



Reaffirming the Lordship of Jesus Christ

Why Jesus Is Not Only Saviour but Absolute Lord Over the Church, Its Moral Life, Leadership and Mission

Beloved Members of the Full Gospel Church of God in Southern Africa,

Grace and peace to you in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we continue our 2026 journey of reaffirmation, this month we turn our hearts and minds to the central confession of the Christian faith: Jesus Christ is Lord.

In an age where Christ is often welcomed as Saviour but resisted as Lord, the Church must once again declare with clarity, conviction and courage that Jesus is not partially Lord. He is absolute Lord.

Philippians 2:9 to 11 declares that God has highly exalted Him and given Him the Name above every name, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is not poetic language. It is a cosmic declaration of authority. We are not merely a community that celebrates salvation. We are a people governed by the Lordship of Christ.

1. Jesus as Lord Over the Church

Matthew 16:18 records the words of Christ: *I will build My Church.*

The Church does not belong to trends, personalities, movements or cultural winds. It belongs to Christ. He is the Head of the Body according to Colossians 1:18. Headship speaks of authority, direction and source of life. Whenever the Church drifts from His authority, confusion replaces clarity and compromise replaces conviction.

To reaffirm His Lordship is to submit our structures, policies, decisions and ministries to His Word and Spirit. It means we do not shape the Church according to culture, but according to Christ.

2. Jesus as Lord Over Our Moral Life

Romans 14:8 declares, *whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.*

The Lordship of Jesus is not confined to Sunday worship. It governs our private conduct, public witness and moral convictions. When Jesus is Lord, holiness is not optional. Sexual ethics, financial integrity, speech, relationships and personal character all fall under His authority.

We cannot claim Him as Saviour while rejecting His commands. Luke 6:46 confronts us with sobering clarity: *Why do you call Me Lord, Lord, and not do what I say?*

To reaffirm His Lordship is to reaffirm biblical morality. It is to say that Scripture remains our final authority in matters of life and conduct.

3. Jesus as Lord Over Leadership

The Church must never forget that leadership is stewardship under Christ. He is the Chief Shepherd according to 1 Peter 5:4. All pastoral, apostolic, prophetic and administrative authority is delegated authority.

As leaders we do not build personal kingdoms. We serve under the Kingship of Christ. The Lordship of Jesus demands humility, accountability and servant leadership. It protects the Church from personality cults and authoritarian control. It reminds every leader that we will give account to the One who walks among the lamp stands according to Revelation 1:13.

To reaffirm His Lordship is to say that no human voice stands above the voice of Christ revealed in Scripture.

4. Jesus as Lord Over Our Mission

Matthew 28:18 begins with a powerful statement: *All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me*. Only then does Jesus commission the Church to go and make disciples.

Mission flows from Lordship. Evangelism, church planting, social engagement and compassion ministries are not human initiatives. They are obedience to the Lord's command. When Jesus is Lord, the Church does not negotiate the Great Commission. We do not dilute the message to fit cultural expectations. We proclaim Christ crucified, risen and reigning.

Acts 4:12 reminds us that there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved. The exclusivity of Christ is not arrogance. It is fidelity to His Lordship.

A Call to Reaffirmation

In our generation, many want a therapeutic Jesus, a motivational Jesus or a cultural Jesus. But Scripture presents a sovereign Jesus.

He is Saviour, yes. But He is also Lord. To confess Jesus as Lord is to surrender our will to His will. It is to submit our opinions to His Word. It is to align our Church, our homes and our leadership under His authority.

The early Church's simple confession, *Jesus is Lord*, cost them persecution. But it also carried power. It distinguished them from Caesar worship and cultural compromise. It defined their identity.

As the Full Gospel Church of God in Southern Africa, let us once again stand firmly on this confession. Not sentimentally. Not casually. But covenantal.

- May our preaching reflect His Lordship.
- May our leadership submit to His Lordship.
- May our moral life honour His Lordship.
- May our mission proclaim His Lordship.

And may it be said of us that Christ truly reigns among His people.

With love and firm conviction,

Stafford C Petersen

Moderator - Full Gospel Church of God in Southern Africa

