



3/4 August 2019
Vol. 41, No. 31

Four Blessings of Worshipping God's Way

Exodus 29:38-46

English Services

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

Prelude
Call to Worship
Worship through Praise
Worship through Fellowship
Community Prayer
Scripture Reading
Worship in the Word
Pastor Larry Pabiona
The Lord's Supper
Worship through Giving
Response Song
Benediction

Filipino Service

(3 n.h.)

Paghahanda
Tawag sa Pagsamba
Pagsamba sa Pag-aawitan
Pagkilala sa mga Bisita
Panalangin ng Komunidad
Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos
Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos
Pastor Dags Miguel
Banal na Hapunan
Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay
Tugon na Awit
Bendisyon

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



Four Blessings of Worshiping, God's Way

Today's Message (3/4 August 2019) /
Exodus 29:38-46

WE SHOULD BE
CONSCIENTIOUS
TO WORSHIP
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OTHER WAY
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IN HIS WORD.
WHEN WE DO,
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“If it be inquired, then, by what things chiefly the Christian religion has a standing existence amongst us and maintains its truth, it will be found that the following two not only occupy the principal place, but... the whole substance of Christianity: a knowledge first, of the mode in which God is rightly worshipped; and secondly, of the source from which salvation is to be obtained.” John Calvin described worship and the doctrine of salvation as the principal parts of Christianity. Our passage proves this.

There are four blessings God gives us in proper worship. They are just as much a part of our relationship with God under the New Covenant as they were for our spiritual forefathers under the Old Covenant:

1. WE MEET GOD.

- In worship, God *actually* meets with men. The holy meets the sinful. The Creator meets the creature. The infinite stoops down and meets the finite. The eternal meets the temporal. God in His grace called a people to Himself and draw them into meeting Him.
- We enter the heavenly tabernacle to meet God when we worship as He commands. Now that “God with us” is here—Jesus’ once for all sacrifice opened the meeting place with God. It is in worship that we come into closest fellowship with Him, meeting Him face-to-face as a friend (*Exodus 3:1–4:17*). Unlike the so-called gods of other religions, the true God is more willing to meet with us than we are to meet with Him.

2. WE ARE SET APART BY GOD.

- God set us apart for Himself; we are his “workmanship” (*Ephesians 2:10*). Sanctification is the process by which God sets apart His people from the world that they might serve and love Him (*Romans 12:2; 8:29*). Under the New Covenant, we come as priests, too (*1 Peter 2:4–5, 9*). We are a spiritual priesthood who offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God.
- Hebrews 10:19-25 reveals we access the Holy of Holies by means of the once-for-all sacrifice of Christ. Because we have been set apart by the Lord, we draw near. Access to God leads to holiness for God (*1 Peter*

Traditional Service

(August 3, Saturday, 6 p.m.)

Prelude

Call to Worship

Worship through Praise

Worship through Fellowship

Worship through Giving

Community Prayer

Preparatory Hymn

Scripture Reading

Worship in the Word

Pastor Larry Pabiona

The Lord's Supper

Benediction



Four Blessings of Worshiping, God's Way

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1:16). Worship leads to purity. Because God is dwelling among us, and we experience His presence in worship, we should desire holiness. Hebrews 12:14 says we should “strive...for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.”

- Are you hungering for holiness? Do you want to be holy as the Lord is holy? This is a blessing of coming into the presence of God in worship, because there God meets with us in a special way to forgive us and embrace us. Receiving that divine welcome is the power behind desiring holiness.

3. WE ARE INDWELT BY GOD.

- “I will dwell among the people of Israel and will be their God...that I might dwell among them” (*Exodus 29:45–46*). The fact that the Lord required sacrifices everyday was a reminder that the Tabernacle was a temporary arrangement. But in the New Covenant, God fulfilled His plan to reverse our separation from God: Ephesians 2:22 says, “In [Christ] you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God *by the Spirit*.”
- We come to worship God on the Lord's Day—through preaching, sacraments (the Lord's Table and baptism), and prayer. Then we are scattered into the world as those who love others, who confess Jesus in the midst of unbelief, pressures and temptations. Worship is where we are strengthened by the Holy Spirit to do these things.
- Can you imagine what God could do through a church that comes out of the world to meet face to face with the living God, then are scattered into the world?

