

Announcements

- **Graduate Recognition | June 12th**
- **Vacation Bible School | June 13th-17th**
- **Youth Camp | July 1st-3rd**
- **Youth Summer Missions | July 8th-15th**
- **June Church Council Meeting | June 11**
- **Chinese Congregation Friday Night Fellowship | Every Friday**

Prayers

Dear Church Family, please pray for the following items:

- Our spiritual growth
- Pastor search process and church direction
- Our members' health and physical needs.
- Summer church events

Upcoming Preaching Schedule:

June 12th: Deacon Emmitt Phok - EN & CN
June 19th: Rev. Donald Gardner - EN & CN
June 26th: Rev. Donald Gardner - EN & CN

FIRST CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH OF PHOENIX, AZ SUNDAY WORSHIP JUNE 5TH, 2022

Join us for worship services on campus or online

English at 9:30AM | Chinese at 11:00AM

Livestream available: fcbcphx.org/sermons



FCBC Order of Sunday Worship

Welcome & Prayer | Deacon Jim Loui

Music | Praise Team

NAMB Video | "Who's Your One?"

Special Announcement | Deacon Rick Ong

Message | "More Than Conquerors"

Invitation | Deacon Rick Ong

Response Music | Praise Team

Closing Prayer | Deacon Rick Ong



More Than Conquerors

Dr. Noe Garcia, Senior Pastor – March 6, 2022

North Phoenix Church

*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. **Romans 8:35-37 (ESV)***

- Life is hard but God is always good!
- Battle with Satan is real and difficult.
- God has already declared the surpassing victory.
- Our Life Journey is difficult in this fallen world but the destination is known and unchanging.
- Old Testament Example of Surpassing Victory: David vs. Goliath.
- New Testament Example of Surpassing Victory: Jesus over the power of Satan (sin and death).
- We are more than conquerors – We live/walk with confidence.
- Our life journey: we either get bitter (v35-36) or better (v37).
- Truths for the church (Christians can claim the victory) – Romans 8
- My Personal Decision and Application

Words: A Hard Saying: "Take Up His Cross"

One of the Hard Sayings of Jesus is found in Matthew 16:24 where it says, **"If any one would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."** Within our Christian circles of today, the true nature of these words has somewhat lost the original meaning. If we were actually looking to grasp the idea behind the words, it might be better explained to say **"If anyone wishes to come after me, let him be prepared to be led out to public execution, following my example."** In essence, Jesus was calling out his followers to reveal the depth of their faith! Jesus was aware of the potential of the violent death that stood before him so he sought to remind his followers that saying they could follow him was not the same as truly walking his same path of sacrifice and suffering!

In Roman days, the idea of seeing a person being taken to a place of crucifixion was not unheard of. Carrying his own crossbeam, called a patibulum, the suffering of the individual was something understood by the hearers of Jesus' words. With that understanding, Jesus dared to challenge his hearers with a very heavy, yet real, calling out for their honest appraisal of what they believed and would do as His followers. With that said, we must not lighten the weight of what Jesus intended by thinking that every little problem we have is our "cross of struggle!" The cross that Jesus spoke of was quite literal in asking if our faith was adequate to see us bravely follow Christ wherever His path might lead.

Perhaps the next time someone criticizes us or laughs at our Christian behavior, we will be more bold in understanding that to think of this as "persecution" is silly. Christ reminded his listeners that the cross was a commitment to full and complete dedication. May we all learn that being fully the disciple of Christ brings us to a level of Christian Ownership beyond mere academic faith....even to the potential of the cross!

Pastor Don