

# DON'T GET DUPED

ser4058 One Nation Under God, Pt 3

July 18, 2021 E & L

## i. (HOOK) POINT OF INTRIGUE

As fate would have it, Joel, our son, has two daughters ([show photos](#)) and our daughter has two sons and a daughter ([show photo, p2](#)).

A. Unless history does a 180, the Sofia name in our family will stop at Joel.

Now Joel's daughters could be like the daughters of Zelophehad, who approached Moses, Eleazar the High Priest, and the chieftains of Israel asking that when they crossed over into the Promised Land, they would inherit the property



rights of their father, and that the property would remain in their father's name since there were no sons to keep the legacy of the name.



Moses went to the LORD and inquired what to do. God told Moses that the

daughters request was “just” and that Zelophehad’s daughters could marry anyone they wished, but **only** among the men of the tribe of Manasseh. In this way the inheritance would remain property of Zelophehad’s daughters and in the possession of the tribe of Manasseh, the tribe to which their father belonged.

Legacy was paramount in the Old Testament because ultimately, it traces and validates the birth of Messiah (Matthew and Luke). Matthew presents Jesus as the King of the Jews, hence starting with Abraham; Luke presents Jesus as the Son of Man, hence tracing Jesus back to Adam.

Mark and John do not give Jesus’ lineage because Mark presents Jesus as a servant (no need for a lineage), and John presents Jesus as the eternal word, Creator of the world. God has no beginning or end; therefore, He has no lineage.

**B. In last week’s sermon we looked at the components of keeping alive GCCC’s legacy of souls saved (36,358 that we have record of).**

We also looked at the downward trend of waning Church membership permeating our culture today and waning interest in Biblical Christianity. In so doing, we raised the question: “What constitutes a living church?” Let’s answer that question with another question: What did Jesus command all of His followers to do? [\(The answer is ...\)](#)

### **C. Make disciples. How do we make disciples?**

- 1. Make His house a house of prayer (Isa 56:7 & Mark 11:17)**
- 2. Win the lost—at home and abroad (Pro 11:30 & Luke 19:10)**
- 3. Meet needs—at home and abroad (Leviticus 19:10 & James 1:27)**
- 4. Reproduce ourselves (Isaiah 49:6 & Matt 28:19)**

## **II. WHAT MUST WE DO REGARDLESS OF TRENDS IN TODAY'S CHURCH?**

**NOTE:** For those of you who picked up a transcript, what I'm about to address was in your notes, but I never got to it because the Holy Ghost part ran over. LOL! ([show video](#))

### **A. Remain who God called us to be. What is that?**

#### **To be:**

- 1. Interdenominational in attitude**
- 2. Biblical in belief**
- 3. Evangelistic in heart and mission**

**NOTE:** GCCC's by-laws give the trustees sole power to set and keep vision. The trustees appoint the trustees; one of which is voted upon by the membership every year for a two-year term. The main responsibility of the trustees is to preserve the vision, much like the Amish preserve their culture by

appointing bishops who will act in accordance to their set of rules for living.

**NOTE 2:** So, as long as there is breath in my body, I hope to remain a trustee whether I'm the Lead Pastor or not, and appoint those who will preserve what God called GCCC to be.

**NOTE 3:** I'm not talking about style or method; style and method must change with each generation. I'm talking about the CORE of what and who God has called GCCC/PMI to be.

## **B. So, how do we keep alive the legacy of winning souls, meeting needs, reproducing ourselves (make disciples) and make GCCC a “house of prayer?”**

### **We keep:**

1. **Praying**—be a part of one of our nine prayer ministries.

**(show “I Can Pray ...” card)**

2. **Winning souls**—*Keep alive Win One in 2021, the Word for You Today and Proclamation Invitation Card.*

**(show WFYT & PIC, 5)**

3. **Meeting needs**—Contribute to *Project Love*, the *Buddy Program*, and other self-sacrificing endeavors.

### **I Can Pray...**

**Boiler Room**

Pray for the service in the Conference Room before or during the Worship Service.

**Aaron-Hur**

Say a short prayer for PB, daily.

**200 Sacred Place**

Get away for 5 minutes on a Saturday to pray for the weekend services at GCCC.

**Tuesday Prayer & Fast**

Fast one meal on Tuesday and pray for the weekly finances of the Church.

**Prayer Hotline**

Emergency prayer chain; get as many people as possible to pray for/during an emergency.

**Military Prayer**

Pray for those GCCC members and their families who are in the military.

**Mental Health Prayer Ministry**

Join those who have family members that are mentally and/or emotionally challenged.

**Early Morning Intercession**

Pray for our nation and one another in the Chapel every 4th Wednesday of the month.

**Sunday**

0-15 €

#### 4. Sending forth missionaries and reproducing ourselves at home and abroad.

There are so many opportunities:

*Sunday School,  
Youth Group,  
Mission Trips,  
Helping Hands,  
The Rising,  
Forever Young,  
Friends           Needing  
                          Friends,  
Circle of Friends,  
WIAM Radio,  
Creative Arts & all of its Supporting  
Ministries, and the list goes on.*



**And the church said, “Amen!” (Let it be so!)**

***NOTE:*** Going back to Mildred’s brilliant speech, there was one other “took” that stuck with me: ***“Every privilege entails an equal obligation.”***

We have talked about the obligation we have as believers having been recipients of salvation through God’s grace. May I suggest we also have an obligation as Christians living in America.

