



1/2 September 2018
Vol. 40, No. 34

The Tabernacle: An Object Lesson for God's People

Exodus 25:1-9 (Exodus 35:4-29)

English Services

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

Prelude
Call to Worship
Worship through Praise
Anthem
Worship through Fellowship
Worship through Giving
Worship in Music
Scripture Reading
Worship in the Word
Pastor Larry Pabiona
Celebration of the
Lord's Supper
Benediction (with song)

Filipino Service

(3 n.h.)

Paghahanda
Tawag sa Pagsamba
Pagsamba sa Pag-aawitan
Pagkilala sa mga Bisita
Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay
Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos
Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos
Pastor Emer Manaloto
Pagdiriwang ng
Banal na Hapunan
Pangwakas na Panalangin
at Bendisyon

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



The Tabernacle: An Object Lesson for God's People

Today's Message (1/2 September 2018) /
Exodus 25:1-9 (Exodus 35:4-29)

THE PRESENCE
AND WORSHIP
OF GOD
GIVES ORDER,
PROTECTION,
AND PURPOSE TO
OUR LIVES. THE
WORSHIP OF GOD
SHOULD BE AS
CENTRAL TO US AS
THE TABERNACLE
WAS CENTRAL
IN THE CAMP OF
ISRAEL.

The tabernacle was that beautiful place of worship made by the children of Israel in the days of Moses according to very specific instructions, materials, and measurements given by God. It was a sanctuary, a holy place set apart for God. God showed His presence at the tabernacle, and there received the worship of the people.

A.W. Pink rightly said that “God only used two chapters to tell of the creation and furnishing of heaven and earth, but used over thirteen chapters to discuss the tabernacle!” The instructions about how it was to be built are given in Exodus 25-31. The account of its construction is in Exodus 35-40. Hebrews 9-10 discusses the significance of the tabernacle at length. Many other references throughout the Bible refer to it.

But the tabernacle is “only a shadow of the good things that are coming” (*Hebrews 10:1*). The tabernacle testified to believing Israelites that a holy God would one day come and dwell in the midst of sinners to remove their sins. God had to come to earth from heaven, that we who are on earth might be brought to heaven.

WHO WAS TO MAKE AN OFFERING FOR TABERNACLE MATERIALS? (EXODUS 25:1-7)

- Everyone whose heart made him willing was to give. Giving to God should be voluntary, not forced (2 *Corinthians 8:4-5, 9:6-7*). It is not how much grace you have received, but how much grace you **realize** you have received, that turns you into a cheerful giver. Often, those who regret or restrict their giving have a simple problem: ungratefulness.
- The word translated “offering” means a “heave-offering,” one that is lifted up or separated unto God. A sacredness comes upon all things presented to the LORD with the right heart.

Traditional Service

(Saturday, 6 p.m.)

Prelude

Call to Worship

Worship through Praise

Worship through Fellowship

Worship through Giving

Worship in Music

Doxology

Scripture Reading

Preparatory Hymn

Worship in the Word

Pastor Larry Pabiona

Response Hymn

Celebration of

the Lord's Supper

Benediction (with song)



The Tabernacle: An Object Lesson for God's People

Today's Message (1/2 September 2018) /
Exodus 25:1-9 (Exodus 35:4-29)

WHAT WAS GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE SANCTUARY? (EXODUS 25:8)

- God's purpose was that He might dwell among the Israelites. God inhabits eternity (Isaiah 57:15) and fills heaven and earth (Jeremiah 23:24). Heaven is His throne and the earth is His footstool (Isaiah 66:1). Yet God condescends to meet His children where they can reach Him.
- The fact that God dwelt in the midst of Israel was the central fact of their life. To Israel, God's presence meant plan, protection, and provision. If God had not manifested His presence in the tabernacle, the tribes of Israel would have been scattered, with no one to protect or provide for them.
- The Tabernacle was a visual aid for a people whose spiritual discernment was underdeveloped. For people brought up amidst the idolatry of Egypt, a centralized shrine was more readily comprehended than an omnipresent but invisible God.
- Today, God dwells in the midst of his church, just as He dwelt among the Israelites (2 *Corinthians* 6:16). The presence and worship of God gives order, protection, and purpose to our lives. The worship of God should be as central to us as the tabernacle was central in the camp of Israel.

