

THE PSALMS:  
SONGS TO KEEP YOUR LIFE IN TUNE

The Psalm That Jesus Sang:  
*A Picture of  
the Blessed Life*

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PSALM 118



Message Guide | September 20, 2020

# The Psalm That Jesus Sang: A PICTURE OF THE BLESSED LIFE

Today's Message (20 September 2020) / *Psalm 118*

*This psalm began with heartfelt praise, and ends with the same – recognizing again the goodness of God at the end of it all.*

If the importance of a psalm is measured by the number of times it is quoted in the New Testament, then Psalm 118 would be the most significant psalm. While it is a wonderful prophecy of our suffering and exalted Savior, it is also a great picture of a faithful believer's life.

Contrary to a popular cliché, for the believer – your best life is not now, it is next. But you can have a joyful life now, as you walk with God and work for God. When this earthly life is done, your best life finally comes as you enjoy God forever.

So how would you sum up the blessedness of a believer's life on earth, a life meant to be yours right now?

## 1. A life of Thanks-living, not just thanksgiving: (118:1-4)

- Believers who only thank God because He does them good should rise to a higher level and thank God because He *is* good. Goodness is God's innate character, therefore He is always to be praised whether we receive anything from Him or not.

Application: **THANK GOD IN EVERY SITUATION.**

## 2. A life of Trusting God, not anyone else: (118:5-14)

- Men of high rank are often proud, vain, and self-obsessed. It is better to trust in God than in them. Often they cannot deliver, and often they will not even when they can.
- When we need strength to go on, a song in our hearts, or salvation forever, seek God Himself (v. 14). Often we seek the gifts, detached from God Himself. To seek God and to receive Him is to receive all these gifts.

Application: **TRUST GOD IN EVERY CRISIS.**

### GROUP/FAMILY Discussion Questions

1. Why is it always wrong to seek people's help before asking God for help? If you ever made the same mistake in the past, how did God help you through it?
2. Why can every genuine Christian also say, "I shall not die, but live"? How can this truth encourage you in the midst of a global pandemic?
3. Pray together, asking God to help you see His sovereign hand behind every experience and therefore give you peace in whatever circumstances you are in.

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## 3. A life of Glorifying God for His Deliverance: (118:15-21)

- *I shall not die, but live:* As Jesus sang this song at the Last Supper, He could proclaim this confidently – that death would keep no hold upon Him, but He would *live*, and *recount the works of the LORD*.
- We need deliverance not only from trials and conflicts, but also from sin and guilt. We need someone to open for us the gates of righteousness (vv. 19–20). God made a way for our righteousness (v. 21). He is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Application: **GLORIFY GOD FOR EVERY RESCUE.**

## 4. A life Acknowledging the sovereignty of God in every aspect: (118:22-29)

- v. 22 “*The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.*” This is crucial for understanding the person and work of Jesus. No verse in the Old Testament is quoted more in the New Testament.
- *This is the LORD's doing:* The exaltation of Jesus from the cross to the resurrection to the right hand of God on high is the work of God *alone*.

Application: **SEE THE HAND OF GOD BEHIND EVERY EXPERIENCE.**

## Final Thoughts

This psalm began with heartfelt praise, and ends with the same – recognizing again the goodness of God at the end of it all. If we start with praise, we are in a much better position to end with praise, despite all we go through.

Whether in this life or in the life to come, God *will* surely deliver believers from all their adversities. But the greatest deliverance of all is the divine rescue of undeserving sinners from eternal condemnation. Let's give thanks to the Lord for His great salvation through the cross. Let's give thanks to Him who develops and deepens us for His glory. ■

## MCare Ministry: Missionary Home Partner (MHP) Program

The pandemic has affected a number of our missionaries. While all of them continue to trust God and have not lost passion in loving and reaching the nations, like King David in the Psalms, they too feel sad, isolated and at times feel helpless. So how might we be of help? Paul, as recorded in Philippians 4:11, 17-18, experienced great joy as a result of how the Philippians worshipped God, by way of their support to Paul's ministries. So then would your family and Growth Group consider bringing the same joy to our missionaries by joining an MHP? This is the advocacy of

Missionary Care (MCare) ministry, and their mission is to develop and sustain a vibrant MCare movement among GCFers, envisioning that by God's grace and for His glory, all GCF members joyfully, passionately, continuously working together to provide holistic care to its missionaries. The church commends many of you who have tirelessly cared for our missionaries, and so it is our prayer that every GCFer indeed obey God's call to missions, and one way to do that is by supporting our pool of supported missionaries who are passionate laborers of God's harvest field (Matt. 9:37-38).