I did not share this illustration during the 11:15 service; only at 9:15. For those who were at the 9:15 service, bear with me, I don’t think it will hurt for you to hear it again (repetition is the mother of all learning).

**C. Regardless of the spiritual condition of America, God has always had a remnant that preserved “truth,” preached salvation by grace and grace alone.**

By 500 AD, the Bible had been translated into over 500 languages. However, just one century later, the Catholic Church of Rome restricted the Bible to only one language – Latin. Those in possession of non-Latin scriptures were to be executed! Since few people other than the priests could read Latin, it gave the Church ultimate power to usher in what was known as the “Dark Ages”—for the next 1,000 years.

However, on the Scottish Island of Iona, in 563 AD, a man named Columba started a Bible College, and for the next 700 years, this was the source of evangelical Bible teaching. The students at this college were called “Culdees.” In the *late 1300s*, the secret society of Culdees chose *John Wycliffe* to lead the world out of the “Dark Ages.” Wycliffe, often referred to as the “Morning Star of the Reformation,” put the *Word of God* back into the hands of the masses in their native language. The message of salvation in *Christ alone*, by *Scripture alone*, through *faith alone* was now freedom bound.

**D. Were its leaders perfect?**

Far from it! Although charismatic, the reformer Martin Luther had a reputation of being selfish, conceited, and overly concerned with his appearance. At times he was overzealous, becoming angry,

domineering, aggressive, vindictive and even violent. (Not someone whose bad side you want to be on.)

Now, I didn't use that illustration to discredit a man highly esteemed by all who acknowledge his contribution to breaking the stronghold of salvation imparted by the Church rather than grace through Jesus Christ our Lord. I used that illustration to say,

*"In spite of ourselves, if we will persevere with the mission to Share Christ, Connect people and Serve others, with a spirit of gratitude and praise, **large or small**, we will remain a LIVING organism, accomplishing the purposes of God and the commission of Christ."*

### III. DON'T GET DUPED

#### **A. God warns us of the consequences of "big government."**

**(BOOK)** Let me say that again, **"God warns us of the consequences of 'big government'." This is not a political statement; it is a Biblical truth. [Let's look at it.](#)**

<sup>4</sup> Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, <sup>5</sup> and said to him, "Look, you are old ... make us a king to judge us like all the nations."

<sup>6</sup> But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." So Samuel prayed to the LORD. <sup>7</sup> And the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have

not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them. ...<sup>9</sup> ... However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them.”

<sup>10</sup> So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who asked him for a king. <sup>11</sup> And he said, “This will be the behavior of the king who will reign over you: He will take your sons and appoint *them* for his own chariots and *to be* his horsemen, ... <sup>12</sup> He will appoint captains over his thousands and captains over his fifties, *will set some* to plow his ground and reap his harvest, and *some* to make his weapons of war and equipment for his chariots. <sup>13</sup> He will take your daughters *to be* perfumers, cooks, and bakers. <sup>14</sup> And he will take the best of your fields, your vineyards, and your olive groves, and give *them* to his servants. <sup>15</sup> He will take a tenth of your grain and your vintage, and give it to his officers and servants. <sup>16</sup> And he will take your male servants, your female servants, your finest <sup>[a]</sup>young men, and your donkeys, and put *them* to his work. <sup>17</sup> He will take a tenth of your sheep. And you will be his servants. <sup>18</sup> And you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, and the LORD will not hear you in that day.”

**B. (LOOK) As a country, we are heading into a place our forefathers never intended us to be as American citizens.**

1. Beware of a government that wants to give you everything for free, for when it does, you have become a slave to the lender. (**Proverbs 22:7**)

Benjamin Franklin said, *“When the people find that they can vote themselves money, that will herald the end of the republic.”*

2. But it’s not the money I’m concerned about, it’s our religious freedoms. If the government beds down with big tech, controls elections, banks, what we can and cannot say, and the list goes on, why not the Church? We are next!

3. Jesus addresses the necessity of cunning and innocence when He says, “Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and as innocent as doves.” **Matthew 10:16**

**(TOOK) PRAY** for America as you’ve never prayed before. Pray that Christians will be discerning in regard to the witchcraft of the Devil. Pray that Christians will vote God and not party or politics. Israel voted politics when the LORD wanted them to vote God. Vote and preach everything that comes back to **One Nation Under God**. And the Church said, “Let it be!”

#### **IV. CLOSING/INVITATION**

We have spoken about our rights as US citizens. Although good, they are fleeting. But our rights as citizens of Heaven are eternal. The Bible says, “To as many as received Him (Christ), to them He gave the right to become Children of God.” John 1:12

Why not receive Him today?

**Admitt**– your sins have separated you from God.

(Psa 14:1-3; Rom 3: 23);

**Believe** – that God did something about your sins through Jesus Christ. (The final Pascal Lamb/Messiah.)

(Lev 17:10; Heb 9: 19-22);

**Commit** – yourself to His righteousness by confessing Jesus as Lord and Savior. (Isa 53:5; Col 1:22);

**Do it today!** (Isa 49:8; 2 Cor 6:2).

Father in Heaven, I'm sorry for the things I've done that are wrong: I am a sinner; forgive me. Thank You for loving me and sending your Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for my sin. Holy Spirit come into my heart; Jesus be my Lord and Savior. I give You my life. Amen.

ser4058, *Don't Get Dupped*, 1506 words (approximately 12.5 minutes) + video clip (30 seconds).  
Total time: 14 minutes.