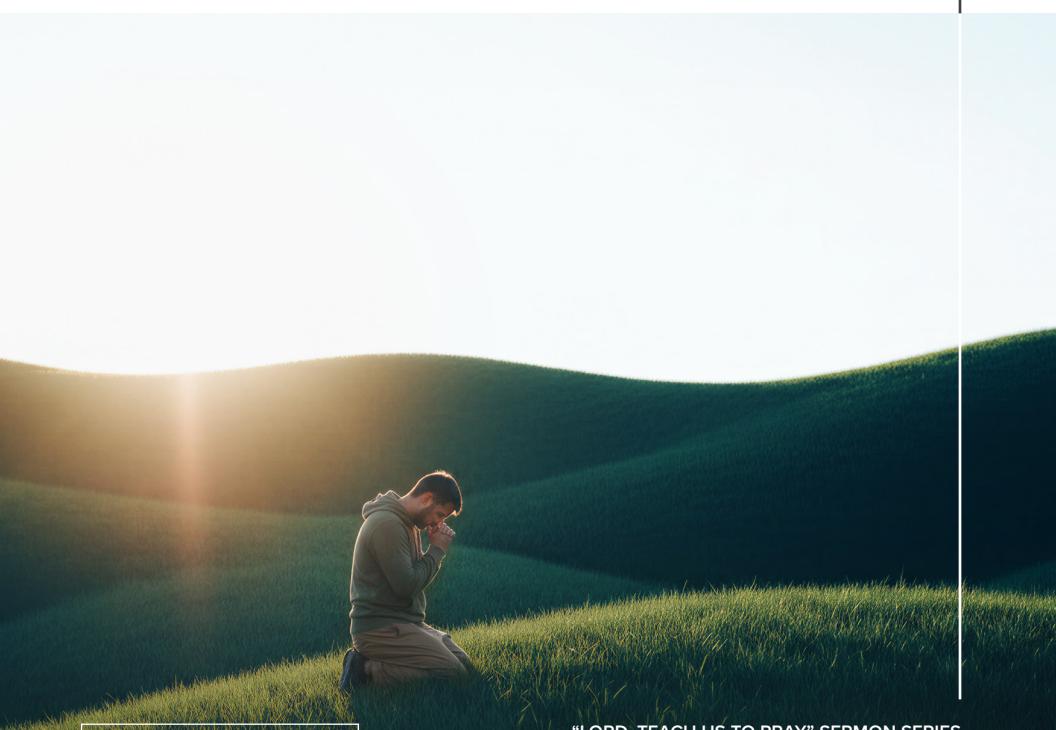




BULLETIN

Vol. 48. No. 2
February 14 and 15, 2026



Order of Worship

- Call to Worship
- Worship Through Praise
- Community Prayer
- Missions Testimony
- Worship Through Fellowship
- Worship Through Giving
- Scripture Reading
- Worship in the Word
- Benediction

"LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY" SERMON SERIES

Rejoice. Pray. Give Thanks. Repeat.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Pastor BJ Sebastian
English and Filipino Services

Rejoice. Pray. Give Thanks. Repeat.

1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

“FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS FOR YOU.” (v. 18b)

- The will of God is perfect and good (Romans 12:2). His will keeps us from being foolish (Ephesians 5:17). His will is that all who believe in His Son will have eternal life (John 6:40). And whoever does His will shall abide forever (1 John 2:17).
- This epistle contains the great truth about the rapture and the Day of the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:17; 5:8–9). The Apostle then gave instructions for all believers to follow, out of gratitude for God's sure salvation (1 Thessalonians 5:12–13).
- At the center of these instructions are three short imperatives: to rejoice, pray, and give thanks (vv. 16–18a). To pray with joy and thanksgiving is commanded by God. To not do so is sinful disobedience, and a great spiritual loss to a believer.

1. “REJOICE ALWAYS” (v. 16)

- To “rejoice always” is to be “calmly happy, at all times” which seems impossible in view of life’s difficulties, yet it is commanded regardless of circumstances (Philippians 4:4; 2 Corinthians 6:10; Habakkuk 3:17-18).
- To rejoice always is possible if our lives are anchored on the unchanging character of God (Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28-30), if we are in Christ (Romans 5:11; Isaiah 61:10), and if we are Spirit-filled (Galatians 5:22; Ephesians 5:18-19).
- To rejoice always is reflective of a deep abiding trust in God which is needed in faithful praying (John 16:24).

