



## Manage Your Enemies, or They Will Manage You

*Psalm 31*

### **English Services**

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

Prelude  
Call to Worship  
Worship through Praise  
Testimony  
Worship through Fellowship  
Community Prayer  
Scripture Reading  
Worship in the Word  
*Pastor Larry Pabiona*  
Worship through Giving  
Response Song  
Benediction

### **Filipino Service**

*(3 n.h.)*

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



**16/17 November 2019**

Vol. 41, No. 46

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

# Manage Your Enemies, or They Will Manage You

Today's Message (16/17 November 2019) / *Psalm 31*

AS YOU  
TRUST GOD  
AND ACCEPT  
REALITY  
AND ITS  
IMPLICATIONS,  
MAY YOU FIND  
REASON FOR  
CELEBRATING!

None of us are immune from enemies. They can range from the “not really bad people”—e.g. competitors in sports or business or love, all the way to the really wicked—people who mean bodily harm, who swindle, sue, willfully persecute or maliciously slander. And living a righteous life has nothing to do with not having enemies—remember the only Person who walked on earth and never sinned—He was condemned as a criminal and crucified. It is therefore crucial that you learn how to deal with those who willfully treat you unkindly—our very broad working definition of “enemies.” David had a lot of them. And his struggles are captured in our passage and echoed in the martyrdom of Jesus and Stephen for our blessing today. How do you manage enemies?

## 1. MANAGING ENEMIES INVOLVES TRUSTING IN ONE HIGHER THAN BOTH OF YOU: GOD.

- This involves a I \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ for deliverance to God (*vv. 1-4*)
- This involves a I \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ of dependence on God (*vv. 5-8*).

There may be times in your own life when the best thing you can only say in a given situation is, similarly, “Into your hand I commit my spirit” (*v. 5*). It is not the words you say, but the object of your trust who sets you free. There is blessed release in faith.

## 2. MANAGING ENEMIES REQUIRES ACCEPTING THE REALITY OF YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES.

- A \_\_\_\_\_ your contribution to the problem, if any (*vv. 9-13*).

### Traditional Service

(November 16, Sat., 6:00 p.m.)

Prelude

Call To Worship

Worship Through Praise

Missions Testimony

Worship Through Fellowship

Worship Through Giving

Community Prayer

Preparatory Hymn

Scripture Reading

Worship in the Word

*Pastor Larry Pabiona*

Response Hymn

Benediction

# Manage Your Enemies, or They Will Manage You

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- A \_\_\_\_\_ the sovereignty of God in your circumstances (*vv. 14-18*).

To acknowledge “My times are in your hand” (*v. 15*) is not fatalism. Nor is it the attitude of an escapist from reality. It is a bold declaration of faith in the care of God. Only one who believes in a Higher Power who personally cares can say that, and find peace.

### 3. MANAGING ENEMIES INVOLVES CELEBRATING IN THE MIDST OF HOSTILITY (*vv. 19-24*).

As Psalm 23:5 says, “You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.”

- You can celebrate as you r\_\_\_\_\_ the past faithfulness of God.

Throughout Scripture, you discover how much God wants us to use our memories, our recalling the past, in a positive way. He knows that even in a present where you may have nothing or no one left, you will always have good memories of God’s dealings with you, and that is enough for you to rebuild your life upon again.

- You can celebrate as you r\_\_\_\_\_ on the eternal character of God: His goodness, love (*hesed*), and justice. These unchanging attributes of God became the bedrock of David’s trust. They should be ours, too.

### FINAL THOUGHTS

What a way to end what could have been a bleak passage: “Love the Lord, all you his saints...Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!” (*vv. 23-24*).

Life on a fallen earth, in fallen bodies battling our fallen human nature, will always net you enemies. None of us can escape this fact of life. Yet enemies don’t have to rule your life or dictate how you live, or whether you have joy in life or none. If we take a cue from how David managed his own situation, we can make sure we manage the reality of having enemies, without becoming one to others. As you trust God and accept reality and its implications, may you find reason for celebrating! ■

# The Shepherd's Voice

by Pastor Dags Miguel

*Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.* —1 Peter 5:8-11 (NIV)

## BATTLING SIN: BE ALERT

In 1 Peter 5, Peter was calling fellow believers to be proactive and to not be so easily deceived by sin by being “self-controlled” and by being “alert” (v. 8a). The “devil”, as a deceiver then and even until today, is described by Peter as a “roaring lion” ready to “devour” weak and frail prey. But the encouragement to this menacing thought is in verse 10, where we are reminded of God’s promised salvation in Christ (1 Peter 1:3-9, 17-21, 23; 2:9-10). Peter is telling believers then and even today that though the enemy threatens to deceive and destroy, Christians are promised strength and fortitude to endure because of the One who enables us to be “strong, firm and steadfast” (v. 10).

Peter encourages us today in verses 10-11. Firstly, though there is suffering in the Christian life, Christians need not go through the battle alone since “brothers throughout the world” (v. 9) share in the same struggle. Secondly, as co-sharers of Christ’s suffering,

Christians are reminded of Jesus’ restoration, strength, firmness and steadfastness, and ultimately “eternal glory” (v. 10) as promised by Christ.

