

**HOT ISSUE THAT
NEEDS TO COOL DOWN.**

Watch this
thermometer
drop to
ZERO.
The more
we give,
the closer
we get
to zero.



The Day for building
your walls will come,
the day for extending
your boundaries.
—Micah 7:11

Stewardship report February 2009

	Monthly Budget	Giving	Needed	
General Fund	6,035,347.30	3,349,800.81	2,685,546.49	
Missions Fund	---	208,573.00	---	
VM711	---	1,776,091.50	---	
Others: Designated	---	174,565.65	---	
TOTAL		5,509,030.96		
attendance and giving				
	Worship	Growth Group	Children's Bible Class	Giving
Adult	2,756	675 (other on break)	445	1,100,547.50
Youth	79	117		
satellite attendance and stewardship report				
GCF	Worship	Sunday School	Growth Group	Giving
South Metro	729	139	235	502,509.00
East	679	176	---	190,222.35
San Fernando	83	56	38	65,125.00
Batangas	130	29	120	74,960.00
North	700	116	163	184,345.85
Cebu	---	---	---	-----
Naga	393	63	94	27,409.25
Makoloa	218	53	96	47,050.35
Merikina Valley	209	20	20	59,281.50
Legaspi	---	---	---	-----
Sta. Rosa	204	50	109	56,446.10
Northwest	223	50	---	153,431.00
Toronto	165	16	---	CAD\$ 3,043.31
Parahaque	140	45	79	39,604.25
Peel	75	11	33	CAD\$ 1,943.40



Flowers this week

The flowers last week were given in thanksgiving by the Basilad family, by Ramona Almirez, for the 7th birthday of Alexis Emmanuelle So and by the Chancel Choir in memory of the 1st death anniversary of Pastor Kevin and Bel Alarag.

The flowers this week are given in thanksgiving for 90 years of God's faithfulness in the life of Dr. Alice Riega, by Fanny and Jackson Zheng for the safe delivery of their son, Alexander Mark Zheng, last January 20, by the Basilad family and by Raysh Sabio. Please place subscription and payment (minimum of PhP1,000) one week in advance and payable to GCF. Place check or cash in an envelope and drop in our offering bags or boxes. Call 632-1354 to 56 for inquiries.



Greenhills Christian Fellowship

Ruby corner Gamet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605
Tel. Nos. 632 1354 to 56, 635 0078 to 80, 635-0082 to 83, Mon. to Fri., 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
GCF Ortigas Mobile Hotline: 0920-9612964 (24 hours)
Fax: 632 1357 • e-Mail: email@gcf.org.ph • Web site: www.gcf.org.ph

GCFtoday



February 22, 2009

Vol. 31 No. 7

Discipleship through Growth Groups



Sunday Morning
7:00, 9:00, 11:00 a.m.
Afternoon & Evening 3:00, 6:00 p.m.

Announcement
Praise & Worship
Pastoral Prayer
Song of Worship
Offertory

Offering Music
Genesis 6:33

Scripture
Acts 17:1-15

Message
Preaching on the Run
Dr. Luis L. Pantoja, Jr.
Rev. Mike Lacanilao
Pastor Larry Pabiona
Rev. RG Foncardas, Jr.
Rev. Ross Tarroja
Rev. Tony Sadorra
Pastor Robert Chiu
Pastor Gerardo Lisbe, Jr.
Rev. George Payocong, Jr.
Pastor Rico Geilitz
Pastor Ed Pilapil Sr.
Pastor Sam Rendal
Rev. Emerson Manaloto
Rev. Liti Villoria
Dr. Narry Santos

Missions Offering
Testimony by John Pineda, New Tribes Mission

Welcome of Guests
Benediction

Sunday, February 22
9:00 a.m. Membership Class - BM02
11:00 a.m. Membership Class - BM02
Discovery Class - BM03
Growing Deep in God - BS18
Bible Study Methods - BS16
1:00 p.m. New GG Leaders Training - BS18

