



Happy Grandparents Day!



We are Sustained by His Name

Today's Message (7/8 September 2019) / *Psalm 20*

CHRISTIANS
MUST LOOK
TO THEIR
ANOINTED
KING, JESUS.
GOD ALWAYS
ANSWERS HIM
AND HONORS
HIS SACRIFICE.

How do you get ready for some great challenge? It could be a conflict or a surgery or an undertaking that is very risky. The people in Psalm 20 are on the eve of a great battle, and the temptation is to look to military might as their hope (v. 7). Instead, they look to the Lord and to the king He gave them (vv. 1-5).

This is one of the most stirring of all the Psalms because of its tense awareness of life-and-death issues soon to be resolved. This “royal psalm” is actually a responsorial psalm in three parts: Verses 1-5 where the people pray for their king, verses 6-8 where David (or a worship leader) responds with a confident affirmation of faith, then the people close the prayer with a final petition in the last verse.

1. GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER TO PRAY: AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO CORPORATE PRAYER (vv. 1-5)

- When we trust God in times of trouble, He responds in four ways:
 - a. God sends help and support (v. 2).
 - b. God remembers worship (v. 3).
 - c. God grants petitions (vv. 4-5).
 - d. God saves (v. 6).
- We find in Jesus the fulfillment of the Old Testament hopes directed toward the Davidic kingship. This prayer was appropriate for Him as He faced the cross. The prayer was worthy to be prayed—that God would indeed remember and accept the offering Jesus made on the cross, which could rightly be called a burnt sacrifice, as it was burned with the fire of God's righteous judgment, and how Jesus held nothing back in this sacrifice.

Regular English Services

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

Prelude

Call To Worship

Worship Through Praise

Baptism (*morning services*)

Worship Through Fellowship

Community Prayer

Anthem

Scripture Reading

Worship in the Word

Pastor Larry Pabiona

Worship through Giving

Appreciation of Grandparents

Benediction

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2. GOD'S LEADER PROCLAIMS THE CHARACTER OF GOD: AN AFFIRMATION OF OUR RELIABLE GOD (vv. 6-8)

- The outcome of two types of faith: Those who trust in weapons and powers of this world will “collapse and fall,” but those who look to God will “rise and stand” (v. 8). We are sustained by His name.
- To “trust in the Name” of GOD is to accept the character of God revealed in this name, to commit to relationship with GOD, and to accept the implications of that relationship. Like Israel and its king, we are called to trust in the God who has delivered us and has called us into a covenant relationship of loyal commitment and trust.

3. GOD'S PEOPLE DECLARE THEIR DEPENDENCE ON GOD: TRUE FAITH ENTRUSTS GOD WITH THE BEST RESPONSE TO OUR MOST DESPERATE PLEAS (v. 9)

- We may see ourselves both as intercessors for others who suffer and as sufferers in need of intercession. In the final call for the salvation of “the king,” we can find hope for our own deliverance: “Answer us when we call!”

APPLICATION

How easy for us to place hope in analogous things—family, money, doctors, programs. God is sovereign, and He rules over the affairs of all people, from the greatest to the least. This is a lesson all of us must learn. Christians must look instead to their anointed King, Jesus. God always answers Him and honors His sacrifice (*Hebrews 10:1-22*).

Weigh carefully where you place your faith ■

WHAT WE LEAVE BEHIND

Dia turned three in March this year. She is my first Apo. That is not to imply a second will come soon. That's my children's call. But for a first time Lolo I do hope there will be more than one grandchild.

I did not expect to become grandfather when I did. My son Miguel and his wife Yang were barely two years into marriage when she conceived. I thought they were enjoying their mobility too much that the baby will have to wait. One day my son broke the news. Surprise!

When one becomes grandfather he simply moves above the position of father in the family hierarchy. Yet the title that comes with it seems much bigger. From Father to Grandfather, the same person seems instantly much older.

My profile was already Lolo. An ever ready-for-discount Senior Citizen Card was comfortably residing in my wallet. Hair on my head was grey... white. Couldn't read print smaller than font size 14 without glasses. And folks address me Sir with a deferential nod, a respect for age. Hmmm...

When Dia arrived, I toyed with name options. Grandpa. Grandy. Grandfather in more exotic languages like Grandpere in French, Oupa in African, Zaydee in Jewish. Until I found out that my children decided on Tatay and Nanay. Thus, Lolo.

The first time I saw Dia in the hospital was an unforgettable moment of indescribable joy.

Joy different from what I felt for each of my children at their birth because those were distinctly joyful moments, too. Wonderful.

Grandfather has no job description. Father has. He provides for the family, drives kids to school...it goes on. Lolo has to participate to get involved. Thank God my children make sure that I do.

I have to exert effort for Dia to remember me. I try to make her laugh so that I'm Lolo funny. I make sure there's something in my pocket for her so that I'm Lolo with goodies. Bribery.

