



5/6 October 2019
Vol. 41, No. 40

The Cost of Redemption

Exodus 30:11-16

English Services

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

Prelude
Call to Worship
Worship through Praise
Worship through Fellowship
Appreciation of Pastors
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
Pagkilala sa mga Pastor
Pagbasa ng Salita ng Diyos
Pakikinig sa Salita ng Diyos
Pastor BJ Sebastian
Banal na Hapunan
Pagsamba sa Pagbibigay
Tugon na Awit
Bendisyon

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



The Cost of Redemption

Today's Message (5/6 October 2019) /
Exodus 30:11-16

BELIEVERS, OF
ALL PEOPLE,
SHOULD BE THE
MOST HUMBLE—
WE ARE NOT
WORTHY OF OUR
REDEMPTION
BUT RECIPIENTS
OF GOD'S FAVOR
AND GRACE IN
CHRIST.

Our passage seems almost out of place in the Tabernacle construction narratives. Smack in the middle of discussions about necessary objects (incense, bronze basin for ceremonial washing, anointing oil) it talks about a requirement to give an offering for those counted mature enough. What did God want them to learn through this, and what is He telling us today about Jesus Christ?

1. THE P_____ OF A RANSOM:
THEY DID NOT EARN WHATEVER THEY
HAD—FREEDOM, SALVATION, PRESENT
JOY, FUTURE HOPE, GOD HIMSELF.
INSTEAD THEY WERE STILL IN DEBT.

- The message was clear—God was telling them “everything you have comes from Me. But whatever you do have, never forget what you owe Me.”
- God's generosity should lead us to humility (*James 1:17-18*).

2. THE P_____ OF THE RANSOM: THEY
COULD NEVER PAY WHAT THEY OWED.

- The fact that rich or poor alike, were charged the same ridiculously small amount reminded them that whatever they could come up with was never enough. It was a strong statement from God!
- Romans 10:11-13 says, “For the Scripture says, ‘Everyone who believes in Him will not be put to shame.’ For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing His riches on all who call on Him. For ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’”

Traditional Service

(October 5, Saturday, 6 p.m.)

Prelude

Call to Worship

Worship through Praise

Worship through Fellowship

Worship through Giving

Preparatory Hymn

Scripture Reading

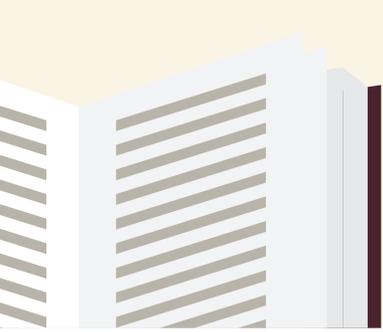
Worship in the Word

Pastor Larry Pabiona

Prayer of Confession

The Lord's Supper

Benediction



The Cost of Redemption

Today's Message (5/6 October 2019) /
Exodus 30:11-16

3. THE PRICE OF THE RANSOM: VERSE 16: "GIVE IT FOR THE SERVICE OF THE TENT OF MEETING, THAT IT MAY BRING THE PEOPLE... TO REMEMBRANCE BEFORE THE LORD... TO MAKE ATONEMENT FOR YOUR LIVES."

- To understand atonement, we must put verses 11 and 16 together: "a ransom for his life to the LORD...that there be no plague among them".
- God's grace demands a response from us all:
 - For the Israelites, it was a reminder to put their faith in God alone and look forward to every sacrifice and aspect of the Tabernacle to the coming Messiah (including this demand for a ransom payment).
 - For believers today, realize that Jesus Christ became the ransom payment for us (*1 Peter 1:18-19*). We could never have paid our debt. And we honor God today by gratefulness in worship, and show it concretely by supporting His work (*Psalms 50:14*).
 - For those unsure of their standing before God, God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance (*Romans 2:4*).

FINAL THOUGHTS

Believers, of all people, should be the most humble—we are not worthy of our redemption but recipients of God's favor and grace in Christ. When we look at unbelievers and their gross sins, we should never think that we are better than they, but remember that we would be just as lost and under God's wrath if not for the grace of God in Christ. May this prepare our hearts to worship Christ at His table today ■

ENFORCED REST

As I write this, I am taking a necessary leave, not really by choice, as I take care of our eldest son, Arrow, who was confined for dengue. His platelets have been steadily decreasing, but prayerfully, by the time you read this, his platelets should have increased and we should have been home. A good friend, Pastor Arnel Tan, keeps reminding me (like some of our elders) to take a break. My secretary, Grace, knows that I still come in despite diarrhea, fever, cough, etc. My wife realizes my days-off are more theoretical than actual. God had to finally force the rest using one of my family. And it's a good one. I am forced to apply my sermon on Psalm 23 last Sunday—"He makes me lie down in green pastures." A hospital sofa is not exactly a green pasture but the temporary stop from the busyness of ministry is the equivalent. Watching platelet counts fall is not exactly soul-restoring but learning to trust God for what medical science cannot do anything about is. Truly, God provides for us rest, restoration and righteousness. We are sustained.

NEW PORTIONS OF DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

We praise the Lord for the approval of the proposed addenda to our doctrinal statement as posted in the lobby for

nearly a month, and voted upon last Sunday by over 340 GCFers. We will keep it in the lobby for a little while more for your perusal.

