



THE WRONG TEACHING ABOUT THE GOODNESS OF GOD (ROMANS 8:28)

“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.”
(Rom 8:28 ESV).

Besides John 3:16, this verse ranks as one of the most popular verses professing Christians quote. But it has often been wrongly understood and taught, even abused. In what way? It’s commonly applied as a ‘feel good’ balm. Many preachers, based on this verse, console someone who is feeling down, and provide reassurances that their situation will turn out well.

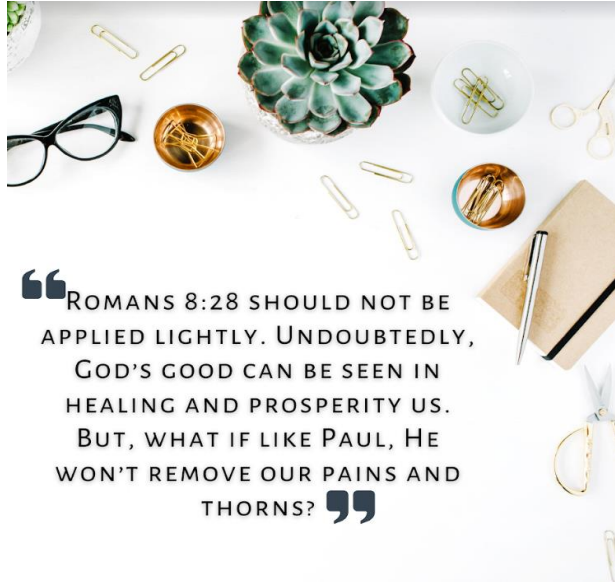
According to them, as long as one has great faith, he or she can receive this ‘good’ thing from God.

The problem lies in the understanding of ‘good’ in this verse – that it refers only to physical reversals from setbacks, such as healing from a disease, bouncing back from financial loss, or getting a good job after being laid off. There is either a neglect or lack of emphasis on the spiritual ‘good.’ Thus, the issue is who defines ‘good’ here - man or God?

Clearly, if one reads the verse immediately after (v. 29), the ‘good’ is for us to be ‘conformed to the image of His Son’. A wise chemist can mix elements, which if taken individually are poisonous, but in the right proportions combine to become medication. Similarly, our sovereign God is synergizing pleasant and unpleasant experiences to mould us towards Christ-likeness. A Christ-like attitude regardless of our physical wellbeing. Have you noticed that Paul and all the godly apostles did not have “good” endings to their lives, but instead died miserably?

Thus, Romans 8:28 should not be applied lightly. Undoubtedly, God can heal and prosper us. But, what if like Paul, He won’t remove our pains and thorns? (2 Cor 12:-10) It follows that this ‘good’ can only be appreciated by someone who is certain that he ‘loves God’ and is ‘called for His purpose.’ Conversely, those who love themselves more than they love God may continue to have a skewed understanding of this verse, and become cynical or disillusioned when their lives do not take a turn for the better.

Blessings,
Pastor Nazario Sinon



GENERAL NOTICES

• **CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH (BASIC)**

Suitable for those who have some knowledge of English. Encourage your loved ones or helpers to join us.

Date: **2 Sep to 4 Nov** (10 sessions)

Time: 2 to 3 pm

If interested, please contact Sue @ 97761377

Classes will be held via Zoom.

Registration deadline: 30 Aug

• **SEEKERS CLASS – COME EXPLORE CHRISTIANITY!**

Where can I find lasting happiness? What is the meaning and purpose of life? Does God truly exist? There is a God-shaped hole in everyone’s heart and only the Bible has the answers to fill it. If you are exploring Christianity, sign up today.

Date: **23 Aug to 27 Sep** (6 weeks)

Time: 1:15pm - 3:15pm

Register at gospellight.sg >

Connect > Events or scan the QR Code.

Registration deadline: 9 Aug



• **CHIT CHAT! (NEWCOMERS EVENT)**

Are you new to Gospel Light? Did you discover us through a friend, our online services or social media? We’d love for you to get to know us better! Chit Chat is an informal social session on Zoom where you get to mingle with our Pastor, Elders and leaders. Ever wondered what kind of church we are and where are our roots? What does our mission and vision statement mean? Save the date and we look forward to a great time of chit chat!

