,957
Missions	927,000	597,288
	Jan. - June Budget	Received, Jan. - June
General	53,877,211	42,152,694
Missions	5,562,000	6,274,329

Flower Ministry

The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to our God for His love and grace by Rubelyn Enriquez, the Basildad family, the Messiah College and by an anonymous donor.

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



A discipler of God

by Jeremiah Santos

Knowing Christ and making Him known are the fundamentals that I grew up learning and living by in my Christian walk. Last May 31, I was given a chance to make Him known, but it was no walk in the park.

I was given the opportunity to serve in the High School Youth Camp initially as a marshal, a person who watches over the youth during the camp. However, God called me to be so much more for this camp and challenged me to be a discipler. I went through a lot of prayer and counselling before I decided to help disciple a Y-Group.

Camp came and as part of the team who went ahead to the campsite to prepare, a day was spent lifting equipment and preparing for the activities to the point of exhaustion. However, all that didn't compare to the difficulties of leading a Y-Group. Lifting 50 pounds of equipment seemed like something I would rather do because I was intimidated by the responsibilities of discipleship.

Nonetheless, I remembered the reason why I came to camp: to make Him known. With the help of a co-counselor, I led a Y-Group of young men, and I can say with full confidence that it was the most fulfilling experience I've had.

For the four days of camp, I spent time with five of God's beautiful creations. Together, we expressed our weaknesses, let out our cries, and found God as our strength. As a discipler, I was able to impart wisdom and guidance to the youth He placed in my care. I will continue to devote time to walk with them, so that they too will Know Christ and Make Him Known ■

ON THE COVER: Timna Valley in southwestern Arava region of Israel (pixabay.com). Israel's geography is varied and not uniformly arid as is understood in the common imagination. In the north are snow-capped mountains where equally snowy winters occur, while the land that borders the Mediterranean is a fertile plain that justifies "land flowing with milk and honey" for Israel. South is home to arid wilderness, where Esau, "a man of the open country," probably roamed during his time.

Join a DISCIPLE-MAKING GROUP

New Growth Group (Mixed Group)
Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Room B124
Growth Group Center

Life in Technicolor Support Group
for cancer patients
Every 3rd Sunday of the month
12:00-3:00 p.m. at the Seniors' Room

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

8 a.m.: Ages 1-3, B415; Ages 4-5, B410; Age 6, B414; Age 7, B403; Age 8, B413; Ages 9-10, B411; Ages 11-12, B409; Transition Age 13, B406

10:30 a.m.: Ages 1-2, B412; Age 3, B415; Age 4, B408; Age 5, B410; Age 6A, B402; Age 6B, B403; Age 7, B401; Age 8, B413; Age 9, B411; Age 10, B414; Age 11, B409; Age 12, B405; Transition Age 13, B406

3 p.m.: Ages 1-5, B415; Ages 6-9, B402; Ages 10-12, B403

5:30 p.m.: Ages 1-5, B415; Age 6, B402; Ages 7-9, B401; Ages 10-12, B403; Transition Age 13, B404

Nursery: 2nd flr. for nursing moms and babies aged one week to 11 months old

Yayas: 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., B404

Sunday School Parents' Class:
9:30 a.m., B406

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.

2nd GG Leaders' Assembly

Topic: How to Start a New Small Group
June 30 (Sat.), 3-5 p.m., Fellowship Hall



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 • Website: 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 **23/24 June 2018**, 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).

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.