

WHAT DOES GOD ASK FROM IMPERFECT FATHERS?

Many years ago, executives of a greeting card company in the U.S. decided to do something special for Mother's Day. They set up a table in a federal prison, inviting inmates to send a free card to their mother. The lines were so long they had to get more cards. Due to the success of that event, they decided to do the same thing on Father's Day. But this time, not one prisoner felt the need to send a card to his father. In fact, when asked, many had no idea who their fathers were. This true story demonstrates the importance of the father's influence in a child's life. In fact, in research by the University of Pennsylvania (1993), children who "feel a closeness and warmth with their father are twice as likely to enter college, 75 percent less likely to have a child in their teen years, 80 percent less likely to be incarcerated and half as likely to show various signs of depression."

So what does God ask from fathers? I believe that God does not require perfection but **devotion**, **direction**, and **dependence**.

1. Devotion

God desires imperfect fathers to be devoted to Him, i.e. to put Him first in their lives.

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (Mat. 6:33)

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." (Mat. 22:37)

God also desires that imperfect fathers be devoted to their families.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. (Eph. 5:25)

Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. (Col. 3:21)

2. Direction

God also desires that imperfect fathers lead their families spiritually. Fathers can do this by leading their family in Bible reading, worship, prayers and prioritising church on Sundays.

For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. (Eph. 5:23)

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. (Eph. 6:4)

3. Dependence

God knows that fathers are imperfect on this side of heaven. And he knows we will make mistakes from time to time. And when we do make mistakes, He desires fathers to know that His grace is sufficient for us (2 Cor. 12:9). Whenever we admit those mistakes, seek forgiveness, and try again, we not only demonstrate our weaknesses, but also our need for the Gospel, the saving grace of God.

And ultimately, when we, as earthly fathers, demonstrate devotion, direction, and dependence, we want to point our children to their true Father, the Heavenly Father.

Here's wishing all fathers a Blessed Father's Day!

His Servant,

Elder Jeffrey Pang Shepherding Elder



• NEW BELIEVERS CLASS

Beginning a new life as a Christian is about growing in your relationship with Jesus Christ. Start your exciting journey of faith by learning and understanding from the Bible what the glorious life Jesus intends for us is all about. Commencement date:

Sundays starting 16 Jul Time: 1:15pm – 3:15pm (Course duration: 13 sessions) Venue: Attic, Hall 3

Homemakers *for ladies only Thursdays starting 20 Jul Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm (Course duration: 13 sessions) Classes will be conducted via Zoom

Register at <u>https://bit.ly/463vgo4</u>. Registration deadline: Sun, 9 Jul

• EXPOSITORY BIBLE STUDY – GOSPEL OF JOHN

This Tuesday, 20 June 2023 at 8:00pm, we will start studying a new book of the Bible - the Gospel of John. We will have an introduction of John. We will also commence studying the first passage of the book in John 1:1-14 and learn about the Word revealed. The Zoom dial-in details for our session are as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting https://bit.ly/3pd7C7T Meeting ID: 851 8603 0760 Passcode: 211761

• MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

Membership in Gospel Light is only for baptized believers of the Lord, and must be of age 16 and above. Attendance at both membership classes 1 & 2 is a prerequisite for membership application. Classes will be conducted on-site.

E<u>nglish</u> Date: Sun, 13 & 20 Aug Time: 12:45pm – 1:45pm Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

<u>Chinese</u> Date: Sun, 13 & 20 Aug Time: 12:45pm – 1:45pm Venue: Hall 1 (L2)

Register and download application forms via our website at <u>https://bit.ly/3TaiYEb</u>. Registration closes on Sun, 16 Jul.

• **BAPTISM**

Those who have believed in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour are encouraged to be baptized. Attendance at Baptism Class is a prerequisite. Submission of written testimonies with completed application forms is a must. Classes are conducted onsite. Register and download application forms via our website at <u>https://bit.ly/3Ft6DEw</u>. Registration closes on Sun, 25 Jun.

Baptism Class (English) Date: Sun, 9 Jul Time: 12:45pm to 1:45pm Venue: Light 2 (L3)

Baptism Class (Chinese) Date: Sun, 9 Jul Time: 12:45pm to 1:45pm Venue: Hall 1 (L2)

Baptism Date: Sun, 27 Aug Venue: Shine Auditorium (L4)



•RACIAL HARMONY CARNIVAL 2023

Gospel Light will be participating in the annual Pasir-Ris Punggol Inter Racial and Religious Harmony Parade on Sat, 29 Jul this year.

We'd like to invite volunteers to support our outreach to residents at our event booth.

Date: Sat, 29 Jul Time: 10:00am to 4:00pm Venue: Punggol 21 CC, 80 Punggol Field

If you're interested in volunteering at our booth email: shine@gospellight.sg.

• 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 onsite 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: Sun, 16 Jul Time: 12:30pm to 2:00pm Venue: Shine auditorium (L4) followed by lunch at foyer (L3) To register, please visit <u>https://bit.ly/3Kd9015</u>. Registration closes Sun, 9 Jul

If you want to find out more, please write to <u>sue.choo@gospellight.sg</u>.

• **BIBLICAL COUNSELLING MINISTRY**

We live in a broken world, and Christians are not spared from pain. Whether your suffering is from personal sin, or from being sinned against by someone. The gospel is the source of freedom from afflictions and addictions. Our biblical counsellors are here to walk with you through the trials you are facing.

Make an appointment today: shine@gospellight.sg / 9117 6000

- Wednesday Prayer Meetings 8pm Venue: Hall 3, Attic
- Sunday Prayer Meetings 8:15am Venue: Cry Room at Shine Auditorium (L4)

If you are interested to receive our weekly prayer list, please email shine@gospellight.sg

(A)Worship Services

Congregational Service	Day and Time	Capacity for On-site	Livestream Link
English @ Shine Auditorium (L4)	Sunday at 9am and 11am	800 pax	http://bit.ly/38BU0rA (only available at 9am)
Chinese @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Sunday at 9am and 11am	240 pax	http://bit.ly/2Ng0TXT (only available at 9am)
Filipino @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Sunday at 2pm	240 pax	http://bit.ly/30FjYFU
Youth @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Saturday at 4:30m No service on 4 th & 5 th week	240 pax	https://bit.ly/2AaF8C3
Varsity @ Light 1 & 2 (L3)	There will be no Varsity service for the month of June	140 pax	Subscribe to Varsity announcement channel <u>https://t.me/+WDu3myEwjpcxZWU1</u>
Bahasa @ Hall 1 (L2)	Alternate Sunday at 10:30am	20 pax	Nil
Telugu @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Sunday at 5pm and 8pm	240 pax	http://bit.ly/30G4fXl

(B) Children Service

All children's services are at 9am and 11am: (i) Primary Levels (7 - 12 years) at Level 3. (ii) Preschool* (3-6 yrs) at Attic.

(ii) Playgroup (12 mths till 3yrs) at Hall 3 @ Attic.

*Preschool are for children age 36 mths to 6 yrs.

Leading Generations into a Life-changing Relationship with Jesus Christ

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 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 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
- Cheques can be deposited at any POSB or DBS bank into the church's accounts.

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