

VOICE OF THE VISION

The Growing BELIEVERS

1 Thessalonians 1:2-10 (NKJV)

²We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers, ³remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father, ⁴knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God. ⁵For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. ⁶And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe. ⁸For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything. ⁹For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Background

- Paul and his companions were faithful to bring the gospel to the Thessalonians in the midst of persecution.
- The Thessalonians had only recently become Christians, and yet they had remained faithful to the Lord, despite the fact that the apostles were not with them.

According to this passage, we can learn the key characteristics

of the **growing believers** in Thessalonians' church:

1. Turn to God at all times.

- Remember without ceasing your work of faith. (v. 3)
- Turn away from your idols. (v. 9)

Psalms 135:15-18 (NKJV)

¹⁵The idols of the nations are silver and gold, The work of men's hands. ¹⁶They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; ¹⁷They have ears, but they do not hear; Nor is there any breath in their mouths. ¹⁸Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them.

Colossians 3:5 (NKJV)

Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Hebrews 12:1 (NKJV)

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

- Know that you're elected or chosen by God. (v. 4)

2 Peter 1:10-11 (NKJV)

¹⁰Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; "for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2. Serve God diligently.

- Remember without ceasing your labor of love. (v. 3)
- Imitate how Christ and your leaders follow God's will. (v. 6)

1 Corinthians 11:1 (NKJV)

Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

Philippians 3:17 (NKJV)

Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.

- Be expectant in receiving God's word. (v. 6)

2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- Let the Holy Spirit empower you to share the gospel everywhere. (vv. 5, 8)

Acts 1:8 (NKJV)

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

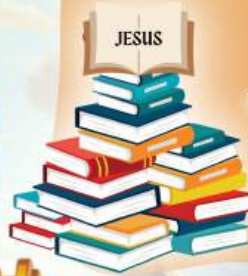
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Rev. Morrell B. Estrellado
Associate Pastor

THE HISTORY OF THE BIBLE

DID YOU KNOW?



Did you know that the Bible was written by around **40 different authors** from **across three continents** for over **2,000 years**? Originally, it was written in ancient **Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek**, but the Bible today is **translated into 3,283 languages** in **167 countries** all over the world. It is also the **BEST-SELLING BOOK OF ALL TIME**.

January is well-known for the New Year celebrations, but this beginning is also the celebration of the Bible Month in some parts of the world including the Philippines. But did it ever come across your mind how these things started?

The Bible, as an uncompiled text in the old times, is written at different times by different authors who are God's prophets, apostles, and disciples. They were all humans but all were inspired by God and led by the Holy Spirit. So today, as the Bible says in 2 Timothy 3:16-17, ¹⁶"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

The Bible we know today was not yet available in the ancient times. In the Old Testament, Biblical texts were written on

SCROLLS MADE OUT OF PAPYRUS OR PARCHMENT

just like in the Gospel of Luke, where Jesus read from the scroll of Isaiah in the synagogue.

Dead Sea Scrolls



Before the printing press, the Bible was available only to monks and royals. But after the invention of the **printing press and the Gutenberg Bible** by Johannes Gutenberg, mass printing and mass distribution has become easier allowing Christians to have their own copies. But today, the Bible is both **accessible and available** in **printed copies and mobile devices**.

The Bible is the inspired Word of God. God, through the Holy Spirit, divinely influenced human authors to write the Scriptures in such a way that what they wrote was the very Word of God.

1 Timothy 6:12
(NKJV)

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

The Bible is inerrant and infallible, meaning it is **FREE OF ERROR** and is **INCAPABLE OF ERROR**.



INERRANT

The Bible is inerrant because God used many human authors—with all of their different personalities, writing styles, accumulated vocabularies, life experiences, illustrations and metaphors—to express His message, as He wanted it, yet without error.



INFALLIBLE

God's Word is infallible or incapable of error because God is perfect, and so is His revelation of Himself. God's Word will accomplish exactly what God wants it to.

Remember what is written in the Book of **ISAIAH 55:11**,

*"So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; **It shall not return to Me void**, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."*

Despite the impressive diversity of authors, genre—from history to poetry, from prophecy to personal accounts—and languages, the Bible displays an irrefutable unity of purpose, undivided harmony of thought, an unfolding narrative that is both unified and progressive. The Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, **PROJECTS UNIVERSAL TRUTH** that remains applicable to people around the world.

Why fear when God told us not to be! Did you know that the phrase "fear not" appears in the Bible 365 times, which is one for each day of the year.

Both in Old and New Testament, we are always reminded by God to not fear. Why? He has thousands of promises listed in the Bible.

READ NOW!

PROVERBS 30:5

Every word of God is pure;
He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.

This was also justified by the Book of **2 PETER 1:19–21**,

"¹⁹And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; ²⁰knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."

JOHN 1:1 (NKJV)

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

**SEEK THE WORD. SEEK THE WAY,
THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE. SEEK JESUS.**

*Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize?
Run in such a way that you may obtain it.*

**1 Corinthians 9:24
(NKJV)**



Ang kapatiran ay sama-samang gumawa ng banner na paliligiran ang malaking lupain ng Mt. Tabor sa paparating na Bible Race 2025. Masayang naghahanda ang lahat para sa mapagpalang gawaing ito.

