



EPHESIANS SERIES

**BUILT ON  
BIBLICAL  
BEDROCK**

THE CHURCH THAT PLEASURES GOD

**27 Mar 2022**

# God Equips Us for Ministry to Grow Spiritually

**EPHESIANS 4:11-13**

## English Worship Service

10:00 AM and 5:00 PM • Live In-Person and Online

Call to Worship

Worship Through Praise

Worship Through Giving

Church Updates

Community Prayer

Scripture Reading

Worship in the Word

*Dr. Larry Pabiona*

Response Song

Benediction





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SERMON SERIES

TODAY'S MESSAGE • MARCH 27, 2022

# God Equips Us for Ministry to Grow Spiritually

**EPHESIANS 4:11-13**

**Not only  
is every  
member in  
ministry;  
for a true  
Christian,  
all of life is  
ministry.**

Why are many churches so weak and disconnected from society that they're sometimes called "irrelevant"? Why are some churches not growing spiritually even while they increase numerically? Who defines the measure of a "growing church" in the first place?

Ephesians 4:1-16 is about God's design for a church that runs according to His plan. Verses 11-13 teach us that God equips Christians to do ministry so that they can grow spiritually. This ensures the life, vibrancy, and relevance of a church because its members not just minister to one another but to every person in their circles of influence:

## **1. GOD'S MEN AND WOMEN: God Blessed His Church With Accountable People (Ephesians 4:11)**

- Those Who Laid the Foundation (Ephesians 2:20):  
The apostles and prophets.
- Those Building on the Foundation Today:  
The evangelists, the shepherds, and teachers.

**Implication:** The church leader's primary mandate is built around the Bible: driven by love, they feed God's people with God's Word and lead them to follow Christ as His disciples ("love, feed, lead"). They are NOT to do all the ministry while the rest watch!

## **2. GOD'S METHOD: The Mandate of God's Accountable People (Ephesians 4:12)**

- **"To equip the saints for the work of ministry [toward] building up the body of Christ."**  
Not two job descriptions, but one – where the first leads to the other. Leaders equip and build up people so they can serve. As people serve, they grow spiritually.
- Beware of false dichotomies: clergy vs. laity; church ministry vs. whole-life ministry ("secular vs. sacred").







EPHESIANS SERIES

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THE CHURCH THAT PLEASURES GOD

SERMON SERIES

## God's Way to Heaven

### THE GOSPEL

“Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

### THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD

#### God is holy and righteous:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty, the whole earth is full of his glory” (Isaiah 6:3).

**He requires holiness of us as well:** “Be holy, for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:16).

### THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRIST

#### Christ is the expression

**of God's love for us:** “God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8). **Christ paid the penalty of our sins and died for sinners:** “For Christ died for sins once for all, righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God (1 Peter 3:18).

**Through Christ, God offers man reconciliation:** “God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them (2 Corinthians 5:18).

### WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

#### Believe and receive Jesus as Lord and Savior:

If you confess. With your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9).

### PRAYER:

*Lord Jesus, be merciful to me, a sinner. I believe that You are the Son of God who took the penalty for my sins on the Cross. I humbly ask You to be my Savior and submit to you as my LORD forever. Amen.*

Download the  
study guide:



[gcf.link/GCFStudyGuides](https://gcf.link/GCFStudyGuides)

**Implication:** All of God's people do ministry; no one is exempt. As people become equipped through the Word, they minister to others so that the church's work is continued in their weekday lives intentionally, and weekend/ church ministries additionally.

### 3. GOD'S MEASURE OF SUCCESS: Until We All Attain... (Ephesians 4:13)

#### a) “to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God.”

- We find Unity over right belief and doctrine (“the faith”) and the common pursuit of personal, experiential knowledge of Christ (Philippians 3:7-8).

**Implication:** We grow together as we affirm the same truths and seek the same Christ.

#### b) “to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.”

- Maturity is always measured by our conformity to the image of Christ (2 Corinthians 3:18; Romans 8:29). As individual Christians grow spiritually, the church grows spiritually. In a united, undivided church, no one gets left behind.

**Implication:** Becoming like Jesus is impossible, alone. It's a team effort involving an entire community (“the church”). That's why the Bible reminds us to “stir up one another to love and good works” and warns against “neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another” (Hebrews 10:24-25).

### FINAL THOUGHTS

Not only is every member in ministry; for a true Christian, all of life is ministry. You can take your network of family and friends and genuinely minister to them with the gifts and opportunities that God has blessed you with. This is God's design for the church, and this is why God equips you for ministry. All of life is. ■



# The Shepherd's Voice

Pastor BJ Sebastian  
Disciple-Making Ministry, GCF Ortigas

## “INVITE, EVANGELIZE, DISCIPLE, REPEAT”

Our major thrust as a church this year is to get the whole church proclaiming the whole gospel to the whole world, especially to our “oikos” – our household or areas of personal influence.

