



5 November 2023

THE PORNOGRAPHY EPIDEMIC (PART 1)

Pornography is big business. In one study, it is estimated that between US\$10 to US\$14 billion is spent on pornography annually.

What is pornography?

Pornography is a combination of two Greek words: *porne* which means "prostitutes" and *graphein* meaning "to write about." In today's context, **pornography is anything that one uses for personal sexual arousal**. This can range from explicit images and videos to adult novels and explicit anime.

How serious is the issue of pornography addiction in church?

In one recent study in the US, it was found that 90% of children between the ages of 8 to 16 have been exposed to pornography. And 70% of the men between the ages of 18 to 34 visit pornography websites at least once a month. In fact, the largest consumers of pornography are 12 to 17-year-old boys. Correspondingly, similar studies have found that 1 in 6 women in the US struggle with pornography addiction.

What is wrong with watching pornography anyway?

First, engaging in pornography is sin. The Bible makes it clear that looking at a person with "lustful intent" is a sin (Mat. 5:28). Furthermore, the Apostle Paul asserted in 1 Cor 6 that the body of a true believer, bought and paid for by the blood of Jesus Christ our Saviour, is a temple of the Holy Spirit. As such, the body is meant for glorifying God, not self-pleasuring. According to this principle, masturbation, which is commonly associated with pornography, is also a sin. More than these, pornography is also a form of idolatry, where the human body is coveted and lusted after as an object of pleasure (Gal. 5:19-21). All human beings are created in the image of God (Gen. 1:27) and are fearfully and wonderfully

made by God (Psa. 139:14). As such, every human being has inherent value and dignity. But pornography debases the value of human beings and reduces them to mere objects of sexual pleasure.

Second, engaging in pornography, especially internet pornography, can cause addiction. The novelty of internet pornography, with new images, videos and stories being constantly uploaded, makes it highly addictive. In fact, a research by University of Cambridge in 2014 has shown that a person can be addicted to pornography just as to drugs. The word "addiction" comes from the Latin word "*addicere*," which means enslaved. Essentially, a person addicted to pornography is enslaved by it.

Third, research has also shown that consumption of pornography can lead to other sexual sins. According to McDowell Ministries (2021), research has found that pornography "is highly linked with sexual violence...and that clearly and consistently, pornography is linked to increased risks for committing sexual offences and accepting rape myths." Based on my experiences as a counsellor, heavy pornography usage can lead to other sexual sins such as paedophilia, molest and voyeurism. This is a natural consequence of addiction because the human brain develops tolerance to the particular substance or behaviour. And this leads to escalation, i.e. needing more of the substance or behaviour to achieve the same "high" as before. This leads a person who is addicted to pornography to search out more hardcore pornography and eventually act out what the person sees or reads.

His servant,
Elder Jeffrey Pang
Shepherding Elder

(Read the full version of the article [here](#).)



CLASSES & TRAININGS

• SHEPHERDS' TRAINING INFORMATION SESSION

Launching in 2024, a 2-year course for word-based leaders will take a deep dive into doctrines, skills training. (ie. Hermeneutics, facilitation, evangelism, etc.) ministry philosophy and general knowledge. Conducted in an immersive and interactive manner the pastoral team will invest themselves to equipping our leaders on a monthly basis.

Join us at an information session on 5 Nov to find out more.

Date: Sun, 5 Nov 2023

Time: Immediately after 2nd Service

Venue: Shine Auditorium (L4)

• SHEPHERDS' TRAINING REGISTRATION

We will be kickstarting our Shepherds' Training in 2024. Word-based ministry leaders and potential leaders are invited to register and join us on this journey.

Semester 1 Dates: 27 Jan – 25 May 2024

Time: 2:00pm – 5:00pm (light refreshments will be served)

Venue: Light Auditorium (L3)

* Only 100 spots!

To register, please visit this link: <https://bit.ly/3tGePiD>. Registration is on a first-come-first-served basis and subject to approval. Successful applicants will be informed at least 2 weeks prior to the first training date.

* Registration closes, Thu, 30 Nov.

• 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 on-site. Register and download application forms via our website at <https://bit.ly/3Ft6DEw>. Registration closes on Sun, 3 Dec.

