

SERMON SERIES

NEHEMIAH:  
Recommittting  
God's People  
to God's Glory



# OUR UNALIGNED WORSHIP

(THE DEDICATION OF THE WALL)

NEHEMIAH 12:27-47

Message Guide | August 8, 2021

# NEHEMIAH

RECOMMITTING GOD'S PEOPLE TO GOD'S GLORY

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TODAY'S MESSAGE | AUGUST 8, 2021

## Our Unaligned Worship (The Dedication of the Wall)

NEHEMIAH 12:27-47

At a time in our history when we feel like taking refuge in lament psalms, a bright, cheerful, and bubbly story brimming with the joy of God's people over God's goodness greets us today. We rejoice in their worship, but can we rejoice in ours? How does this story lead us to worship and find joy like they did?

### 1. The heart that recalls or expects the goodness of God, will be filled with gladness, thanksgiving, and singing to God (*The Preparation for the Dedication, 12:27-30*).

- How did they prepare? They had the right people, the right purposes, and the right practice (purification).
- We learn from the life of Jesus that joy can be the most powerful motivator there is: Hebrews 12:2 “looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God”.

The present of a Christian is not run by his past, it is driven by his future.

### 2. The heart that rejoices from the goodness of God, will have a testimony of joy that glorifies God

*(The Procession of the Dedication, 12:31-43).*

- This is a description of the two glorious processions that walked on top of the wall, and which combined at the Temple for a glorious time of Worship that was so loud it was heard from afar.
- Quietly or loudly (Habakkuk 2:20, Psalm 100:1), corporately or personally, in good times or in bad – real, God-pleasing worship is always celebratory. It will always have at its core the celebration of the reality and attributes of God.



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The joyless Christian is therefore a sad contradiction. Even amid horrific suffering the believer can have a joy that is beyond the circumstances. The world will heed the Good News from such people!

### 3. The heart that is revived by the goodness of God, will respond with sacrifice joyfully offered to God

(*The Provisions from the Dedication, 12:44-47*).

- Nehemiah is careful to link what happened in vv. 44-47 to the glorious celebration: “on that day”. The joy of God’s people was manifested in their support of God’s work “all Israel... in the days of Nehemiah gave the daily portions”. They gave joyfully, “not reluctantly or under compulsion” (2 Cor. 9:7).
- Before we bring our offerings to the Lord, we must first give ourselves to Him (2 Cor. 8:5). Our gifts cannot be a substitute for our hearts. Heart first, gift next.

### Final Thoughts

Does this story brimming with joy and celebration seem out of place at a time when many of us are battling sadness and despair?

On the contrary, we need a story like this more than ever. Because the heart that recalls or expects the goodness of God, will always be filled with worship for God. And that is the source of gladness, thanksgiving, and singing that is above and beyond our circumstances!

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Is it toxic positivity to believe that Worship can bring joy to a believer in the midst of difficult circumstances? Explain your answer.
2. How was joy a motivator for Jesus when He was called “a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief”? How do you reconcile that?
3. As you close in prayer, interceded for anyone in the family or group who is battling a difficult situation right now. Ask that God reveals Himself in a fresh and new way to them that will lead them to worship and to rediscover joy.

Download the study guide: [bit.ly/NehemiahStudyGuides](http://bit.ly/NehemiahStudyGuides)



# The Shepherd's Voice

by Pastor Migs Orleans



Blessed weekend, church family!

From the heartbreak news of Pastor Eugene's passing two Thursdays ago, to another stretch of Enhanced Community Quarantine, I sense the need to change my usual greeting of "I hope you are doing well" to "I hope you are coping well." If, right now, you find this hard to do, let me share from my heart that I understand, and can sincerely relate with you. Perhaps, most of us in this beloved community are in the same state.

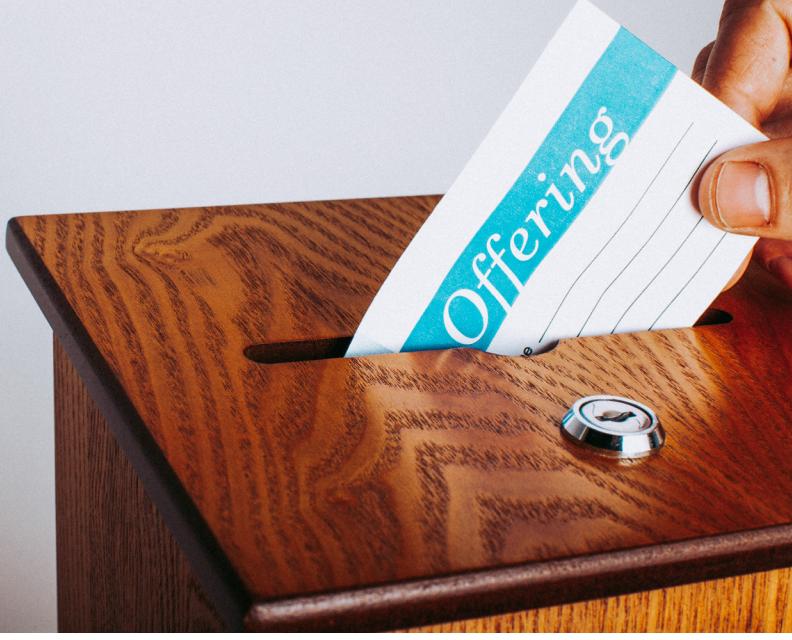
Last Tuesday, during our monthly Staff Chapel's time of prayer, I was deeply encouraged by Pastor Emer Manaloto quoting 1 Corinthians 15:55-58: "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