We appreciate the youth and millennials who really made the effort to reach out and connect with us "older ones" to ensure we never create a homophobic perception, even unintentionally, with our doctrinal statement. We will now distribute this to our GCF satellites and affiliates, and to CBAP and PCEC for their consideration and possible adoption.

A PERSONAL "THANK YOU"

I am truly blessed to have thoughtful GCF pastors and staff who keep springing these birthday surprises every year. Despite having done this for at least three years now, I am still genuinely surprised at the very first service they do it. Thank you to all GCFers for the greetings in person, in social media, and the thoughtful gifts. I am truly blessed to be part of the GCF flock and to have the Lord Jesus Christ as our Shepherd. With the love and care I have experienced from the congregation, pastors, and staff, I have experienced the love of God, too. Through you, I realize that I am prized by God: I am significant! ■

Ministry Opportunities + Announcements



PASTORS' APPRECIATION MONTH

This whole month of October

Growth Groups are encouraged to host pastors and their families to appreciate them. For more details and to sign-up, please visit the ministry information booth.



NAVIGATING ANXIETY IN AN INSECURE WORLD

Speaker: Summer Parcon of GCF South Metro

This talk is open to everyone.

October 12 (Sat), 2-5 p.m. at BM07-08

For more details, contact 0917 532 7693.



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.



WELLNESS IN THE SENIOR YEARS

2019 Seniors' Luncheon

Oct. 26 (Sat), 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fellowship Hall

With free medical check-up

Registration is until October 20. Visit the booth or contact 0917 532 7713 for more details.



SEEING I TO I? EXPERIENCING GRACE IN MARRIAGE

GCF Couples' Retreat 2019

November 9-10 (Sat-Sun) at CCT Tagaytay

Fee: P2,500/couple. Reg. deadline is on Nov.

3 (Sun). For more details, please visit the info booth or contact 0917 532 7713.

CHANGE IN GCF TRUNKLINE NUMBERS

Starting today, **October 6 (Sun)**, the trunkline and fax numbers of GCF will have eight (8) digits instead of seven (7) per NTC memorandum 10-10-2017:

Telephone: (02) 8632-1354, (02) 8632-1355, (02) 8632-1356
(02) 8635-0082, (02) 8635-0082

Fax: (02) 8632-1357

Join a DISCIPLE-MAKING GROUP

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.

The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to God for His mercy and grace by the Basilad family, the Valera family, and Crosslight Medical Clinic. The flowers are also given by Teresita Roseus for the celebration of her 74 th birthday and for provisions and healing from cancer. Please call 632 1354 to 56 for inquiries on how to participate in this ministry.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT / September 2019

SEPTEMBER	Projected	Rcvd., Sep. 1-30	YEAR-TO-DATE	Projected	Rcvd., as of Sep. 30
General Funds	6,866,516	9,857,307	General Funds	70,958,454	73,917,174
Mission Support Fund	1,317,698	1,204,021	Mission Support Fund	15,600,951	11,335,653
Others (Designated, etc.)	695,754	973,678	Others (Designated, etc.)	9,269,188	11,283,737
TOTAL	8,879,968	12,035,006	TOTAL	95,828,593	96,536,564

I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world.

—John 16:33 (HCSB)

The table is a place of welcome. It is a place where we can slow down, let down our guards, tell our stories. Just as we connect with God, we also connect with each other. This is our communion, not just declaring Christ's death, but also His work—reconciling us to Himself and to each other, teaching us to both receive and dispense forgiveness. At the table, we see how God shared with our humanity, and how He invites us into sharing with others.

We partake of the bread, and drink from His cup, we also bear witness to Him who alone satisfies the hunger and thirst of our souls and the whole human family. By the power of the Holy Spirit, God leads us to His table, where we may delight on the blessing of His presence.

We lift the bread and the cup declaring Christ's death for our ransom. We do just the same in union with Him in His resurrection

and triumph. We remember His triumph over death and the bondage of oppression, and reconciled us to Him and to each other.

Our redemption in Jesus calls us to follow the life He lived. A life that reflects the courage to show compassion. A life lived in holiness that brings wholeness to the broken. His divinity became fully expressed in His humanity. In His life, we learn that we become most divine when we are most human (*cf. Philippians 2*).

As we share at the Lord's table, let us reflect: As I partake of Christ's body and blood, can I confidently say that I partake of His life as well? In my communion with Him, do I show the same communion with my brothers and sisters? Can I share a table with my enemies, or even welcome strangers to my home?

As I partake of Christ's body and blood, can I confidently say that I partake of His life as well?

We open our hearts to Him who forgives our misgivings. Acknowledging our humanity and our need for grace and strength to love, may we be filled with the Holy Spirit to show God's love to others ■

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: The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"—John 1:29. "Agnus Dei" by Spanish Baroque artist Francisco de Zurbarán (public domain reproduction from Wikimedia).



Greenhills Christian Fellowship
Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605

☎ (02) 8632 1354 to 56, (02) 8635 0082 to 83

☎ Fax No. (02) 8632 1357, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

✉ email@gcf.org.ph 🌐 gcf.org.ph 📍 Greenhills Christian Fellowship

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 **5/6 October 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.