Date: **22 Aug**

Time : **11:00am**

Meeting ID: 844 8742 8726

Passcode: chitchat

• **THE BEAUTIFUL BOOK**

The Beautiful book online series by Pastor Paul Choo will help you approach God’s word with greater clarity and confidence. With his decades of experience in bible teaching and missionary work, Pastor Paul brings a unique perspective to unpacking God’s word. Now with lessons covering all of the Old Testament, Gospels and Epistles. Start your adventure through the word of God today. Visit gospellight.sg > **Resources > The Beautiful Book**

• **EXPOSITORY STUDY – 2 JOHN**

After 25 weeks, we have just concluded the study of 1 John and will be taking a two-week break. We will resume Expository Study on **25 Aug** with the study of 2 John.

• **MEET YOUR PASTOR!**

Click Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/2SMYSH4>

Meeting ID: 836 428 872

Passcode: Pastor

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

• **WRITER NEEDED FOR ‘THE BEAUTIFUL BOOK’**

Pastor Paul is looking for a writer to write The Beautiful Book. Videos and transcripts for the book are available. If you have a passion to see Christians loving the Bible and delighting in it, please contact or WhatsApp Pastor Paul @ 97825256.

WAYS TO HELP DURING THIS SEASON

To volunteer for befriending roles and/or transporting of items, please email shine@gospellight.sg or call 9117 6000.

(A) Migrant Workers Support

(1) Telugu Brethren housed in Tuas dormitories

- Assistance to transport these items to the dormitories

(2) Touch International

- Provide assistance to transport items to various sports halls

(B) Connecting with Seniors

- Befriending Senior Gospelites and reaching out to them via phone calls to provide spiritual and emotional support

SERVICES AND PRAYER MEETINGS

English Service - Sunday 9am: <https://bit.ly/33X72MN>

Chinese Service - Sunday 9am: <https://bit.ly/3akSf0v>

Filipino Service - Sunday 2pm: <https://bit.ly/3dABVen>

Telugu Service - Sunday 7pm: <https://bit.ly/2xma2WL>

- Bahasa services will be suspended until further notice.
- Youth services will be suspended until further notice. (Youths will gather in CG every Saturday. For more details contact Yu Fei @ 91285331)
- Young Adults (19-25 y/o) – Sunday 2pm (Topic – *Philippians: What is Gospel Fellowship?* For more details contact Luzerne @ 92701730)

Wednesday Prayer Meetings – 8pm: <https://bit.ly/35HS8uy>

(Zoom ID: 812 885 158) Password: Wednesday

Sunday Prayer Meetings – 8:15am: <https://bit.ly/3drPHPn>

(Zoom ID: 858 855 0326) Password: Sunday

Youth Prayer Meetings – Saturdays 3pm: <https://bit.ly/2AaF8C3>

(Zoom ID: 659 128 5331) Password: Gospel

EVENTS FORECAST

August	September	October
Expository Study 2 John	Expository Study 2 John	Expository Study 2 John
Inductive Bible Study	Inductive Bible Study	Inductive Bible Study
New Believers Class	New Believers Class	Small Group Bible Studies
Small Group Bible Studies	Seekers Class	Chit-chat Newcomers
Membership Class	Marriage Prep Course	
Seekers Class	Small Group Bible Studies	
Marriage Prep Course	Chit-chat Newcomers	
Chit-chat Newcomers		

For details. Please refer to gospellight.sg > Connect > Events > 2020 Calendar

GIVING ONLINE

With the suspension of church services, you may give your offerings in the following ways:

1) PayNow

Under the UEN/Bill Reference No. section you can:

- State "NA" - Offering will go towards General Fund
- State IFL or Missions - To designate the offering

(a) Via "Scan and Pay"

- Open up your bank app and select "Scan and Pay"
- Scan the QR code below:



(b) PayNow UEN

You can also opt to key in the UEN: **S88SS0082AGF1**

2) Internet Banking

- Add payee as Gospel Light Christian Church
- Account Number: **033-021695-5**
- Name of Beneficiary Bank: DBS Bank
- Under the Remarks section, you can leave it blank for the offering to go towards the General Fund or indicate IFL or Missions if you want to designate the offering.

3) Cheque

- Crossed cheque made payable to "Gospel Light Christian Church"
- On the reverse of the cheque, write **Gospel Light Christian Church** and the respective bank account numbers:
 - General Fund - **033-021695-5**
 - Missions Fund - **001-042653-2**
 - Punggol IFL Repayment - **015-902803-8**
- Cheques can be deposited at any POSB or DBS bank into the church's accounts.