Monday, February 23
8:00 a.m. Call Center Fellowship - BM02

Tuesday, February 24
10:00 a.m. Joy Women - Social Hall

Wednesday, February 25
9:00 a.m. MOMS Fellowship - B122 & B123
7:00 p.m. Midweek Worship - Social Hall

Thursday, February 26
8:00 a.m. Seasoned Men of Faith - Single's Room
10:00 a.m. Senior Achievers - A101
6:00 p.m. Canelink Training - Social Hall

Friday, February 27
6:00 a.m. Morning Prayer - Social Hall
10:00 a.m. Kingdom Seekers - BM06
6:00 p.m. Griefshare - BM03
Cross Marks the Spot - New Lobby

Saturday, February 28
9:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship (Brother's Keepers) - B122 and B123
1:00 p.m. Youth Sports - MPC
6:00 p.m. Youth Worship - Auditorium A
Crossover Badminton - MPC
7:30 p.m. College Basketball - MPC

Growth groups also meet every day of the week.
Visit www.gcf.org.ph for the growth group schedule.



The reformatted Midweek Service started last Wednesday. We especially invite those who may be working, living, or studying in and around Ortigas Center to invite their friends and loved ones to attend the services, 7PM at the Social Hall. Pastor BJ Sebastian will discuss Driving Down the Career Highway on February 25.



All ye lads and lasses are invited aboard for a feast, a night of cheers and the right sort of Spirit. Hoist the colors of "Cross Marks the Spot" to fly high on the 27th of February 2009 by 6PM over GCF lobby.

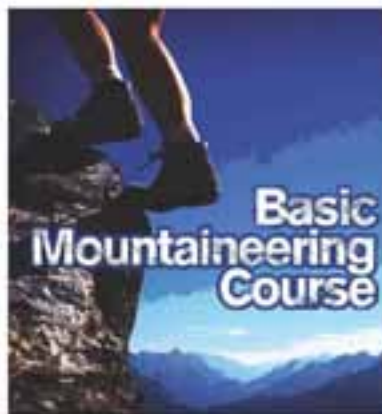
LIFE IN TECHNICOLOR

The Life in Technicolor, a support group for people touched by cancer, will have an afternoon fellowship on March 7, 2009 (Saturday) from 2 - 4pm. Be encouraged and be an encourager to one another.

Befriending Muslims



If you have the heart to reach the Muslims, you are invited for a seminar/workshop on March 8, 1-4PM at BM02-BM03. Please sign up at the lobby!



The 4L Mountaineering Club, an interest group for mountaineers with the goal of sharing the Gospel, invites people to a Basic Mountaineering Course on February 28-March 1 at Mt. Talamitan, Batangas. Register at the lobby!

Inquire at the GCF lobby or call the Ministry Secretariat: 632-1254 to 54 loc. 107 (May), 303 (Jenny), 307 (Mimel), 306 (Robital), 308 (Carsi) or 0920-9612964 (GCF Hotline)



Please complete this tear-off so that we can get to know you better and minister to you more effectively.

February 22, 2009

Hour of worship (circle one)
7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m.

Mr./Mrs./Miss (circle one)

Address _____

City _____

Phone _____

(H) _____

(W) _____

(C) _____

E-mail _____

Marital Status (check one)

Married Single Widow

Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

- Please check all applicable:
- First-time guest
- Regular attendee
- I prayed to receive Christ as my Savior and Lord
- I am interested to become a member of this church.
- I would like someone to visit me.
- I would like to know how to become a Christian.
- I would like to attend a small group.
- I want to volunteer for...

Please pray with me concerning the following prayer request or special need:

GETTING OUR ACTS TOGETHER GCF Sermon Series on the Book of Acts

#29: "Preaching on the Run"

Acts 17:1-15

From the day of his conversion to the time of his martyrdom, persecution has been a constant factor in Paul's life. But so is God's intervention in miraculous ways, as was the case in Philippi where he and Silas were delivered from prison. Escorted to leave quietly, they headed towards Thessalonica. Luke simply recorded them to be going into the synagogue, preaching for three Sabbath days, gaining converts and then running away from a mob incited against them.

