



COMMUNION SERIES ON HEBREWS:
THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST
AND CHRISTIANITY

The Essence of Faith Has Never Changed

Hebrews 11:23-31



Message Guide | November 7, 2021

The Supremacy of Christ and Christianity

SERMON SERIES

TODAY'S MESSAGE | NOVEMBER 7, 2021

The Essence of Faith Has Never Changed

HEBREWS 11:23-31

Did Moses and the Israelites believe differently than we do? Are we saved like they were, or are we getting something wrong? Let these short narratives in the era of Moses assure or instruct you about faith and how it all leads back to Christ:

1. THE FAITH OF MOSES' PARENTS (Hebrews 11:23)

- Faith in God made Moses' parents unafraid of a tyrant and made them discern their son was no ordinary child.
- Faith continues to trust long after fear has made others give up. And what matters most is the right object of faith – God Himself. But what do you do when your faith is small? Here's a valid prayer, "*I do believe! Help me overcome my unbelief!*" (Mark 9:24, NIV)

2. THE FAITH OF MOSES (Hebrews 11:24-28)

- How did Moses' faith show itself? Through radical choices: suffering with the oppressed people of God rather than sinning with the oppressors; choosing disgrace for the sake of the Messiah over the wealth of Egypt; leaving the king despite violent threats, and obeying a seemingly bizarre command.

How could Moses do this? Because he chose the eternal over the temporal (the Messiah and eternal rewards) and lived conscious of the reality of God (Hebrews 11:1, 6).

- Faith is demonstrated most of the time in our daily routines, living conscious of the unseen God. But sometimes, it is tested and shown in our radical choices: choosing to suffer than to sin, choosing insults for the Messiah over the influx of money, or deciding to go against the flow because God said so. May God enable us to have faith for those times!

3. THE FAITH OF GOD'S PEOPLE (Hebrews 11:29-30)

- Like leader, like people! We become like those who lead us. The people's faith was strengthened as Moses and Joshua showed faith in God; and God always came through.

"Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith." (Hebrews 13:7)



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4. THE FAITH OF A PROSTITUTE (Hebrews 11:31)

- Rahab showed saving faith in a simple, heartfelt declaration: “...for the LORD your God, He is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath” (Joshua 2:11b). This faith, verified later by actions, saved her. By this, she became the first recorded Gentile convert in the Bible!
- When we come to Christ, the slate is wiped clean. Rahab was no longer an unclean prostitute but worthy of becoming an ancestor of Jesus Himself. In her life, all of us sinners saved by grace, can see ourselves. In her story, we see the amazing grace of God that saves even the worst of sinners and brings them into an abundant life with Christ.

FINAL THOUGHTS

In Moses’ time and ours, the essence of faith has never changed. Faith believes in God and His promises, which are all fulfilled in Jesus.

Faith is looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2), who gives both instructions about faith and enablement for faith through the Holy Spirit. All this was made possible through His finished work on the Cross, whose significance we celebrate with every Communion.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about a time when fear almost made you give up on something you shouldn’t, but faith in God made you go on. What can others possibly learn from your experience?
2. Read Psalm 84:11-12. What one thing qualifies what God gives (or withholds) to those who walk with Him and trust in Him? How does this connect with Romans 8:28?
3. The beautiful story of Rahab’s redemption mirrors the same experience for many of us. Even for those born and raised in a Christian family, salvation gave us countless blessings we can be thankful for. What is one of the things you are most grateful to God about concerning your salvation from sin?
4. As you close in prayer, worship God together as you go around until everyone has said a short prayer just praising God for His saving grace through Jesus Christ. Close by praying for people in your *Oikos* who do not yet know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

The Shepherd's Voice

by Dr. Larry P. Pabiona, Senior Pastor



THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF ALL THE PASTORS

With Pastor's Appreciation Month now over, thank you for all the gifts of appreciation you gave on behalf of all the Pastors (personally, on behalf of my family too). We did our best to relay our thanks, but there were anonymous gifts or those for which we had no contact information, and we could only breathe a prayer of blessing for those kind souls. Let me also assure you that none of us complained about the extra pounds we put on last month!

The ministry has not been and will never be easy. The younger Pastors may recall my saying this in different ways: when you find ministry "easy," beware because you are probably overlooking something important. But while it will never be easy, it should never lose its joy. It wakes you up in the morning, and you are eager to jump out of bed, and it soothes you to sleep at night as you rest in the sovereignty of God.

Our beloved brethren, Hebrews 6:10 says it best for us, "*For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for his name in serving the saints, as you still do.*" May our Lord bless you all richly!

PRAISE GOD FOR THE RESUMPTION OF ON-SITE WORSHIP

It is a great blessing to resume on-site worship after the lockdown forced us to stop three times in the past. The government's announcement that we are now on Alert Level 2 opens even more possibilities for us. Here are the exact wordings from the IATF:

"The following establishments, or activities, shall be allowed to operate, or be undertaken at a **maximum of 50% indoor venue capacity for fully vaccinated individuals only and those below 18 years of age, even if unvaccinated, and 70% outdoor venue capacity.** Provided that all workers/employees of these establishments are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and MPHS shall be strictly maintained."

Given this, kindly allow us to remind you of these essential details:

1. The requirement for only fully vaccinated individuals to worship indoors is a government requirement. Please rest assured that GCF is not discriminating against unvaccinated individuals.
2. While I am fully vaccinated and was never infected, and though it's extremely difficult, I will wear a mask while preaching to allay concerns I will spread the virus. The feedback that "you inspire fear rather than faith by wearing a mask onstage" might return, but it's okay.

Finally, please let me invite you all back to join us in on-site worship. If it's not risky for you (fully vaccinated) and you are physically able to come, please come here ASAP! We miss you!



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



WORSHIP THE LORD WITH US ON-SITE!

10:00 AM Worship Service | Present your vaccination card as you enter the building.

VOTE FOR ELDERS AND DEACONS (FROM NOV. 7 TO NOV. 28)

Vote for elders and deacons on-site or online from **November 7 to November 28**.
Visit election.gcf.org.ph for more information. Contact **Grace Mosquera** at **0917 532 7662** for inquiries.

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

Available during the 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. service only

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS DEVOTIONALS

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

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 YouTube and Facebook

LIVEstream (YouthLIVE Worship)

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

YA TALKS

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

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 | For Inquiries, contact Marj at 0917-779-1549

TELECONSULTATION SERVICE

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

OIKOS APPLIED: LEARN HOW TO SHARE THE GOSPEL

Sundays | 1:30 PM via Zoom | Every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month
Open to all GCFers | Pre-registration Required: Visit bit.ly/OikosApplied

UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL GIFTS: ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Sundays | 8:00 – 9:00 AM
Pre-registration Required: Ms. Marj: 0917 779 1549 Ms. Jen: 0917 773 2378

MORNING OF PRAYER

Saturday | November 20 | 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 nn | Zoom: bit.ly/MorningofPrayer1120
For inquiries, contact 0932 371 3457

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.

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