I hope I do not come across as insensitive, because while this promise is real and true for us who are in Christ — grieving will not simply go away. It has a tendency to stay, linger, and surprise even the most steadfast and immovable of our Abba Father's children. Reflecting on these verses again, as I write and record this, I cannot help but recall the words of Pastor Ro Peñaranda, when we went on a video call after hearing about Pastor Eugene... "This is why the Gospel is important."

GCFer, kung malungkot po kayo ngayon dahil grieving tayo, okay lang po. Naiintindihan po iyon ng Diyos, kasi hindi po Siya stranger to grief and loss. Before there was victory, there was death. Dahil po dito, kaya pa rin nating magpasalamat sa Panginoon. Maybe, just maybe, during this time, it is the Gospel, that is already in our very lives, that we need to remind ourselves of. Then, even in grief, and through our Lord Jesus Christ... we can still worship. We can still come together as a family, in your usual spot at home or wherever you tune in to Sunday Worship — to pray together, sing together, and open the Bible together. By God's grace, makaka-worship pa rin ang "Team Bahay."

I love you and continue to miss you, my church family. Stay safe as best as you can. God bless you, each one in each home. Ingat po tayo!

# 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**

### **PAYPAL**

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

Scan QR code below:

### **GCASH**



### **CHINA BANK**

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

### **BPI**

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

### **PAYMAYA**



### **UNIONBANK**

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

### **ROBINSONS BANK**

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

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.

### **GCF BAYANIHAN FOOD STALLS**

The GCF Mercy Ministry continues to accept donations, here's how:

**For In-Kind Donations:** drop off at the GCF Lobby from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**For Cash Donations:** give via the GCF bank accounts ([gcf.org.ph/give](http://gcf.org.ph/give)).

Email your deposit slip to [finance@gcf.org.ph](mailto:finance@gcf.org.ph) with the subject "For Bayanihan Food Stall". For questions, contact the Mercy Ministry at 0917 532 7672 or [mercy@gcf.org.ph](mailto:mercy@gcf.org.ph)

### **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.

# CHURCH UPDATES

**NO ON-SITE CONGREGATION UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

## SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

Available during the 5:00 p.m. service only until further notice

## REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS DEVOTIONALS

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

## MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICE

Wednesdays | 8:00 p.m. | via Zoom

## THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

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

## LIVEstream (YouthLIVE Worship)

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

## KidsLIFE ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

## LOOK UP AND MOVE OUT

Let us plant churches with a high view of God and a high view of God's word!

Visit [bit.ly/GCFChurchPlanting](https://bit.ly/GCFChurchPlanting) to find out more!

## TELECONSULTATION SERVICE

For appointments or questions, please contact:

[gcfocstef@gmail.com](mailto:gcfocstef@gmail.com) (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 nn) • [gcfocluan@gmail.com](mailto:gcfocluan@gmail.com) (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.)

## FAMILY GGEX (GROWTH GROUP EXPRESS)

Every Sunday Morning | 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 nn) | GGEx Leader: Pastor Emerson Manaloto  
Zoom: [bit.ly/FamilyGGEx](https://bit.ly/FamilyGGEx) • Passcode: familyGGEx | Contact Marj: 0917-779-1549

## GROWTH GROUP LEADERSHIP TRAINING (LEVEL 1)

August 8, 15, 22, & 29 | 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. | Pre-registration required: [bit.ly/GGLT1Aug2021](https://bit.ly/GGLT1Aug2021)  
For Inquiries, contact: 0917 779 1549

## LIVING A LIFE OF TRUE WORSHIP (7-WEEK ONLINE BIBLE STUDY)

August 1 – September 12 | 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. | Pre-registration required:  
(Precept) Ms Goldie/Jen: 0917-773 2378 • (GCF) Marj: 0917-779 1549

## HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Message us your prayer requests at:

Facebook: Greenhills Christian Fellowship | E-mail: [pray@gcf.org.ph](mailto:pray@gcf.org.ph)

## ONLINE VISITOR'S CENTER

We are so glad you're here today! We want to personally welcome you via Zoom after the 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Worship Services.

**Zoom Room: [bit.ly/WelcometoGCF](https://bit.ly/WelcometoGCF) | Welcome Form: [bit.ly/GCFWelcome](https://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](http://gcf.org.ph) 🎤 [email@gcf.org.ph](mailto:email@gcf.org.ph)