



Why should I follow Jesus?

John 10:11-16 (NKJV)

¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. ¹²But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. ¹³The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. ¹⁵As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

Introduction

When troubles and trials come, you must have thought, "Why would God allow me to go through this trial?" You recall that, "Life was better before I believed in Christ. Then, I didn't have all the problems that I've had since I became a Christian." This line of thinking is what troubled many brethren. They struggle with their thoughts and worse, they ask about, "Why should I follow Jesus?"

Psalms 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. ²He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. ³He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. ⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup

runs over. ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.

Jesus is the good shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. The promises of this world are as good as the world "perishing," but the promises of God are as good as His word "everlasting."

A. The good shepherd lays down His life for His sheep. (v. 11)

Jesus, the shepherd, gave Himself up and died on the cross to rescue us from God's judgment (because we are sinners who deserve eternal punishment).

Romans 5:6-8

⁶For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

God imputed our sins to Christ and the righteousness of Christ to us.

2 Corinthians 5:21

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Jesus died because of His love towards us.

Ephesians 5:25b

just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

They are those whom the Father predestined/foreknew before

the foundation of the world.

John 6:37

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

Jesus tells the Pharisees, "But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep." He does not say, "You are not of My sheep because you do not believe," but rather the reverse. The determinative factor is whether they were Jesus' sheep, whom the Father gave to the Son. It was these that Jesus came to die to redeem.

John 10:26

But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep,

The truth should assure us: If you truly believe in Christ, you're one of His sheep for whom He died. And He promises to keep you unto eternity.

John 1:12-13

¹²But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: ¹³who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

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Rev. Dr. James C. Sy
Administrative Pastor

UCACOA expanding its reach in TVET CONFERENCE



UCACOA TVET Focal Trainer & Assessor
Rev. Ryan Christian Tabay with MuntiParLasTaPat
District Director Mr. Gerardo Mercado, Outgoing District Director
Ms. Maria Gracia Dela Rama, and other TVI Administrators.

As an academic institute that upholds a culture of excellence, UCA College of Asia (UCACOA) widens its network by attending the TVET Conference 2025 last October 28 at the Manila Hotel.

Spearheaded by the NCR Alliance of Tech-Voc Schools Association (NATSA), the TVET Conference was comprised of talks and seminars by renowned industry experts and members of the academe on artificial intelligence (AI) in education. Such information about AI integration can be a stepping stone for the school towards the enhancement of its curriculum and training development.

Indeed, we praise the Lord for the doors of opportunity where His ministry can be more equipped for greater works!

Magsisimula pa lamang ang buwan ng Nobyembre ay naroon na ang kasabikan ng mga anak ng Diyos sa selebrasyon ng kapanganakan ng ating Panginoong Hesu Kristo na ginugunita tuwing Kapaskuhan.

Bilang paghahanda rito, nagtulong-tulong ang mga manggagawa at boluntaryo ng UCF sa pagkabit ng makukulay na mga palamuti at dekorasyon sa iba't ibang bahagi ng UCF Sanctuary noong Oktubre 31, Biyernes. Mas lalo itong nagbigay ng kulay at sigla sa panambahan na ikinaganda rin ng lugar para sa mga paparating pang gawain sa UCF at UCA.

Purihin ang ating Panginoong Hesu Kristo na Siyang dahilan at diwa ng Kapaskuhan! Salamat sa Kaniyang kabutihan na sinasariwa ng mga anak ng Diyos sa bawat gawain.

Paghahanda sa KAPASKUHAN



Sinamantala ng kapatiran ang oportunidad na ito upang makibahagi sa pagpapaganda ng UCF.



Ang magkabilang bahagi ng stage, balcony, band area, technical area, at maging ang UCA canteen at ilang hallway ay pinuno ng mga makukulay na palamuti.



Sa pagtutulungan ng bawat isa ay naging mas mabilis at maayos ang pagdidisenyo sa panambahan.



UCF UPDATE

Pag-ibig na PINAGBUKLOD NG DIYOS

Purihin ang Diyos sa buhay nina Mr. at Mrs. Barcenas! Isang espesiyal na araw ang naging selebrasyon nitong Oktubre 27, Lunes, nang opisyal na ikasal sina Bro. Julius Barcenas at Sis. Sheriewyn Lourdes Vallido Barcenas sa UCF Sanctuary.

Pinangunahan ni Rev. Dr. James Sy ang seremonya. Ang gawain ay puno ng kagalakan, pananabik at tuwa mula sa mga dumalo. Kasama ang kani-kanilang pamilya, pati na rin ang pamilya ng UCF, ipinahayag nila ang kanilang mainit na pagbati sa bagong kasal.

Tunay nga na Diyos ay pag-ibig at sa Kaniya nagmumula ang matibay na pundasyon ng kanilang pagsasama at sa kanilang bubuun na pamilya.

WEDDING CEREMONY

Naging emosiyonal ang naging pagsisimula ng seremonya ng kasal. Naging sentro ng selebrasyon ang pagluwalhati sa Diyos sapagkat Siya ang nagtakda sa lahat ng ito.