## Joshua and Caleb Ministry : PNPA Christian Fellowship Prayer Updates

It has also been reported that the Philippine National Police Academy is on an extended lockdown until end of September due to the rise of Covid-19 positive cases within the academy. The PNPA revealed this past week that there they have 243 positive cases - 232

are cadets while 11 are personnel. So kindly pray for our Joshua and Caleb Ministry team comprised of Pastor Bernard Horiondo, Abe Felix and associate missionary Pastor Dan Afuang as they continue to reach-out and disciple brothers and sisters in the academy.

## Wetfoot : Virtual Trip to Thailand

While travel is restricted for many of us, our desire to see the nations worship Jesus continues. So how might the church be able to connect and reach our Thai neighbors with the love of Christ? Pack up your bags and bring your passports as we visit Thailand virtually with our tour guide Sam Lim on September 26, Saturday, at 3PM. Invite your family, Growth Group members and friends! Pre-register via: <https://bit.ly/WetfootThailand2020>.

WETFOOT  
THAILAND

26 SEPT | SAT | 3PM  
PRE-REGISTER AT  
[BIT.LY/WETFOOTTHAILAND2020](https://bit.ly/WetfootThailand2020)

HOW MIGHT THE CHURCH BE ABLE TO CONNECT AND REACH OUR THAI NEIGHBORS WITH THE LOVE OF CHRIST?

PARTNER WITH US IN GOD'S KINGDOM BUILDING CROSS CULTURALLY!



## Contact us. We want to hear from you!

For Gospel tracts you wish to pass on to your oikos, for prayer letters/guides you and your families and GGs can use to pray for our supported orgs and missionaries, or for other information regarding our church's missions programs, please feel free to message me via my mobile number/viber: **0917-8919057**, or via my email, [david.miguel@gcf.org.ph](mailto:david.miguel@gcf.org.ph). ■

# CHURCH UPDATES

## ELECTION OF CHURCH LEADERS

Church members can visit [election.gcf.org.ph](http://election.gcf.org.ph) for information and updates, or email [election@gcf.org.ph](mailto:election@gcf.org.ph) for specific queries

## BELONGING (Midweek Series):

*It's OK to be not OK: The Place of Lament in our Church Community And Society*  
September 23 (Wed), 6:30 p.m., GCF Facebook Page

## REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS

Mondays and Fridays, 7:00 p.m., GCF Facebook Page

## LIVestream (Youth LIVE Worship)

Saturdays, 5:00 p.m. on [youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive](https://youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive)

## KIDS' L.I.F.E. ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays, 1:00 p.m. on Facebook at [@GCFKidsLIFE](https://www.facebook.com/GCFKidsLIFE)

## THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

Thursdays, 8:00 p.m. to 9 p.m. via Zoom

# WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

For offerings during this time, please consider the following options:

## BANK DEPOSIT OR TRANSFER

Account Name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.

- **BDO** (BDO Corporate Center Branch) • **GCash (L) and PayMaya (R)**  
Savings Account 000661590216 (Scan QR code below)
- **China Bank** (Ortigas ADB Branch)  
Savings Account 1112-02006218
- **UnionBank** (UB Plaza Branch)  
Checking Account 0005-9001-0426
- **Robinsons Bank** (Main Office Branch)  
Savings Account 1000-3010-0017-355
- **Metrobank** (Ortigas Sapphire Branch)  
Savings Account 629-3-62919733-9



## CREDIT/DEBIT CARD THROUGH PAYPAL

Please visit [www.gcf.org.ph/give](http://www.gcf.org.ph/give) for instructions.

Please email a copy of your transaction document to [finance@gcf.org.ph](mailto:finance@gcf.org.ph) so your giving can be properly recorded and an official receipt can be sent to you.

## COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS

You may also designate your giving to our church's efforts to help frontliners and the vulnerable. Just indicate "For COVID-19 fund" when you email your transaction document ■



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](mailto:email@gcf.org.ph) 🌐 [gcf.org.ph](http://gcf.org.ph) 📍 Greenhills Christian Fellowship