

Take Comfort, GOD IS IN CONTROL

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

Isaiah 46:9-10 tells us that God is sovereign. There is no one like Him. He planned everything from the very beginning, and He will accomplish His purpose according to His perfect will! Knowing that God is infinitely wise and good should motivate us to trust Him to be in control because He wants what is best for us. In Romans chapter 9, we can take great comfort in the truth of God's sovereign grace as shown through the nation of Israel.

GOD'S SOVEREIGN WILL IS UNCOERCED (ROMANS 9:1-13)

Paul clarifies that the Jews are not all "children of promise" – coming from the bloodline doesn't qualify them for the benefit. Abraham had two sons – Ishmael and Isaac, and in God's sovereign will, HE CHOSE ISAAC, and later when Isaac had two sons, HE CHOSE JACOB (vv.9-12) – all because of His purpose. God had already chosen them even before they were born. Deuteronomy 7:7 says that God did not choose Israel for any other reason, other than HIS LOVE for them. It is conditional in that it benefits "those who love God". Love is a choice. God chose us so that we will be HOLY and BLAMELESS, and it is all "according to the kind intention of His will" (Ephesians 1:4-5).

GOD'S SOVEREIGN WILL IS JUST (ROMANS 9:14-18)

Some think that God is unjust for choosing only the Jews, but Paul asserts that God being unjust is IMPOSSIBLE. In God's dealing with Pharaoh, God may be perceived as unjust but if we would look at Pharaoh's first encounter with God and Moses (Exodus 5:1), it was Pharaoh who did not respect nor believe in the LORD from the very start. God was fair with Pharaoh, persuading him to obey through a display of His great power and protection upon His people. But Pharaoh did not relent, continued to harden his heart, and chose to reject God (Exodus 8:15,19,22; Romans 1:24,26,28). Paul was the opposite of Pharaoh (1 Corinthians 15:8-10). Like all of us, he deserved damnation and judgment – but his story changed! We go to hell because of our sins, but we go to heaven because of God's intervention. God in His mercy changed the courses of our story.

GOD'S SOVEREIGN WILL AND MAN'S RESPONSIBILITY GO TOGETHER (ROMANS 9:19-33)

God is the Potter, and we are the clay. He has all the right to do whatever He wants. However, this analogy does not mean that we are no longer responsible. Charles Spurgeon stated that these two concepts need no reconciliation: God's sovereign will and human responsibility go together! Our part is to trust Him by faith. If we listen to God and repent, God will change His planned course of action in our life (Jeremiah 18:5-11). Israel refused to do that and continued to pursue salvation by works so they stumble over the "stone of stumbling and rock of offense" – JESUS CHRIST! Acts 4:11-12 points to Him as the stone rejected by the Israelites, which became the foundational, chief corner stone.

Jesus Himself claimed that HE IS THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. He is extending an invitation to you today – COME TO HIM, TRUST HIM, and OBEY HIM!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How do you feel about God's sovereignty? Is it reassuring or constricting? Why do you think so?

Do you ever feel your heart hardening against God? How do you plan to address this when it happens?

After hearing this message, what is your personal responsibility to God and others?

LAST WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

just as it is written, "Behold, I lay in Zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense, And he who believes in Him will not be disappointed."

ROMANS 9:33

Download this Chronicle
online!

ccf.org.ph/chronicle/

Download **this Sunday's** 4Ws Small Groups
Guide and 4Ws Go Viral Edition **every Monday!**

ccf.org.ph/4ws/

STEP INTO THE community!

Fellowship and learn together with believers at the same lifestyle as you!

WOMEN2WOMEN

ALL WOMEN

Sovereign Grace

October 6, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

-  ccfwomen2women
-  CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

B1G MINISTRY

SINGLES

D.N.A.: Do Not Allow Laziness to Drag You

October 7, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

-   B1GMinistry
-  beonewithgod

ELEVATE

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

It's G.O.A.T.!

October 8, Saturday, 3:00 PM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

-  ElevateMain
-  ElevateMainTV

NXTGEN

KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Kids' Church

The Big Plan: An Adventure through the Book of Romans

Sundays, 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM

G/F North Wing, CCF Center

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

-  ccfnxngen for ages 4-12
-  for ages 7-12

Join an online small group for kids!

Contact the NXTGEN team:

-    ccfnxngen

learn more

ABOUT THE FAITH!

Grow deeper in your spiritual walk and join Bible study classes by GLC.

Sign-up and join GLC training today!

GLC Level 1 Face-to-Face

Sundays at 1:00 PM

- Book 1: One by One at Room 2A
- Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines at Room 3A
- *Book 3: The Holy Spirit starts October 30*
- *Book 4: CCF DNA starts November 27*

GLC Level 1 – Zoom Cycle 2

October 5, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

- Book 1: One by One
- Book 2: Spiritual Disciplines
- *Book 3: The Holy Spirit starts November 2*
- *Book 4: CCF DNA starts November 30*

GLC Level 2 – Zoom Cycle

Book 5: Dgroup 101

starts October 13, Thursday, 7:30 PM

GLC Level 3 Lead – Zoom Cycle

Module 1: The Multiplier

starts October 13, Thursday, 7:30 PM

Go to bit.ly/GLCTraining2022 to register

STEP UP AND volunteer!

There's no better way to serve God than to serve His people!

NXTGEN  ccfnxngen

B1G  beonewithgod

ACROSS  ccfacrossministries



Don't know where to start in your discipleship journey? **Take the discipleship journey test!**

BE PART OF THE

DISCIPLESHIP JOURNEY

Visit ccf.org.ph/discipleship-journey

LOOKING FOR ANSWERS? THINK YOUR VISIT IS A COINCIDENCE? YOUR BEING HERE TODAY IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here for His purpose.

1 God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments –Deuteronomy 7:9*

2 God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23

3 God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. – Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. – John 14:6

4 God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. – John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

5 God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. 1 John 5:11-13

join us on Sundays

AT CCF CENTER
10:00 AM (English),
3:00 PM (Filipino)

ONLINE

10:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM
 ccf.org.ph  ccfmain  ccfmainTV

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