

RETURN TO THE LORD

with all your heart

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

Have you ever looked back on your Christian life and wondered, "How did I end up so far away from God?"

Perhaps you once eagerly read His Word, worshipped Him, and shared your faith. But over time, other priorities, unhealthy habits, and the desire to fit in began taking His place. Small compromises gradually pulled you away from Him. The book of Joel reminds us that God calls us to wake up, repent, and return to Him wholeheartedly. No matter how far we have drifted, His grace invites us to come back.

Recognize God's Wake-Up Call

In Joel, a devastating locust plague destroyed Israel's crops and livelihood. Through this crisis, God called His people to recognize their situation and return to Him. Likewise, we must not ignore the warning signs in our lives, because our hearts can deceive us (Jer. 17:9). Small compromises can lead to lasting consequences, affecting our joy, relationships, and fellowship with God.

Not every difficulty is punishment for sin, but every struggle can remind us of our need for the Lord. God's warnings are also expressions of His grace, inviting us to return to Him. Despite our failures, He remains gracious and compassionate (Joel 2:12-13).

Repent and Be Restored

Repentance is more than feeling sorry for what we have done. Joel calls us to rend our hearts, not merely our garments (Joel 2:13). True repentance means turning away from sin and turning back to God. It requires action: taking responsibility, removing what leads us into sin, and bringing our struggles into the light instead of hiding them in shame.

God promises forgiveness and restoration, but this does not mean every earthly consequence will disappear. Joel 2:25 reminds us that God can restore what has been lost. Even when we cannot undo our past mistakes, His grace gives us hope. The greatest blessing is not simply recovering what we lost but restoring our relationship with the God we need. He also gives us His Spirit to help us live according to His will.

Remember God is the Ultimate Victor

The brokenness, injustice, and pain we see around us will not have the final word. Joel reminds us that God will judge evil and make things right. He is both the righteous Judge and a refuge for His people. Even when consequences remain or circumstances do not change as we hope, we can trust His authority, justice, and protection.

The same God who calls us to repent invites us to receive His grace through Jesus Christ. Jesus paid the penalty for our sins, and through His finished work on the cross, we can receive forgiveness and new life. We do not have to remain trapped in our past or delay returning to Him. Let us respond to His invitation today, trusting His grace to restore us and remembering that our ultimate hope rests in Him.

last week's memory verse

"Yet even now," declares the Lord, "Return to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, weeping and mourning; and rend your heart and not your garments." Now return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, abounding in lovingkindness and relenting of evil.

JOEL 2:12-13

discuss this message

In what area of your life might you be drifting away from God without realizing it? What might God be using to get your attention?

What is the difference between simply feeling sorry for our sins and genuinely repenting? Is there something specific God is calling you to turn away from or surrender to Him?

Knowing that God is our refuge and ultimate victor (Joel 3:16), how should this change the way you face your current struggles, fears, or uncertainties? What would it look like to trust Him more fully this week?



WATCH THE CONCISE
VERSION OF THIS MESSAGE:

[go.ccf.org.ph/
RunThrough](https://go.ccf.org.ph/RunThrough)

DOWNLOAD
THIS SUNDAY'S
4WS EVERY MONDAY!
ccf.org.ph/4ws/



ccf SERVICES AT THE CCF CENTER

SATURDAYS

5:00 PM

SUNDAYS

9:00 AM, 12:00 NN
3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

SUNDAY LIVESTREAMS

ccf.org.ph
 [ccfmain](#)
 [ccfmainTV](#)

starts 30 minutes
before each service

WEEKDAYS 24/7 VIDEO ON DEMAND

ccfnet.online.church
9:00 AM/PM, 12:00 NN/MN,
3:00 AM/PM, 6:00 AM/PM

Visit [ccf.org.ph/live/
broadcast-channels/](https://ccf.org.ph/live/broadcast-channels/) for TV
and radio airing schedules.

Go to ccf.org.ph/chronicle/
to download this Chronicle.

**Longing to experience more
of our Extraordinary God?**
Come, let's talk about it in the Welcome Center.

#GoServe One Service
One service can make a difference.