4. WE COME TO KNOW GOD.

- “And they shall know that I am the Lord their God who brought them out of the land of Egypt” (*Exodus 29:46*). God knows our names personally, as the twelve gemstones remind us. The tabernacle teaches us that worship leads God's people to know His name personally. As God dwells among us, we come to know Him as “the Lord,” the faithful, covenant-keeping God of His people (*Exodus 3*).
- This “knowledge” is personal, intimate fellowship. The Lord said He would speak to the priests (v. 42) at the tent of meeting, and then all the people would “know...the Lord their God” (v. 46). The knowledge of God that we receive in worship comes through the preaching of God's Word. Preaching is not simply communicating facts, but bringing the “living and active” voice of God into the hearts of believers (*Hebrews 4:12*) that they might know Him. A mere man's words are weak, but Christ-centered preaching has God's power (*1 Corinthians 2:1–5*).

FINAL THOUGHTS

We should be conscientious to worship God in no other way than He has commanded in His Word. When we do, there are wonderful blessings for our souls. We come together every Lord's Day to meet our great and gracious God, that He might sanctify us. He sanctifies us that He might dwell with us forever; and He dwells with us that we might know Him intimately as a child knows his father (*Galatians 4:6*). We truly have an amazing God! ■

PRAISE THE LORD FOR MISSIONS MONTH

We rejoice in the Lord for the outcome of Missions Month. As you know our heart's desire every time we have Missions Month is that we not only keep leveling up support for cross-cultural evangelization (Pray, Give, Care, Go), but to keep inspiring and equipping GCFers toward becoming missionaries in their workplaces and respective callings in life. That means everybody! We are all God's missionaries. And just like Christmas should always be in our hearts even after it's over, may the thrill and joy of participating in missions always be in our hearts, Missions Month or not.

WE RESUME COMMUNION SERIES

After a two-month hiatus, we resume our communion series, Portraits of Christ in the Tabernacle. Today we will tackle the daily sacrifices mentioned in Exodus 29:38–46 and their significance for New Testament believers today. As you know, every communion series is a first Sunday-only message designed to make us focus on Christ and His sacrificial death, to prepare us for worship at the Lord's Table.

In relation to that, I take this opportunity to give you an overview of what's next for the rest of August till September 2019. Note that we also have Saturday 6:00 p.m. worship services, hence the dates below are for weekends, not just Sundays:

- August: Resumption of series "The Psalms: Songs to Keep Your Life in Tune"
 - August 10/11: Psalm 16
 - August 17/18: Psalm 18
 - August 24/25: Psalm 19
- September
 - August 31/September 1: The Altar of Incense (Exodus 30:1-10, 34-38, resumption of "Portraits of Christ in the Tabernacle")
 - September 7/8: Psalm 20
 - September 14/15: Psalm 21
 - September 21/22: Psalm 22
 - September 28/29: Psalm 23

PERSONAL NOTE OF APPRECIATION

On behalf of myself and my fellow elders/pastors, I want to thank you all for your patience and understanding about our parking problem, particularly the people who attend our 10:30 a.m. Sunday worship. I know it's been hard and yet you keep faithfully attending. What can I say? "Thank you" and "Praise God!"

I pray that you never run out of patience with us, and may the rain and sun be gentle with you as you take that walk to the now more distant parking areas. Please continue to bear with us and pray with us, as we keep looking for both immediate and long term solutions to this issue ■

Ministry Opportunities + Announcements



FAMILY CONFERENCE

All official and regular members included in the church roster are invited to attend August 4 (Today), after the 10:30 a.m. service



#PARENTSTALK

Parents, establish and build your relationship with your children

August 9, 16, 23, 30 (Fris), 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Sign-up (at the info booth) for a free parenting book! Please contact 0917 532 7663 for more details.



WEDDING NINONGS AND NINANGS FELLOWSHIP

August 10 (Sat), 1:00-4:00 p.m., BM07-08
Explore how you can minister to your *inaanaks* in this unique *oikos* relationship.
Registration is at the info booth. For more details, contact 0917 532 7713.



DISCOVERING OUR PLACE IN THIS WORLD

Sabbath Retreat 2019
August 23-25 (Fri-Sun), Hacienda Isabella
For young and middle adults
Fee: P2,500, registration is until August 11 (Sun) at the ministry information booth, or through sabbath2019.weebly.com. Payment is at the information booth at the lobby.



