

KEY THEMES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

CHURCH RESET!
The Hand of God in the Early Church and Ours



Personal Ministry & Sacrifice

ACTS 6:8-28:31



Message Guide | January 31, 2021

Church Reset

The Hand of God in the Early Church and Ours

KEY THEMES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

SERMON SERIES

TODAY'S MESSAGE | JANUARY 31, 2021

Personal Ministry & Sacrifice

Acts 6:8-28:31

There is one calling that every Christian is called to do. Without this, you should be concerned, for this calling is part and parcel of your spiritual pedigree (2 Timothy 3:12). What is this calling? Sacrifice. Every believer is called to spread the gospel. And doing so always involves sacrifice. It's never easy and will never be. Let's look at good role models in Acts to understand why:

1. SALVATION ALWAYS COMPELS US TOWARD SACRIFICIAL SERVICE.

- Stephen, Peter and Paul, and other models of Christianity – all served not for gain, but for loss. Being saved is enough reason to serve (2 Corinthians 5:14).
- A true believer doesn't serve to get anything. You serve because you want to give something. You serve God because you want to give up something you can uniquely give. In the normal Christian life, we must be willing to give up everything, if God so requires.

2. SACRIFICIAL SERVICE BY ITSELF IS SUCCESS IN GOD'S EYES (REGARDLESS OF SEEMING RESULTS).

- What did Stephen's sacrifice accomplish? At first glance, nothing. An external observer might even say that he set off the persecution of the church. But this same persecution made the faith spread like wildfire (Acts 8:3-4) and created the first missionary-sending church! (Acts 11:19-30)
- We cannot evaluate ministry purely on two things: numbers and immediate results. We must take the long view and the spiritual perspective too.



Church Reset

The Hand of God in the Early Church and Ours

KEY THEMES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

SERMON SERIES

3. SUCCESS IN GOD'S EYES SHOULD BE THE FOREMOST AND HIGHEST GOAL OF EVERY CHRISTIAN'S LIFE.

As we follow along Paul's three missionary journeys, every success was always accompanied by much sacrifice and often, outright pain. Nowhere is the saying "no pain, no gain" truer.

a) Our Reality

Acts 14:21-22 ...they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

b) Our Message

Acts 17:30-31 ...but now [God] commands all people everywhere to repent, because He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising Him from the dead.

c) Our Inspiration

Acts 18:9-10 And the Lord said to Paul..."Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people."

Acts 13:48-49 And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region.

d) Our Attitude

Acts 20:24 But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

e) Our Job Description

Acts 26:17-18 ... I am sending you to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.

Church Reset

The Hand of God in the Early Church and Ours

KEY THEMES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

SERMON SERIES

FINAL THOUGHTS

God is looking for the right people to serve Him. He's looking for believers who will serve, not because it's easy or convenient, but because it's exacting, demanding, and sacrificial. They have counted the cost of serving, and realize that the One they serve guarantees the results in His perfect way and time. All that He looks for is the right heart. Will He have yours?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean for Christ's love to control us? How can we really say that being saved is enough reason to serve?
2. Share about a time in your life that serving God was so hard, and yet that hard experience turned out to be one of the greatest blessings in your life.
3. Pray together, and ask God to make you appreciate that His sacrifice (He gave His Son) and Jesus' sacrifice (He gave His life) is more than enough reason for a genuine believer to welcome the sacrifice that comes from spreading the gospel.



WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING



Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

If you are led to give, you may do so through the following means:

Account Name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.

BDO

BDO Corporate Center
Savings Account: **000661590216**

METROBANK

Ortigas Sapphire
Savings Account: **629-3-62919733-9**

CHINA BANK

Ortigas ADB
Savings Account: **1112-02006218**

BPI

Ortigas Emerald
Peso Savings Account: **9823 0217 01**

UNIONBANK

UB Plaza
Checking Account: **0005-9001-0426**

ROBINSONS BANK

Main Office
Savings Account: **1000-3010-0017-355**

PAYPAL

Please visit **gcf.org.ph/give**

Scan QR code below:

GCASH



PAYMAYA



Send a copy of your transaction document to **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 give to support the church family's COVID relief efforts. Just indicate "**For COVID-19 Fund**" when you email your transaction document.

GCF RELIEF OPERATIONS FOR #UlyssesPH VICTIMS

We are accepting CASH donations for the typhoon victims. Email a copy of your transaction slip to **finance@gcf.org.ph** with the subject "Typhoon Ulysses"



CHURCH UPDATES



ELECTION OF CHURCH LEADERS

MEMBERSHIP INFO UPDATE

Got a New Email Address?
Update your GCF Membership Info today!
Visit bit.ly/GCFMemberUpdate now.



REPEAT ELECTIONS FOR CHURCH LEADERS

Vote online and on-site from January 17 to 31, 2021
Visit election.gcf.org.ph for more details.



GCF 43RD ANNIVERSARY | WEEKLONG ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

February 8 to 14 | Prayer and Fasting, Sunday Worship Service, Family Fellowship

PRE-REGISTER FOR THE IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE

To know more about the safety guidelines and restrictions, and to reserve a seat, visit tinyurl.com/GCFreservation.

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS DEVOTIONALS

Mondays and Fridays | 8:00 p.m. | Livestream on GCF Facebook and YouTube

MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS

Every Wednesday starting January 20 | 8:00 p.m.
Livestream on GCF Young Adults Facebook and GCF Main YouTube

LIVESTREAM (Youth LIVE Worship)

Saturdays | 5:00 p.m. | on youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive

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

Sundays | 1:00 p.m. | on Facebook at @GCFKidsLIFE

THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

Thursdays | 8:00 p.m. | 9 p.m. | via Zoom

BEST TOGETHER IN CHRIST (BTIC) GROWTH GROUP (AGE 30 TO 40)

Sundays | 2:00 p.m. | via Zoom | with Pastor Dave De Guzman

JOIN OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY!

Facebook: Greenhills Christian Fellowship | Instagram: [gcf.ortigas](https://www.instagram.com/gcf.ortigas)
Youtube/Viber: GCF Main

ONLINE VISITOR'S CENTER

Are you joining us for the first time? We would love to get to know you more! Visit bit.ly/GCFwelcome



Greenhills Christian Fellowship

Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605
Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

☎ (02) 8632 1357 📠 8632 1354 to 56 🌐 gcf.org.ph ✉ email@gcf.org.ph