## ALERT FOR OTHERS

So, as we think about our sinfulness and the strength that we have in our Lord and Savior Jesus, may we be wary not just of our personal sins, but also be moved to bring about healing, restoration, and strength to a world that badly needs Jesus. As Peter himself writes in 1 Peter 4:7-11:

The end of all things is near.

Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. (NIV)

So this command is not just for the individual. It is a message for the church and for the world. Therefore, we must “pray” and in love “serve others” in order that they may discover His offer of “strength” and in the end, love, thank, and also, live, to “praise Jesus”! ■

# Ministry Opportunities + Announcements



## THE GARDEN OF GOD'S GRACE

GCF Women's Ministry | Speakers: Darlene Sala, Luisa Collopy, Bonnie Sala  
Nov. 20 (Wed), 8:30 a.m.-12 nn, Auditorium A  
Registration to this event is free. For more details contact 0917 532 1921.



## SI HESUS, STAR NG PASKO KO

Naomi Women celebrates Paskong Pinoy  
November 30 (Sat), 9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall  
Speaker: Vivian Lacanilao  
For more details contact 0917 532 1921.



## BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD

2019 Christmas Musicales  
December 7 (Saturday), 5:00 p.m.  
December 8 (Sunday), 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
(two services only on Sunday)  
Don't forget to invite everyone in your oikos!



## DECEMBER HOLIDAY SERVICES

Christmas Eve service:  
December 24 (Tuesday), 5:00 p.m.  
New Year's Eve service:  
December 31 (Tuesday), 5:00 p.m.  
Note: There are no Christmas Day and New Year's Day services.



## JOB OPPORTUNITY AT GCF

We are looking for **one (1) building engineer** to join our full-time staff here at Greenhills Christian Fellowship. For other application information and complete job description, please email [gcfhr@gcf.org.ph](mailto:gcfhr@gcf.org.ph).

## Join a DISCIPLE-MAKING GROUP

### Sunflowers Growth Group

Group for women  
Sundays, 9:30-11:03:30 a.m.  
Rm. B506

### 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, 9:00-10:30 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.*

## CHURCH LEADERS ELECTION 2019

*Let us continue to pray for wisdom as we choose our next church leaders.*

Pre-qualification Period: **November 2-16**

Publication of List of Candidates:

**November 30-December 8**

Election Day: **December 14-15**

*The flowers this week are given with praise and thanksgiving to God by Bingle Bravo Gutierrez and Susana N Lily Woo Sia. Please call 632 1354 to 56 for inquiries on how to participate in this ministry.*

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT / November 2019

NOVEMBER	Projected	Rcvd., Nov. 1-14	YEAR-TO-DATE	Projected	Rcvd., as of Nov 13
General Funds	7,799,214	2,802,739	General Funds	84,548,022	83,398,445
Mission Support Fund	1,317,698	504,829	Mission Support Fund	14,494,673	12,928,397
Others (Designated, etc.)	607,760	322,610	Others (Designated, etc.)	16,212,020	12,810,120
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,724,672</b>	<b>3,630,177</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>115,254,719</b>	<b>109,136,962</b>

# God prepares the way for service

BY RUEL GUEVARRA

It has been a year since I have been part of a short-term mission trip to Thailand as part of our church's Wetfoot ministry. There were blessings experienced and lessons learned, but I can say that my biggest takeaway from the trip is that it is where God confirmed His call for me to serve Him in full time ministry. I remember during one of our team's debrief, I've told them that I believe God is calling me, although I don't know when I would commit myself to it because of my work and other responsibilities.

Little did I know that God has already started working in my life to point me towards the direction of serving in missions, and do it full time. It has not been easy, especially during the first half of this year. I experienced facing bigger trials at my job, relationships, and even in my health. But I saw how God helped me and guided me through those trials and He also lead me to decide that this is the time to serve Him fully. I also witnessed how God used me and the Connect ministry to mobilize people to be part of the Wetfoot ministry this year, in which we supported our church's local missionaries.

Last July, I approached our Missions Coordinator and asked how I can serve as a Missionary Apprentice. Ever since then, God has just amazed me with the openings He presented me and the opportunities He's given me in preparing

me to be a missionary apprentice. With the help of our church, I was able to take training courses that will help me with this journey. I also received the full support of my family, both biological and spiritual, which is my Growth Group.



Throughout this experience I saw how God values and rewards obedience of his children. God wants us to depend on Him fully. Trusting and obeying Him will not only bring us His blessing, but will make us a blessing ■

## Do you want to give directly to GCF's missions efforts?

*Just use the envelope with black label to designate your giving specifically for this ministry.*

**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:** For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.—Psalm 31:3 (unsplash.com).



**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 0078 to 80, (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.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_ Landline no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: **16/17 November 2019**

Write below *any* inquiry or prayer item that you want to ask or share.

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Consent to use your information:

*By affixing your signature below, you give permission to Greenhills Christian Fellowship, its ministries and its staff, to store and use the information you provided above for the sole purpose of contacting you and updating you about any inquiry you have made.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your signature

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.