We want this to happen particularly through our Growth Groups, which were originally designed not just for us to grow in the faith individually, but to also grow numerically in loving outreach and evangelism. It is my firm belief that we cannot do one without the other, we cannot grow in our faith walk if we do not reach out to witness for the Lord Jesus Christ. In 1 Timothy 2:1-6, Paul admonishes us to pray “for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions” so that we can have national and community peace. This should create a suitable environment for us to evangelize because “it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” Praying for all people should be followed up by reaching out to all people – proclaiming the gospel of salvation to as many as the Lord brings within our circle of influence and relationship. This is because “...there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.” We can do this through our Growth Groups.

We need only to do **four things** – **invite** new members, **evangelize** them, **disciple** them in the faith, and then **repeat** the whole cycle again and again and again.

We need to invite those who still do not have a saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. When they accept our invitation to come to our Growth Group meeting, we then need to share the gospel with them, warning them of their need for a Savior, introducing them to the Person and promises of Christ, and challenging them to believe in Him alone for salvation. When they come to faith, we need to walk them through the basics of the faith – Bible study, prayer, fellowship, worship, and witnessing about their new-found faith. Then we repeat this for the new people that the Lord will surely bring to our Growth Groups because we are being faithful to intentional evangelism and discipleship.

Towards this end, we are reorganizing and renaming our Missional Disciple-Making Ministry (MDM) into our new Evangelism and Missions Ministry (EMM). We are moving several clusters of our Growth Groups to come under the shepherding of EMM to precisely encourage and equip them to do this gospel cycle – invite, evangelize, disciple, repeat. May the Lord bless our commitment to this by adding to our numbers daily those who are being saved. ■



# WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

## God loves a cheerful giver.

“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**



Send a copy of your transaction document to [finance@gcf.org.ph](mailto: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.

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](http://gcf.org.ph/give)

#### **GCASH**



#### **PAYMAYA**



## Missions Support

By God's grace, GCF continues to support missionaries and missionary organizations.

If you are being led by the Holy Spirit to designate your giving to our Missions Support Fund, please indicate **“FOR MISSIONS”** when you email your transaction document to [finance@gcf.org.ph](mailto:finance@gcf.org.ph)





# CHURCH UPDATES

## WORSHIP WITH US ON-SITE

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

#### STARTING TODAY, MARCH 27

10:00 a.m. (ENGLISH) • 3:00 p.m. (FILIPINO)

5:00 p.m. (ENGLISH)

#### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- Vaccination card required at entrance.
- If you (or household) have symptoms, stay home and worship online.
- Good-fitting masks required. Face shields are optional.

#### STARTING TODAY, MARCH 27

### KidsLIFE WORSHIP

For kids aged 7-12

Only for the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Pre-Registration required at

[gcf.link/KidsLIFEonsite](https://gcf.link/KidsLIFEonsite)

#### IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- Venue: Youth Center, 6th Floor
- Kids aged 6 below should join their parents in the Worship Service

### REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS DEVOTIONALS

Tuesdays • 8:00 p.m.

Livestream on GCF YouTube and Facebook

### KidsLIFE ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Saturdays

• Ages 2-6 — 10:00 a.m.

• Ages 7-12 — 10:15 a.m.

Livestream on GCF YouTube and Facebook

### LIVestream (YouthLIVE Worship)

Saturdays • 5:00 p.m

Livestream on GCF YouTube and Facebook

### TELECONSULTATION SERVICE

For medical appointments or questions, 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.)

### THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

New Timeslot and New Venue

Starting April 7 (Thursday)

7:00 p.m. at GCF Ortigas and via Zoom

#### Pray for H.O.P.E.

Prayer Gathering for the 2022 Elections

April 9, 2022 • 7:00 p.m. • via Zoom

Link: [gcf.link/PrayForHOPE](https://gcf.link/PrayForHOPE)

ID: 813 9523 1890

Passcode: Pray4HOPE

## STAY CONNECTED

On-demand viewing of our Worship Services will be available every Monday.

## DEPRESSED? ANXIOUS? LOST A LOVED ONE?

If you need someone to talk to, we are here to listen.

Contact us at **GCF ERCC Hotline:**  
**0917 532 7794**

## 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

Is it your first time today?

We want to personally welcome you via Zoom after the 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Worship Services.

Zoom Room:

[gcf.link/WelcomeToGCF](https://gcf.link/WelcomeToGCF)

Welcome Form:

[gcf.link/GCFWelcome](https://gcf.link/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](https://gcf.org.ph) [email@gcf.org.ph](mailto:email@gcf.org.ph)