2. “PRAY WITHOUT CEASING” (v. 17)

- To “pray without ceasing” is to live in constant dependence on God. It should not be a mindless repetition of empty words (Matthew 6:7), but thoughtful, heartfelt and persevering prayer (Ephesians 6:18).
- The Lord exemplified this in His own prayer life (Mark 1:35; 6:46; Luke 9:28–29), and illustrated this in two parables (Luke 11:8; 18:4–5).



- The early church, led by the Apostles, practiced this pattern of persistent praying (Acts 1:14; 2:42; 4:31). And the apostle Paul stressed the importance of obeying God in this matter (Romans 12:12; Philippians 4:6; Colossians 4:2).
- To pray allows us to submit to the control of the Holy Spirit, which results not only in being joyful, but also in being thankful (Ephesians 5:18–20; Colossians 3:15–16).

Sermon Notes

3. “GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES”

(v. 18a)

- Just like to “rejoice always,” to “give thanks in all circumstances” is difficult, if not impossible, to obey because of the many difficulties of life (1 Peter 4:12; James 1:2–4).
- Thankfulness characterizes the life of a true believer (Psalm 136:1; Ephesians 5:18–20; Colossians 2:6–7; 3:15–17), in the same way that ungratefulness is the mark of those who are not (Romans 1:21; Ephesians 5:4).
- Thankfulness must continue to fill our hearts even during times of suffering, sorrow, and stress because God is in control and will only allow that which we can stand (1 Corinthians 10:13); only that which will be ultimately good for us (Romans 8:28–30); and, He guarantees us His unexplainable peace when we pray with joy and thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6–7).

Rejoice. Pray. Give thanks. Repeat. This is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ■



DOWNLOAD STUDY GUIDE

gcf.link/StudyGuides

WORSHIP WITH US AT GCF ORTIGAS

SUNDAYS

8:00 AM English

10:30 AM English

Auditorium B

3:00 PM Filipino

5:30 PM English

Auditorium A

SATURDAYS

5:30 PM Traditional

Auditorium B

WEDNESDAYS

6:30 PM

Ortigas Community Worship

GCF Chapel, Ground Floor

 Livestream is available during the 10:30 AM and 3:00 PM Sunday Services. The recording of the Traditional Service will be streamed on Sundays at 5:30 PM.

KIDS on SUNDAYS

8:00 AM Kids L.I.F.E. Sunday School

3:00 PM Ages 2–6 • Toddler's Center

5:30 PM Ages 7–12 • 4th Floor

10:30 AM Ages 2–3 • Toddler's Center

Ages 4–12 • 4th Floor

All ages 13 and above, worship with your parents at the Auditorium

YOUTH on SATURDAYS

4:00 PM Youth L.I.V.E. Discipleship Gathering

For ages 13 to 20 • Fellowship Hall

YOUNG ADULTS on FRIDAYS

7:00 PM YA Fridays

For ages 20s to 40s • Fellowship Hall

BIBLE STUDY on SUNDAYS

9:30 AM Sunday Bible School (SBS)

Open to all • GCF Chapel

9:30 AM "Like Jesus" Youth Bible Study

For all high school students • Room B406

9:30 AM Men's Growth Group Express

Open to all men • Room A109

PRAYER HOUR on THURSDAYS

8:00 PM GCF Family's Hour of Prayer

Open to all • Online via Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/GCFHourOfPrayer

Meeting ID: 848 3227 7763 • Passcode: 984990

OUTREACH on WEDNESDAYS

5:30 PM Ortigas Community Outreach

Open to all • Fellowship Hall

TRUTHS ABOUT LIFE & DEATH

Share this with your friends and family who need to know Christ!

THE CHARACTER OF GOD

God is holy, pure, and just. He rightfully and righteously judges and punishes all sin.

*"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!" (Isaiah 6:3)*

*"Who will not fear you, O Lord, and glorify
your name? For you alone are holy."
(Revelation 15:4)*

THE CRISIS WE FACE

We all have failed God's standard and face God's righteous judgment.

*"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory
of God..." (Romans 3:23)*

*"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven
against all ungodliness and unrighteousness
of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress
the truth." (Romans 1:18)*

THE CALL OF JESUS

The Lord Jesus is God's only way for us to be forgiven and reconciled to God. He took the judgment for our sins on the Cross, and whoever comes to Christ for forgiveness, He gives new life and an eternal relationship with God.

*"Jesus said "I am the way, and the truth, and
the life. No one comes to the Father except
through me." (John 14:6)*

*"For the wages of sin is death,
but the free gift of God is eternal life
in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)*

"The Lord Jesus is calling out to us: "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:28–30)

WHAT MUST WE DO?

Come to the Lord Jesus for forgiveness and salvation:

"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."

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT GCF ORTIGAS

QUESTIONS ABOUT GCF ORTIGAS?