Isang kagalakan na masaksihan ang pag-iisang dibdib nina Bro. Julius at Sis. Sheriewyn. Hindi maikakaila ang kagalakan, kapayapaan at kapangyarihan ng Diyos na Siyang nagbuklod sa kanilang buhay. Kaya nararapat lamang na ibalik sulit sa Panginoon ang papuri at pasasalamat na nararapat sa Kaniya.

⁶Now godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out

1 Timothy 6:6-7
(NKJV)



BARCENAS FAMILY



COBARRUBIA-VALLIDO FAMILY



UCF FAMILY



UCF PASTORS



BRIDESMAID AND GROOMSMEN

RECEPTION AT VIKINGS

Pagdating sa Vikings SM BF, Parañaque ay malugod na nagsama-sama ang lahat upang kumain ng malinamnam na hapunan. Nagkaroon ng oportunidad ang bawat isa na makakuha ng litrato kasama ang bagong kasal. Naging masaya at makabuluhan ang pagsasalu-salo ng bawat pamilya at kapatiran.



John 10:9
(NKJV)

I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture

Pagpapatuloy ng ministeryo sa Mt. Tabor

Animnapung taon na ang nakalipas nang buksan ng Panginoon ang ministeryo ng Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center na magdadala ng mga nawawalang tupa sa Kaniyang paanan. Mula noon hanggang sa kasalukuyan ay tapat ang Diyos na palaguin ang Kaniyang sinimulan at itiniwala sa Kaniyang lingkod na si Rev. Dr. William Sy.

Isa sa mga gawain sa ministeryo sa nakalipas na linggo ay ang pagtanggap ng sertipiko ng mga nagpabawtismo sa tubig ng ilan sa kapatiran bilang pagdedeklara sa publiko ng kanilang pagsunod sa Diyos. Nagkaroon din ng pagsasagawa ng konstruksiyon para sa ikaaayos sa lugar ng Mt. Tabor.

Purihin ang Panginoon sa pagtatag ng Mt. Tabor para sa iba't ibang gawain para sa Diyos.



Pagtanggap ng Sertipiko

Labis ang kagalakan ng pamilya ng UCF nang matunghayan ang pagdeklara ng ilan sa mga kapatid bilang bagong nilalang kay Kristo. Mula sa mga pastor ay kanilang malugod na tinanggap ang sertipiko ng pagbawtismo sa tubig noong nakaraang Linggo, Oktubre 26, sa Mt. Tabor Church.

Konstruksiyon

Kaakibat ng layunin na maisaayos ang lugar ng Mt. Tabor, ang kalalakihan ay nagtulong-tulong sa paggawa ng *barrier* para sa *parking lot*. Mula sa pagsesemento hanggang sa pagbuo ng *barrier*, kanilang siniguro na ito ay matibay na magagamit para sa kapakanan ng mga bibisita sa Mt. Tabor. Maayos nila itong nagawa at nailagay na sa *parking lot*.



Isa lamang ang hangarin ng mga manggagawa—ang maisaayos ang lugar na itiniwala ng Diyos sa panambahan ng UCF. Dahil dito ay buong sikap nila itong pinagbubutihan at pinahahalagahan bilang pagmamahal sa Panginoon at sa Kaniyang ministeryo.

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

1 John 2:15
(NKJV)

Why should I...

>> *from page 1*

B. The hired hand abandons the sheep to save his own life (no genuine concern). (vv. 12-13)

Jesus compares Himself with a hired hand: the hired hands are more concerned about saving their own lives than they are about saving the sheep. The shepherd or the owner of the sheep would not run but save His sheep.

John 10:28

And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

We can be assured that Jesus cares for us more than His own life.

C. The good shepherd knows His sheep by name and they know Him. (vv. 14-15)

Jesus knows us perfectly, but we should also know Him (His voice). It is the human nature and sin that create barriers to our knowledge of Him (to know and to do the will of God).

Matthew 7:21-23

²¹"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²²Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' ²³And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

Romans 12:1-2

¹I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Hosea 6:3a

Let us know, Let us pursue the knowledge of the Lord.

Philippians 3:8

Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.

D. The good shepherd has other sheep that He must bring into His flock. (v. 16)

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Luke 24:47

and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Acts 1:8

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.

John 10:16

And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

"And they will hear My voice" vs "I hope they hear my voice"

Jesus did not die just for us to choose whether to believe or not to believe. Jesus died to secure the salvation of His sheep. And God ordained the means for salvation is through the preaching of the gospel.

Romans 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Romans 10:13-14

¹³For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." ¹⁴How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

Conclusion

To come back to the original question, "Why should I follow Jesus?" The author of Psalm 73 (Asaph) was also asking the same question.

Psalm 73:12-17

¹²Behold, these are the ungodly, Who are always at ease; They increase in riches. ¹³Surely I have cleansed my heart in vain, And washed my hands in innocence. ¹⁴For all day

long I have been plagued, And chastened every morning. ¹⁵If I had said, "I will speak thus," Behold, I would have been untrue to the generation of Your children. ¹⁶When I thought how to understand this, It was too painful for me—¹⁷Until I went into the sanctuary of God; Then I understood their end.

Realization only comes when you go into the sanctuary of God. And the conclusion is...

Psalm 73:25-28

²⁵Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. ²⁶My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. ²⁷For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry. ²⁸But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord God, That I may declare all Your works.

SERMON NOTES

SHARE HIS WORD



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