Berea was the next stop in their mission itinerary. Again, Luke simply cited that they went to the synagogue, preached the Word, gained converts and then Paul had to run away from his attackers leaving Timothy and Silas behind. But many prominent people believed (vv. 4, 12). From all these records, and from Paul's recollection in 1 Thessalonians 2:1-13, let us glean the success factors in the mission of starting churches or any other human projects.

1. The message, vv. 1-3, 7, 11, 13

- a. "He reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead. 'This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ' he said" vv. 2-3, 7.
- b. "Paul was preaching the word of God at Berea"

2. The motives, 1 Thessalonians 2:3-6

- a. "We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts.
- b. "We never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed--God is our witness."

3. The methods, 1 Thessalonians 2:6-9, 11-12.

- a. "As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her little children
- b. "We dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God."

4. The manpower, vv. 7, 10, 14.

- a. Host for the mission team: "Jason has welcomed them into his house" v. 7.
- b. Unnamed volunteers: "The brothers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea" (v. 10); "The brothers immediately sent Paul to the coast" (v. 14).
- c. The converts included men and "not a few prominent women" (v. 4); and "a number of prominent Greek women" (v. 12).

Seizing the Opportunity

The media dubbed January 26, 2009 as "Black Monday", when 70,000 people lost their jobs in the U.S. Later in the week, reports of more job losses flooded the news.

At home, Intel closed down its operations laying off 12,000 Filipinos. Many companies have either downsized or closed down.

These are dark times. But the God of light specializes in overcoming darkness. God cannot limp through these times as if it is business as usual. How can we shine the Gospel light in these times? We can do two things.

First, we can speak to the world and say Jesus is the real king.

Jesus said, "all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." Real power belongs to Christ. People with human authority serve at God's pleasure whether they recognize it or not. They will be made accountable for what they have done while on borrowed tenure.

The world has failed under the weight of its own sin. In this time of crisis, we have an opportunity to challenge people to submit their lives to the true King, who can provide unshakable security and protection.

Second, we can speak to the church and say—

(a) Our loyalty belongs to the Kingdom of God, not to this world.

Our citizenship is in heaven and we fall under God's rule. The world does not improve our situation. It entraps us in the devil's clutches either in despair, when times are bad, or in greediness, when times are good. Only God gives wholeness to life. We cannot become entangled in the values of this world.

Christians look beyond this life. The end of life in this world is not the end of reality. As children of eternity we invest the gifts that God has given to us on things that last forever (Mt. 6:19-21). Our hope looks to the future glorious Kingdom, which we offer to this heavy-laden world.

(b) Our satisfaction comes from God, not from money.

Fear, anger, anxiety or depression would be a good indication that we may have placed too much trust on money and not enough in God.

While money itself is not bad, it is not neutral. It can and does bad things to us. In Matthew 6, Jesus says that we cannot serve God and mammon. In the contest for our hearts, God always loses out!

Our most essential needs are met by God and cannot be bought with money.

Even with this crisis many of us will still have a lot more than most. Billions of people are trying to get by on much less than what we have. We cannot carry any sense of entitlement that God owes us a good and prosperous life. His saving grace is enough reason to praise Him forever.

If we have suffered because of this market downturn, we just have to consider how much we have going for us.

(c) Our comfort rests in Christ.

Christ is with us even in this crisis. He is so much bigger than all our fear and panic. His love is greater than the market downturn. We need not be worried or troubled (Philippians 4:4-7).

Things may not turn out the way we want them to, but everything will be okay. "...In all things God works for the good of those who love Him...."

Yes, we are in crisis. But nothing in eternity has changed. Jesus is still sovereign; He is still seated at the right hand of the Father; and He is still coming again. Christ is our refuge in this dark, messy and fallen world.