WHAT WAS THE GUIDE USED IN CONSTRUCTING THE TABERNACLE? (EXODUS 25:9)

- The guide was the pattern which God showed Moses in Mt. Sinai (*Exodus* 25:40, 26:30, 27:8). This model was apparently a pattern for the very tabernacle of God in heaven, so following this pattern was nonnegotiable (*Hebrews* 8:5)! To have digressed would have caused Moses to misrepresent the design of God's tabernacle in heaven.
- The pattern of the tabernacle shown to Moses extended to the pattern of ALL the vessels (furniture, instruments) of it. God allows freedom of expression in worship, but the command to conform exactly to the tabernacle pattern suggests that there is a standard and order in worship for us to recognize and accept.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the tabernacle. He said of Himself, "One greater than the temple is here" (*Matthew* 12:6), while John His beloved disciple said of Him, "And the Word became flesh and "tabernacled" among us" (*John* 1:14). The tabernacle was one of the "very great and precious promises" (2 *Peter* 1:4) that the Old Testament made concerning the coming incarnation of God. The ultimate fulfillment of the promise was the coming of the Lord in the flesh.

The tabernacle was God's preview to His people then; now we have this image in flesh and blood—Jesus Christ ■

NEW COMMUNION SUNDAY SERIES

As previously announced, beginning this Sunday and every first Sunday hereafter, we are starting a new Communion Sunday series called "Portraits of Christ in the Tabernacle." We will be looking at passages from Exodus chapters 25-40 that speak of the Tabernacle and how it is a foreshadowing of Christ and the church, and not just a visual representation of God and heaven. This series has captured my heart and I pray that it will capture yours, too, as we continue an intentionally Christo-centric Bible reflection every first Sunday to prepare our hearts for the Lord's Table. We begin today with an overview of the Tabernacle and its primary purposes. May the Lord use this series to reach your heart and exalt Jesus Christ!

VERY GRADUAL SHIFT TO THE ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION (ESV)

Due to a decision by its publishers (Zondervan) to no longer produce the 1984 edition of the New International Version (NIV 1984), which we use for our pulpit readings, we are commencing a very gradual shift to the ESV for our scripture readings and other scripture usage. While another candidate would have been the 2011 edition of the NIV (NIV 2011), we favor the ESV for the following reasons:

1. Accuracy. The ESV is an essentially "literal" translation, one that conveys the meaning of the

original text into the receptor language without exaggeration or embellishment. Thus, it seeks to adhere as closely as possible to the grammatical structures of the original language, altering the translation only when necessary to convey meaning. "Word-for-word" is another term for this translation philosophy.

- 2. Availability.** The ESV is found online in most Christian websites, in Christian software and apps, and is available in almost all bookstores as hard copy, including so-called "secular" bookstores.
- 3. Affordability.** The ESV is free online, free in Bible apps for your phones and tablets, and in free Bible software – E-sword, TheWord, MySword, among others. You may discover that the ESV hard copy is sometimes less expensive than other translations due to the publisher's philosophy (Crossway) about making the Word more available to the public.

To be clear, the NIV (whether 1984 or 2011) is a good translation, so please continue using that if you don't want to acquire a new Bible. It is surpassed by the ESV by a slim margin in Accuracy. It is the categories of Availability and Affordability that make it a clearer choice for the ESV (e.g. nothing beats "free"). On or before mid-2019, we hope to have completed the shift in all our scripture references for the Pulpit and upcoming Bible Study materials ■

Ablaze Devotional

[Jesus] sternly charged [the leper]...“See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a proof to the people.”
— Mark 1:43-44 (RSV)

In Mark’s time, miracles and healings are not strange events. Miracle workers and magicians practiced freely, but their acts were only for personal gain and influence. Jesus’ healings were different. They were self-giving acts enveloped in the proclamation of the rule of God.

To fully understand Jesus’ healing, we need to see how the culture of His time viewed illness. Both medical and social issues were one and the same. Illness, like crime, were considered threats to social peace and harmony. Maintaining communal integrity, members of the Jewish temple were considered authorities determining what was acceptable and what was not.

When the leper begged Jesus for healing, he was asking Him to take on the role of a temple member. But Jesus, seeing how such laws alienates the needy, broke the social norm and skipped the ritual, and simply declared the man clean. Jesus sternly charged the leper to go to the temple and have a priest diagnose him. Jesus’ healing is not just a display of His power, but also a witness against the temple members, and His charge to the healed leper is to carry out His message: the kingdom of God is here now. But instead of obeying Jesus, perhaps seeing that healings are but common, the man spread the news about Jesus as another healer, not fully grasping who He is.