BIBLE RACE PREPARATION

PREPARASIYON PARA SA GAWAIN NG DIYOS

Isang produktibong araw ang nagdaan para sa kapatiran ng UCF na kapit-bisig sa paghahanda sa darating na *Bible Race 2025* sa Enero 28-29.

Ang *Bible Race* ay isa sa taunang gawain na ginanap sa UCF Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center kaya naman ilang mga araw ang kakailanganin upang mapaghandaan ang kapana-panabik na programa. Ang malawak na lupain ng Mt. Tabor ay magiging kagamit-gamit sapagkat dito gaganapin ang mga aktibidad tulad ng *Amazing Race*, *torch parade*, *relay games*, at *praise and worship*. Bawat pasilidad ay siniguro na maayos at magbibigay kulay sa paparating na gawain.

Nananabik na nga ang lahat kung paano kikilos ang Diyos sa gawaing ito.



Inaasahan na maraming kapamilya at kaibigan ng ating kapatiran ang dadalo sa Bible Race kaya naman sinigurado ng mga manggagawa na ang lugar ay maaliwalas at ligtas.



Maliban sa pisikal na paghahanda ay panalangin ng mga anak ng Diyos na panibagong mga kaluluwa muli ang makakarinig ng Salita ng Diyos at masusumpungan ng ating Panginoong Hesus.



Inihanda rin ang bonfire area para sa gaganaping torch parade.

PURIHIN ANG DIYOS SA KANIYANG PATNUBAY UPANG MAISAAYOS ANG LUGAR NG MT. TABOR PARA SA SUSUNOD NA GAWAIN!

Philippians 1:6
NKJV

Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

UCACOA UPDATE

NEW BATCH OF BOOKKEEPING BEGINS



UCA College of Asia (UCACOA) started the Bookkeeping NC III Training last December 16 for the first batch of students. They begin to have their weekly face-to-face classes, gaining more expertise in their subject matter.

Students are trained to apply the best practices and procedures in journalizing transactions up to creating financial statements. Thus, this course contains the required competencies that are essential to perform the related job roles of a bookkeeper.

Praise God for the opportunity He opens for UCACOA to produce job-ready citizens for our society.



PAGHAHANDA SA PARATING NA MISYON



Sa pangunguna ni Rev. Dr. William Sy, ang UCF ay naghahanda at nagpa-plano na ng susunod na pagdarausan ng *outreach mission* sa buwan ng Abril.

Kaya naman nagsimula nang magsagawa ng *ocular visit* si Rev. Dr. Sy kasama si Rev. Dr. James Sy at iba pang mga manggagawa noong Enero 9, Miyerkules, sa probinsya ng Catanaun, Quezon Province. Binisita ng UCF ang panambahan ng Living Faith Fellowship at nakipanayam sa mga pastor na nakadestino rito. Isang masayang *fellowship* ang naganap habang nagsasalo-salo sa mga inihandang pagkain ng mga pastor ng Catanaun.



Layunin ng UCF na maihayag ang Salita ng Panginoon sa pamamagitan ng pinaghahandaang misyon.

HAPPENING NOW
**UCF MULTI-PURPOSE
COOPERATIVE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**
**FOR THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED TO BE A MEMBER,
YOU CAN JOIN THE ASSEMBLY AFTER
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE.**

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

John 16:33
NKJV

The Growing...

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e. Be examples to all who surround you. (v. 7)

1 Thessalonians 1:7 (NKJV)

So that you became examples to all in Macedonia and Achaia who believe.

3. Wait for Christ's Second Coming

a. Remember without ceasing your patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (v. 3, 10)

b. Serve God while waiting.

Matthew 25:20-21 (NKJV)

²⁰“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ ²¹His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’

Acts 16:25-26 (NKJV)

²⁵But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

c. Share the gospel to other people with urgency.

2 Timothy 4:2 (NKJV)

Preach the word! Be ready in season

and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

d. Endure the trials and persecutions that you are facing until the end of life.

Matthew 24:13 (NKJV)

But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

e. Pray and thank God always. (v. 2)

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18 (NKJV)

¹⁷Pray without ceasing, ¹⁸in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Challenge

As you start this year 2025, **grow** as what the Thessalonians' young believers did that you may become a **disciple**:

1. Turn to God at all times.
2. Serve God diligently.
3. Wait for Christ's Second Coming.

SERMON NOTES

Write the points to remember from the sermon as you seek God in your life.



BIBLE RACE

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

January 28-29, 2025 (Tue-Wed)

at Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center

Regular Rate: Php 1,500 (9 yrs. old above)
Php 1,000 (4-8 yrs. old)
Free (0-3 yrs. old)

(Inclusive of food, accommodation, shirt and cap)

Kindly register to your fellowship leaders



SHARE HIS WORD



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UCF MT. TABOR CHURCH
Purok 1, Brgy. Casile, Cabuyao, Laguna

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
9:00 AM (Parañaque)

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
3:00 PM (Cabuyao, Laguna)

HOUSE OF PRAYER
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

HOME BIBLE CHURCH & STUDY
Monday - Thursday
Laguna

Scan these QR codes
to watch the replays of the
UCF Sunday Worship Services.



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