I compete for Dia's top-of-mind with another Lolo on her mom's side. A couple of times she called me by his name. Oh no.

The Bible does not have stories of grandfather-grandchildren relationships. I have not read any word for grandchildren. Psalm 128:6 says "may you see your children's children." No record but I'm sure those grandchildren had their stories of the patriarchs.

In time and God-willing, Dia will know me more particularly as Lolo. But she will know me, too, through the stories of my son about me. It will define me to her.

We tend to think of inheritance in money and property. But life stories with our children are included in what we leave behind.

My children will inherit very little material wealth when the Lord takes me home. I pray they will find much more treasure in their stories about me that will be passed on to Dia. To her and to the rest of my children's children ■

Ministry Opportunities + Announcements



WORDBANK BS TRAINING

Precept training for banking and finance professionals with Elder Ave Gaspar

September 8 (Today), 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up at the booth for your free material and snack!



PARENT AS A DISCIPLER

Following the biblical blueprint for parents to disciple their children

September 6, 13, 20 & 27 (Fri), 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall. Visit the info booth for more details or to sign-up.



BIBLICAL PORTRAIT OF MARRIAGE 2

For dating, engaged, and married couples

September 14, 21 & 28 (Sat), 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. a.m. at BM07-08 | Fee: P150 per person, registration is until September 8. Sign-up at the booth or contact **0917 532 7713** for more details.



F3 MEN'S CONFERENCE

Topics: Finances, Family, Fitness

Enjoy relaxing and fun time with fellow men on October 18-20 (Fri-Sun) at MMRC
Fee: P2,500. For more details, please visit the info booth or contact **0917 532 1921**.



SEEING I TO I? EXPERIENCING GRACE IN MARRIAGE

GCF Couples' Retreat 2019

November 9-10 (Sat-Sun) at CCT Tagaytay
Fee: P2,500/couple, includes accommodation and materials. Registration deadline is on November 3 (Sun). For more details, please visit the info booth or contact **0917 532 7713**.

The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to God by anonymous donors and the Almiraz family. 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 Pastor Emer Manaloto, reopens September 15
Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.
Rm. B124 (GG Center)

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

Sowers 2

Mixed group
Sundays, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 nn.
Rm. B514

*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 **0917 779 1549**.*

Growth Group Leaders Training 1

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

STEWARDSHIP REPORT / September 2019

SEPTEMBER	Projected	Rcvd., Sep. 1-4	YEAR-TO-DATE	Projected	Rcvd., as of Sept. 4
General Funds	6,866,516	1,663,853	General Funds	70,958,454	65,723,720
Mission Support Fund	1,317,698	256,257	Mission Support Fund	15,600,951	10,387,890
Others (Designated, etc.)	695,754	36,980	Others (Designated, etc.)	9,269,188	10,343,188
TOTAL	8,879,968	1,957,090	TOTAL	95,828,593	86,454,797

Models of care and mercy

BY MISHKA AND NIKITA LIGOT

If this is not your first time at GCF, chances are you've already heard about my grandfather, missionary rural doctor *kontrabida bigote extraordinaire* Antonio "Doc Tony" Ligot, whom I call Ama.

Ama Tony and Ina Sylvia have lived entire lives dedicated to service—service for God, the people, and family. I have seen my grandparents exercise this service in their marriage most importantly. I've experienced how the most positive aspects of their nurturing have been passed on to the generation that raised me.

My grandparents are not perfect human beings. Ama can be impatient and brash, Ina sometimes exhaustible and cranky. My family is not a well-oiled machine of perfect people. There are times when we argue, fall short, and fail to uplift each other. We have not figured out a seamless dynamic of managing power and authority. Nonetheless, this is something we recognize and continue to work through—it's not difficult to see God's grace extended throughout the relationships we form with each other. The attitude of care and mercy that these people are celebrated for is cultivated first in our homes. Despite our shortcomings, in any and all aspects of our lives, as parents or children, we strive to reflect the love of a perfect Heavenly Father.—*Mishka*

Ama and Ina have always been superheroes of their own. I grew up associating the Banaue house as their Superhero HQ way up in the mountains, where they'd fulfill

their superhero duties and special missions as missionaries to the Ifugaos—heading the Good News Clinic & Hospital and School there. But even with all their work and responsibilities, they were always present in our family in Manila. Ama and Ina opened their home to practically everyone,



"Ama" (center, standing) and "Ina" (center, seated), with their children and grandchildren

it was big enough to hold probably 90% of our family reunions, where we would have birthday parties and Christmas celebrations, Sunday after-church lunches, and at some point even growth group meetings throughout the week. It was always our emergency *tambayan* and refuge, thanks to them.

What I admire about Ama and Ina is that they have such big hearts, and although they no longer live in that iconic, big house, their generosity and willingness to help in any way they can is always evident in their lives. I love how, despite being superheroes themselves, they still depend on the Savior for strength and guidance in every situation.—*Nikita* ■

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.



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 7/8 September 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.