Approaching the Lord’s table, we remember Jesus reaching out to our lives. Like the leper, we receive both healing and command. We are healed from our shame and isolation, and commanded to testify against the powers that keep others from that same healing. Let us begin to live the gospel, not merely talking about what He can do, but more importantly, carrying out what He commanded ■

GCF PRAYER GATHERINGS AT THE CHAPEL

The GCF Hour of Prayer
Tuesdays, 6:00 to 7:00 a.m.
Midweek Prayer Service
Wednesdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Ministry Opportunities + Other Announcements

2018 CHURCH LEADERS ELECTIONS

Nomination Period: September 3-28, 2018
Election Days: December 8 and 9, 2018
Nomination forms are available at the Ministry Information Booth. For more information, please refer to the flyer inserted in this bulletin.

3Rs RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Annual Retreat of GCF Women’s Ministry
September 21-23 (Fri-Sun) at MMRRC, Batangas
Early bird registration fee: PhP 2,500 (*til Sept. 2)
Regular registration fee: PhP 3,500
For more info, please visit their booth at the lobby.

THE BIBLE AND POLITICS

Forum organized by ISACC and GCF
Sept. 22 (Sat) at Auditorium A, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Here experts discuss pressing political issues in light of the Bible | Reg. fee: PhP 250.00
For more info, contact 0932 371 3457

MEN: OVERCOMING AND WINNING

GCF Men’s Ministry’s Conference
October 6-7 (Sat-Sun) at CCT Tagaytay
Open to men aged 21 and above. Fee: PhP 1,000
Please contact 0917 532 7740 for more details.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

August 2018

	August Budget	Received, Aug. 1-29
General	7,680,074	5,918,868
Missions	927,000	674,309
	Jan. to Aug. Budget	Received, Jan.-Aug.
General	70,415,771	56,566,961
Missions	7,416,000	7,153,076

Flower Ministry

The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to our God for His mercy and grace by the Basilad family, the Valera family and the Messiah College. The flowers are also given in praises and thanksgiving to the Lord for His gift of life and faithful calling to Gai Buce.

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



Going where I did not want to, I was blessed

by Andrea Roldan

Three years ago, I felt God's call to move my ministry base and serve from a country I said I would prefer never to serve Him: Japan, and I praise God for sending me. Since moving to Japan, I have been helping build a partnership between OMF Japan, and Filipino diaspora churches have been built so that we can help these churches reach out to Japanese-only speaking family members and friends. Diaspora churches in Japan are the fastest growing churches in the country but their biggest challenge is that many diaspora pastors, including Filipinos, speak very limited Japanese.

The second way God has been working is through opportunities to share my faith with nonbelieving Japanese friends. Building relationships with Japanese people takes a lot of time and sometimes opportunities to share the faith only come up after years of friendship.

The third and final way God has been using me is through helping OMF Japan during a very difficult time. Because of some really unfortunate events, I was asked to take on additional leadership roles to help support the field and its missionaries. It was a very stressful time of juggling multiple ministry responsibilities but the Lord's strength and presence saw me through many times.

You may ask how can you serve and be part of what God is doing in missions. The biggest, and perhaps the most important way is through prayer. When I was discouraged or sick or facing an opportunity to share about Jesus, I felt very much the difference it made knowing that people were praying. But not only for us in the field. We need also to continue to pray for GCF to be even more strategic in its missions involvement and seek to be a blessing to the nations ■

ON THE COVER: "All who were willing, men and women alike, came and brought gold jewelry of all kinds" - Ex. 35:22 (Photo from pixabay.com). Gold would be an important part of the construction of the tabernacle and Easton's Bible Dictionary estimates that it and its furnishings were built using as much as 2,200 pounds of gold.

Join a

DISCIPLE-MAKING GROUP

New Growth Group (Mixed Group)

To be led by Pastor Emer Manaloto
Topic: Knowing God's Will
Starting Aug. 12 (Sun), 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Rm. B124 (Growth Group Center)

Overcomers Support Group

for any kind of addiction
Starting this September
Thursdays, 5-7 p.m.

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 at the Ministry Information booth at the lobby. For more information, you can text or call us at 0917 532 7740.

Q3 DMG LEADERS' ASSEMBLY

Topic: Precept Training (Inductive Bible Study)
with Bro. Ave Gaspar
September 29 (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 **1/2 September 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.

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.

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