Want to join a Growth Group? Looking to apply for church membership? Curious about the various ministries? Visit the new INFO HUB at the Lobby.

ARE YOU HERE FOR THE FIRST TIME?

We would love to connect with you after every Worship Service. Our pastors and team are excited to meet you! Drop by Room BM07 at the Mezzanine Floor or reach out to us at gcf.link/GCFWelcome

DO YOU NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO?

If you need Biblical counseling, we are here to help. Call the GCF ERCC Hotline at 0917 532 7794.

Naomi Monthly Bible Study Fellowship

Feb 21
(Saturday)

9:30 AM – 12:00 NN
Fellowship Hall, Ground Floor
Theme: Elijah and the Widow
Guest Speaker: Jackie de Guzman
Open to all widows
Register now via gcf.link/NaomiFellowship

SHE Brunch Fellowship (Every 3rd Saturday of the month)

Feb 21
(Saturday)

10:30 AM – 12:00 NN
Room B122, Ground Floor
Open to all single ladies
Register now via gcf.link/SHEBrunchFellowship

SUPAMoms Monthly Bible Study Fellowship

Feb 21
(Saturday)

1:00 – 4:00 PM
Room BM02-BM03, Mezzanine Floor
Topic: Women of the Bible – Priscilla
Open to all single mothers
For info, contact Janette at 0917 532 1921

Tinimbang Ka Ngunit Kulang (Part 2) Seniors' Health Forum

Feb 28
(Saturday)

9:00 – 11:30 AM
Fellowship Hall, Ground Floor
Theme: "How much protein for healthy eating?"
Resource Speaker: Dr. Ida Sibayan (Internist-Geriatrician)
Open to all seniors
Register now via gcf.link/SeniorsHealthForum

Shaking Hands Forum Series

Mar 7
(Saturday)

9:00 AM – 12:00 NN
Fellowship Hall, Ground Floor
Theme: Shaking Hands with Love, Courtship, and Marriage
Register now via gcf.link/ShakingHands

Membership Class (3 Sessions)

Mar 8, 15 and 22

12:00 NN – 2:30 PM
Room B302 – B303, 3rd Floor
Register now via gcf.link/Membership

Biblical Portrait of Marriage: Part 1

Mar 14, 21, and 28
(Saturdays, 3 Sessions)

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Fellowship Hall, Ground Floor
Open to dating, engaged, and married couples
Registration Fee: Php 150 per person
Register now via gcf.link/2026BPOM1

Wetfoot Applications Now Open

Local
(Date TBC)

Are you being called by God toward the mission field, but still seeking His clarity? Send your application to join the upcoming Wetfoot trips this year! Official GCF members can apply, email wetfoot@gcf.org.ph
Deadline for application: February 15 (Sun)

International
(Date TBC)

THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE



Pastor Dags Miguel
Deputy Director of
Disciple-Making Ministry

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

For receipts, email your transaction document to finance@gcf.org.ph

For more information, visit gcf.org.ph/give

 **Greenhills
Christian
Fellowship**

God's Steadfast Love — Happy 48th Anniversary, GCF!

Praise God for 48 years of God's faithfulness to our church. Thanks to God's leading upon our founding Pastor, the late Rev. Dave Yount together with his wife PJ Yount, GCF was birthed on February 14, 1978 through a Valentine's Day event, which gathered couples who were exposed to the love of God in Christ Jesus. This momentous event led to the growth of GCF through the years, and it reflects Jesus' loving headship for His beloved bride, the church, as our faithful Lord and Savior (Ephesians 5). This, Lord-willing, in view of God's steadfast love for 48 years in GCF and in view Jesus' example to the church, would enable us all to "walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." (Ephesians 5:2, ESV)

Celebrating God's Love in Marriage

This truth, as reminded by the apostle Paul, would hopefully be lived out by every member and household in our church, tracing back to GCF's Valentine's couples event 48 years ago. So then, we call on all couples — those who've celebrated silver (or more) anniversaries, or engaged couples still preparing for a lifetime of marriage, and all other couples in between — to discover through God's Word what it means to commit to building a Christ-centered marriage through the "**Biblical Portrait of Marriage: Part 1**". This 3-session seminar is scheduled on March 14, 21, and 28, Saturdays, 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM at the Fellowship Hall, Ground Floor of GCF Ortigas.

In celebration of love this month of February and in light of GCF's 48th Anniversary, may the steadfast love of the Lord strengthen individuals, homes, families, the country, and all the nations through God-glorifying marriages.

For further inquiries, please approach us at the Information Hub at the Main Lobby, or email Janette via janette.villanueva@gcf.org.ph ■

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