WORDBANK BS TRAINING

Precept training for banking and finance professionals with Elder Ave Gaspar
September 8 (Sun), 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up at the booth for your free material and snack!

The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to God by an anonymous donor, the Basilad family, and the Messiah College. Please call 632 1354 to 56 for inquiries on how to participate in this ministry.

Join a DISCIPLE-MAKING GROUP

Growth Group Express

Mixed group led by Ptr. Emer Manaloto
Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Rm. B124

Burning Hearts Chronicles GG

Group for couples
Sundays, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Rm. B123

Jars of Clay GG

Group for women
Sundays, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Rm. B512

Best Together in Christ

Group for couples
Sundays, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Rm. B508

If you are interested in joining any of the small groups above, fill out the tear-off form of this bulletin, drop it in the offering bag, or submit it at the Growth Group booth at the lobby. For more information, you can text or call us at 0906 358 1500.

Growth Group Leaders Training 1

September 1, 8, 15, and 22 (Suns)
12:00-3:00 p.m. at A303

DMG Assembly

All small group leaders are invited
September 7 (Sat), 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall

STEWARDSHIP REPORT / July 2019

MAY	Projected	Rcvd., July 1-31	YEAR-TO-DATE	Projected	Rcvd., as of July 31
General Funds	7,987,263	6,583,904	General Funds	56,643,090	57,247,469
Mission Support Fund	5,059,368	1,555,698	Mission Support Fund	12,965,555	9,042,731
Others (Designated, etc.)	648,050	1,106,488	Others (Designated, etc.)	7,838,156	8,547,740
TOTAL	13,694,681	9,246,090	TOTAL	77,446,801	74,837,940

ABLAZE

For 'In him we live and move and have our being.'

—Acts 17:28a (NRSV)

More than a god who seems to be out there, far removed and detached from His creation, the God revealed in the Bible is so much more than that of an all-powerful, distant God. In Scripture, we see the God who is near, a God whose name means presence. We see a God who is all-powerful in His love.

Ultimately, in Jesus, we see God with flesh and blood. In Jesus, we see once again God walking in the evening breeze, seeking humanity—"Where are you?" We see God with feet that sought the lost, and hands that touched the dirt of broken humanity.

These hands and feet encountered the powers that held hostage God's beloved. As Christ revealed what the reign of God looks like, the reign of sin is revealed at work in human hearts. The hands and feet that sought and touched humanity became the same hands and feet that was pierced and nailed on the cross. The hostages humanity became the ones who have killed Him, thinking that God's reign is a lost cause.

But God is still God, even in His final breath, He showed His power by

showing perfect love. God forgave, even in His apparent absence. And on the third day He rose again, for even death cannot overcome His holy and perfect love. The love that reached out to humanity has conquered death, and has given hope to all humanity. The resurrected Christ says, "Peace!" to His deserters, not retribution. In God there is forgiveness, life, and love.

As we observe communion, we remember not just to think about God, but to taste and see. We taste and see God's matchless power and abundant love, in the symbol of the bread and the wine. When we are hungry—not just for food, but also for community, for purpose, and for identity, He gives us His body. When we are thirsty—for love, joy, and mercy—He gives us His lifeblood. In communion, we declare the nearness of God, that even as we declare His death and return, we also declare and live out His life in our lives. For in him we live and move and have our being.

God continues to seek and gather the lost to Himself, offering peace, transforming lives and building people. We have learned last Missions month that we are scattered to make His name and ways known. Following Christ means that we are both recipients and heralds of His peace to the world ■

PRAYER
at the Chapel

The GCF Hour of Prayer
Tuesdays, 6-7 a.m.

Midweek Prayer Service
Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

Weeknight Prayer Gatherings
Except Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m.

ON THE COVER: "Now this is what you shall offer on the altar: two lambs a year old day by day regularly... It shall be a regular burnt offering throughout your generations at the entrance of the tent of meeting before the Lord, where I will meet with you, to speak to you there."—Exodus 29:38, 42 (photo of two lamb on their mother from pixabay.com).



Greenhills Christian Fellowship
Know Christ and Make Him Known

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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 for the first time 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 3/4 August 2019, 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.