Serve at Host Team,
NXTGEN, or Welcome Center!
go.ccf.org.ph/VolunteerSignUp

OUR COMMUNITY

WOMEN 2 WOMEN ALL WOMEN

Lies Women Believe:
"I Can Sin and Get Away with It"
with Lara Meily

October 29, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE

  ccfwomen2women
 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

B1G MINISTRY SINGLES

B1G Fridays

October 30, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE

  b1gministry

EVANGELISM
MOBILIZATION OPEN TO ALL

**Evangelism Training
and Deployment**

Saturdays, 1:00 PM, Room 3A

CONNECT WITH THEM ONLINE

  ccfevangelismmobilization

NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Little Acts, Big Impact

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

G/F CCF Center (ages 4-12)

BIBLE LESSON PREMIERE: for ages 4-12

9:00 AM at   ccfnxtgen

RESOURCES:

<https://linktr.ee/NXTGENFamilyResources>

OUR CLASSES

**GLC Classes will resume
in March 2027!**

Welcome Wednesday

OPEN TO ALL

October 28, Wednesday, 7:00 PM

- **Rewind Series: Galatians** — BS Room 1
- **GLC Level 2: Book 8, Session 3**
with *Pt. Ricky Sarthou* — MPH

November 4, Wednesday, 7:00 PM

- **Rewind Series: Galatians** — BS Room 1
- **GLC Level 2: Book 8, Session 4**
with *Pt. Jim Whelchel* — MPH

COMING SOON

Apologetics: Think Discipleship

with *Judah Paolo* — for Dleaders only

Come as early as 6:00 PM for
our Convo Corner!

Other Events

GLC Graduation 2026: Ready, Send, Go!

Completed any GLC level? Apply now!

GRADUATION PACKAGE: PHP1,300

November 20, Friday, 10:00 AM, MPH

REGISTER FOR OUR CLASSES AND EVENTS:
linktr.ee/ccfglc

**We are willing
to listen and improve!**

If you have any concerns and feedback,
our pastors are willing to listen.

Email them along with your name at

osp@ccf.org.ph — Pastor Peter Tan-Chi

oep@ccf.org.ph — Pastor Ricky Sarthou

Note: Emails without **full name** shall not be entertained.



GOD LOVES YOU.

He desires for you to have eternal life
with Him and an abundant and meaningful
life with Him.

"For God loved the world so much that he gave
his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him
may not die but have eternal life." — John 3:16

"The thief comes only in order to steal, kill, and
destroy. I have come in order that you might have
life—life in all its fullness." — John 10:10



BUT EVERYONE IS SINFUL.

We have a sin problem that separates us
from God, and the penalty of sin is death.
everyone has sinned and is far away from God's
saving presence. — Romans 3:23

WE OFTEN THINK THAT RELIGION, GOOD WORKS,
AND GOOD MORALS ARE THE SOLUTION, BUT THERE
IS ONLY ONE SOLUTION FROM GOD.



JESUS IS THE ONLY ANSWER.

He is the only way to eternal life
and completely paid the penalty
for all your sins.

"For Christ died for sins once and for all, a good
man on behalf of sinners, in order to lead you to
God." — 1 Peter 3:18

Jesus answered him, "I am the way, the truth,
and the life; no one goes to the Father except
by me." — John 14:6

MERELY KNOWING WHAT CHRIST HAS
DONE FOR US IS NOT ENOUGH.



**WE MUST HAVE FAITH
IN HIM TO SAVE US.**

We are saved by God's grace through
faith in Jesus Christ alone.

"For it is by God's grace that you have been
saved through faith. It is not the result of your
own efforts, but God's gift, so that no one can
boast about it." — Ephesians 2:8-9

"For sin pays its wage—death; but God's free gift
is eternal life in union with Christ Jesus our Lord."
— Romans 6:23

GOOD WORKS ARE NOT THE MEANS TO SALVATION,
RATHER THEY ARE THE EVIDENCE
OF YOUR SALVATION.

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO MAKE THE DECISION
TO BELIEVE, TRUST IN, AND FOLLOW JESUS AS
YOUR LORD AND SAVIOR, PRAY THIS IN FAITH:

Lord Jesus, thank You so much for loving
me. I confess that I have sinned against You.
Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins.
Today, I put my trust in You as my Lord and
Savior. I accept Your free gift of eternal life
and I surrender my life to You. Thank You for
forgiving my sins. From this day on, I choose
to follow You. Amen.



YOUR ETERNAL LIFE BEGINS.

All of your sins — past, present, and
future — are paid for and forgiven.

And then he says, "I will not remember their sins
and evil deeds any longer." — Hebrews 10:17

You are a new person in God's eyes.
A new life has begun for you.

"Anyone who is joined to Christ is a new being; the
old is gone, the new has come." — 2 Corinthians 5:17

You are now a child of God!

"Some, however, did receive him and believed in
him; so he gave them the right to become God's
children." — John 1:17