

THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST AND CHRISTIANITY

The Faith of Our Fathers Before the Flood

Hebrews 11:4-7



Message Guide | September 5, 2021

The Supremacy of Christ and Christianity

SERMON SERIES

TODAY'S MESSAGE | SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

The Faith of Our Fathers Before the Flood

HEBREWS 11:4-7

How did the heroes of faith in the earliest times start a relationship with God that continues in heaven? The same way we do today: by faith. Here are three portraits from antediluvian times in the hall of faith that show how important faith is to your worship, walk, and work for God:

ABEL – THE IMPORTANCE OF FAITH TO YOUR WORSHIP OF GOD (Hebrews 11:4)

- In other parts of the Bible it's implied that both Abel and Cain knew what God required (*Hebrews 9:22, 12:24; Genesis 4:4-7*). Sadly, only Abel responded with faith in God and His words.
- Every person is a worshiper. Even the atheist worships something (e.g. self). We were made by God for God and a part of our soul will always seek for God. The summit of that search is when faith begins. In Abel's era, what mattered was faith in God and what He said. Today it is faith in Jesus and what He said about Himself. Have you put your faith in Christ?

ENOCH – THE IMPORTANCE OF FAITH TO YOUR WALK WITH GOD. (Hebrews 11:5-6)

- There's more written about Enoch in the New Testament than in the Old Testament, though he lived in that era. That's a powerful testimony to a life so unique, it never ended.
- This same life that never saw death is the basis for the famous verse in Hebrews 11:6, which states the requirements of faith: to believe that God exists then to seek Him because it's worth it! Saving faith results in walking with God, and walking with God results in increasing faith. The Christian life is a virtuous cycle where God sets you up for good, whatever the circumstances of your life might be (Romans 8:28).

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NOAH – THE IMPORTANCE OF FAITH TO YOUR WORK FOR GOD. (Hebrews 11:7)

- Noah's faith led to reverent fear, which led to faithful obedience in doing God's work. This was not only in building the huge ark (for at least 55 years). But he was also a preacher of righteousness (2 Peter 2:5) with no converts besides his family. His faith made him persist in these thankless tasks!
- As the saying goes, "We are saved by faith alone, but the faith that saves is never alone". It always results in work for God, an important outcome of our salvation (*Ephesians 2:10*).

At a time like this when many fear the end of the world, rather than worry about the times (*Luke 21:11; Matthew 24:8, 38-46*) what Jesus wants us to do is the work He called us to do: to represent Him and share the Good News. Are we? Have we been so preoccupied with surviving that we've stopped serving?

FINAL THOUGHTS

The most important thing to remember about our three examples of faith is that they started with faith, then that inner faith resulted in external behavior – their worship, walk, and work for God. The way they started a relationship with God *before* the flood, is the same way we have a relationship with God today, *after* the Cross.

We are saved today by faith alone, in Christ alone, and therefore by grace alone. That grace is why we celebrate the Lord's Table today – a transforming, enriching, joy-giving grace.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Saving faith results in good works. How would you answer someone who says we are saved by faith plus good works?
- 2. Should a Christian be motivated by rewards in heaven? Why/why not?
- 3. Noah was separate in a positive way from the evil of his time. How separate from the world should we be? What constitutes "worldliness"? Where do we draw the line?
- 4. As you close in prayer, thank God for the grace He lavished on you through Jesus. Ask Him for the strength to live a life filled with worship and intimacy with God, that enjoys serving God.



The Shepherd's Voice

by Dr. Larry P. Pabiona, Senior Pastor



RELAUNCHING OUR KIDS, YOUTH, AND YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

These three age groups are the scope of our Disciplemaking Group 2 (DMG-2) ministry, one of four key departments under our Disciple-Making Ministry (DMM). We will use all of September to re-launch the ministries to these three crucial age groups.

A few months ago, GCF made an online survey that many of you graciously answered. One of the key findings was that our 40 and up age groups are "raving fans" (pardon the hyperbole) of our GCF church family – faithful, dedicated, loyal, and sacrificial GCFers. But for "single males below 35" the survey told a different story. This aspect of our ministry needs a major overhaul! Thus, under the able leadership of Pastor J.P. Kabuhat, guided by our newly installed Disciplemaking Ministry (DMM) head, P. B.J. Sebastian – we will be praying together, planning together, and as a church family, working together to address this. We praise God that He gifted us with able GCFers who designed the survey, then analyzed and interpreted the data for us. But now we must act upon their findings. So, please cover your church leaders in this vital relaunching of DMG-2 because the future of GCF is at stake. Where will we get the next generation of male GCF leaders? This very same group: "single males below 35".

PRAISE REPORT FROM PASTOR BONG DURANA, GCF MERCY MINISTRY HEAD

As of this date, our GCF Mercy Ministry has blessed with food and health packages nearly 2,500 households from 25 poor barangays in Metro Manila and in the provinces. It also served hot porridge to at least 2,000 of their children. In our very own Ortigas community, our Mercy Ministry gave snacks and health kits to 1,600 delivery riders and construction workers. In all these the Gospel was openly and lovingly shared to our countrymen.

Additionally, we also served hot meals to 3,000 persons to one Muslim community in Quezon City in the midst of this pandemic.

May God expand our territories as we share God's love and compassion to the poor, the marginalized, and other vulnerable people. And trusting Him that in the process, they also receive Jesus, the Bread of Life who can give eternal life to their souls.

We take this opportunity to thank the generous GCFers who freely gave of their blessings to support our Mercy Ministry. You may have requested anonymity, but our Lord knows who you are!

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.

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).

Email your deposit slip to 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

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.







READY, SET, GO!

Disciple the Next Generation now! Visit bit.ly/GCFReadySetGo to start!

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

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

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

Saturdays | Little Ones - 10:00 a.m. • Growing Ones - 10:15 a.m. Livestream on @GCFKidsLIFE Facebook and YouTube

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** to find out more!

TELECONSULTATION SERVICE

For appointments or questions, please contact: gcfocstef@gmail.com (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 nn) • gcfocluan@gmail.com (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.)

COVID VACCINES AND YOU - AN HONEST TALK WITH FELLOW BELIEVERS

September 15, 2021 | Wednesday | 8:00 p.m. | Live on GCF Facebook and YouTube

FAMILY GGEX (GROWTH GROUP EXPRESS)

Every Sunday Morning | 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 nn

GGEx Leader: Pastor Emerson Manaloto Zoom: bit.ly/FamilyGGEx

Passcode: familyGGEx | Contact Marj: 0917-779-1549

SENIORS & WELLNESS OF MIND

September 11, 2021 | Saturday | 4:00 p.m. | Register at: tinyurl.com/SeniorsWellness11Sep For inquiries, please contact 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

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 | Welcome Form: bit.ly/GCFWelcome

