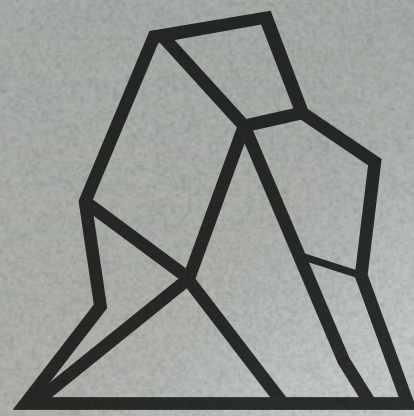




EPHESIANS SERIES
**BUILT ON
BIBLICAL
BEDROCK**
THE CHURCH THAT PLEASES GOD

The Ghost Who Removes All Fear

Ephesians 1:13-14



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THE CHURCH THAT PLEASES GOD

TODAY'S MESSAGE | SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

The Ghost Who Removes All Fear

EPHESIANS 1:13-14

If, like me, you were raised in the King James Version, the term “Holy Ghost” is familiar to you, because this translation uses the phrase 89 times. Providentially, all modern translations now use the modern word “Spirit” in lieu of the old English “ghost”.

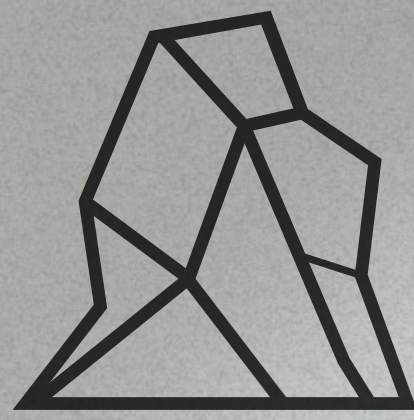
Best of all, instead of causing fear, the Holy Spirit’s presence is the best antidote to fear, because “*God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control*” (2 Timothy 1:7). This is still part of the many spiritual blessings all believers have “in Christ”. So, who is the Holy Spirit? What is His role in the life of a believer? How important is this truth for us?

1. **Because you are sealed with the Holy Spirit, you are known to God and are protected by God.**

Ephesians 1:13, “*In Him you also... were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.*”

- a) This sealing is dependent on genuine conversion, so the process is described: “*...when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him*”. Have you heard the Word of truth, the Good News, and believed in Christ?
- b) This sealing bestows the following blessings:
 - **You are identified forever as a child of God (Romans 8:9, 16)**
“Sealing” refers to an official mark of identification. To be sealed with the Spirit means that the very presence of the Holy Spirit in you is your identification as a child of God. This means God claims you as His own. When people panic about the “Mark of the Beast”, they realize that the God who owns you will never let you walk around with two different IDs. It cannot happen. Not even in error. God takes care of His own and protects them from even ignorant mistakes.
 - **You are protected and secured forever as a child of God**
Anyone who is against you would have to go through God Himself! John 14:16-17 proves that the Holy Spirit abides with the Christian forever. We can grieve the Spirit (*Ephesians 4:30*). But He will never abandon us.





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2. Because the Holy Spirit is God's downpayment on His promised spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:3), you will receive all of the inheritance that God promised His people.

Ephesians 1:14, *“who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it...”*

- a) The word “guarantee” refers to earnest money, or the first installment of a larger amount that will be fully paid out. God literally guarantees to keep His promise to bless you with every spiritual blessing in Christ! In view of this:
 - Let's stop thinking that our enjoyment of God is only for the future. We can enjoy a preview of heaven right now through intimacy with God enabled by His Spirit.
 - Let's stop thinking that our present experience of God's favor is all there is. This is just the first installment, a foretaste of the best that is yet to be!
- b) Why does the Holy Spirit do all of this for us? All of this is being done *“to the praise of [God's] glory”*.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Ephesians 1:3-14 shows us the irreversible election of the Father, the irreversible redemption of the Son and now the irreversible indwelling of the Holy Spirit. And 2 Corinthians 1:22 affirms that God *“has anointed us, and who has also put His seal on us and given us His Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee”*.

How then should we live? 2 Timothy 2:19 shows us the way: But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: *“The Lord knows those who are His,”* and, *“Let everyone who names the Name of the Lord depart from iniquity.”*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. With all the talk today about the mark of the beast, why is it not possible for a genuine Christian to receive it?
2. What Biblical truth ensures that will the Holy Spirit never leave even if we grieve him? (John 14:16-17)
3. What attitude found in Paul makes it easier to understand that a Christian's life on earth can really become a preview of heaven? (Philippians 3:7-10)
4. As you pray together, thank God for how He has sealed you forever with His Spirit, and pray that God enables you to live a life that proves you are His through a lifelong desire to be free from sin (2 Timothy 2:19).

Download the study guide: bit.ly/EphesiansStudyGuides



The Shepherd's Voice

by Pastor Mikee Sosmeña,
Youth LIVE Pastor



Blessed Sunday, GCF!

It's no surprise that the past year and a half has been a series of difficult adjustments. While many of us already have our own problems to navigate, the younger generation has been faced with their own unique set of challenges. With the need to adjust to online learning, if one is even privileged enough to afford the means, a day in the life of a teenager is bookended with stress and fatigue. On top of that, adherence to the health and safety protocols put in place has made socializing a difficult task, as we know that even with the blessing of technology, face-to-face interaction remains simply irreplaceable. Yes, things like learning and relationships are important for everyone, but arguably more so for the younger believers who are in the crucible of identity formation.

That being said, it has always been the desire of God for His Church to support each other by building loving relationships among one another. This month, we share in the desire to foster life-on-life discipleship across generations.

We're ready with our hearts and we're set with our minds. So Church, let's go for it and invest in the next generation! May we find ourselves encouraging the younger generation just as the Lord emboldened the young prophet Jeremiah for His ministry. Echoing the words of Paul to his beloved son in the faith, Timothy, may we encourage our youth to set "an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12). As a people that strives to love others, let us start by loving the one-anothers in our family.

We often say that YouthLIVE, or Youth Living In View of Eternity, is a family. If you are a teenager currently in junior high, senior high, or even in college, then I invite you to experience family with us. Join us for our usual Saturday LIVEStreams, our Monday and Friday prayer gatherings in the evening, and be a part of a small group! For those in college, we particularly encourage you to join our campus ministry called Frontline! If you simply just want to hang out with people your age, grow in the love of Jesus, and have fun doing it, then come join us.

He who makes all things new is moving in our midst. Let's not miss it. Grace and peace be with us, church family!



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.

CHURCH UPDATES

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

KidsLIFE ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Saturdays | Little Ones - 10:00 a.m. • Growing Kids - 10:15 a.m.

Livestream on GCF Facebook and YouTube

LIVEstream (YouthLIVE Worship)

Saturdays | 5:00 p.m. | Livestream on GCF Facebook and YouTube

YA TALKS

Fridays | 8:00 p.m. | Livestream 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

GCF ELECTION OF CHURCH LEADERS (NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN!)

To read the duties and qualifications of Elders and Deacons, visit election.gcf.org.ph

To nominate, visit bit.ly/GCFNominationForm • Deadline for Nominations: **October 3 (Sunday)**

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.)

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



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