Baptism Class (English)

Date: Sun, 14 Jan

Time: 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

Baptism Class (Chinese)

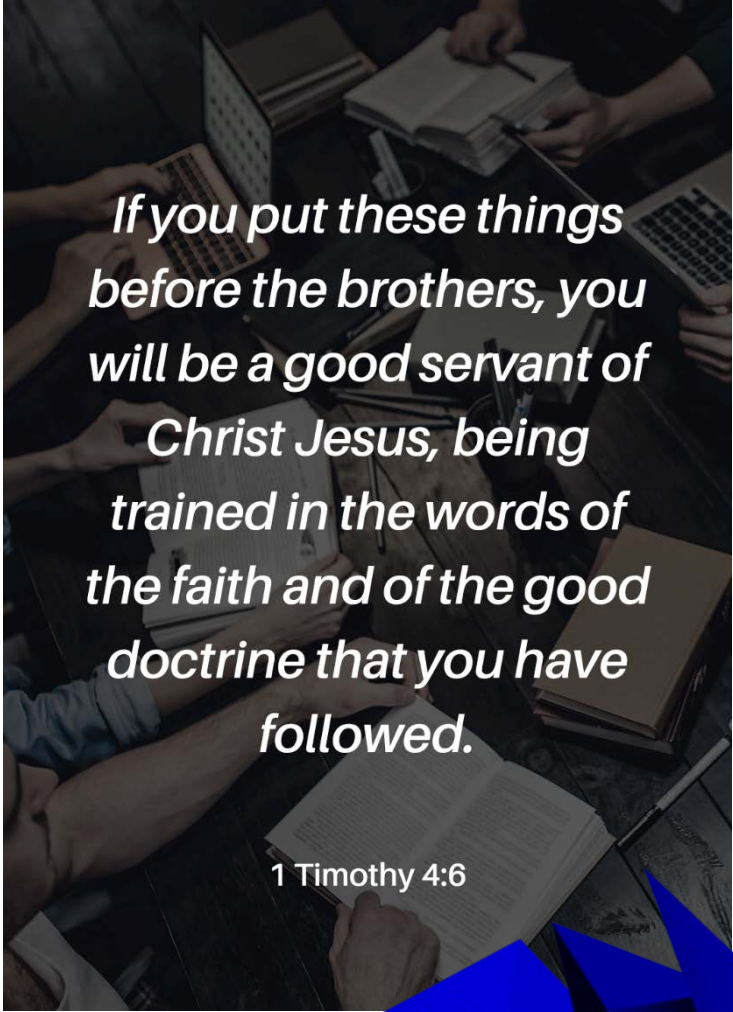
Date: Sun, 14 Jan

Time: 11:45am – 12:45pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

Baptism Date: Sun, 25 Feb

Venue: Shine Auditorium (L4)



*If you put these things
before the brothers, you
will be a good servant of
Christ Jesus, being
trained in the words of
the faith and of the good
doctrine that you have
followed.*

1 Timothy 4:6



CHURCH HAPPENINGS

• IT'S CHRISTMAS TIME: LET'S CELEBRATE!

On this side of eternity, Christmas is a promise. The Savior brings peace to those who receive him, but the story isn't finished until there is peace on earth. Every Christmas is still a 'turning of the page' until Jesus returns. Every 25 December marks another year that draws us closer to the fulfilment of the ages. May the babe of Bethlehem who gave his life on the Cross of Calvary bring you love, joy and peace from now and into eternity.

"...BEHOLD, I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

Date: Mon, 25 Dec 2023

Time: 11:00am – 2:00pm

Venue: Shine Auditorium (L4)

Ticket: \$5 per pax (adults and children age 2 and above; FOC for age below 2)

To purchase ticket, please visit this link

<https://bit.ly/45ZaCnD>.

Ticket sales close – Sun, 17 Dec (or when max capacity of 800 reached)

• YEAR-END LOVE GIFT

We are collecting our year-end love gift for overseas mission workers and local workers via our General Fund account.

Collection Start Date: Sun, 22 Oct 2023

Collection End Date: Sun, 5 Nov 2023

** Love gifts received after 5 Nov 2023 will go towards the general offering.*

You may give in the following ways:

- i) Internet banking - PayNow and internet bank transfer. Indicate "**Love Gift**" or "**LG**" at the bill reference section.
- ii) Cheque - Indicate "**Love Gift**" or "**LG**" on the reverse of the cheque.
- iii) Offering boxes - Enclose your offering in a sealed envelope and indicate "**Love Gift**" or "**LG**" on the envelope.

If you would like to specify the recipient of the love gift, please indicate as follows:

- 1) Indicate "**LG overseas**" for overseas mission workers
- 2) Indicate "**LG local**" for local workers



• 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, 19 Nov

Time: 12:30pm to 2:00pm

Venue: Shine auditorium (L4) followed by lunch at foyer (L3)

To register, please visit this link <https://bit.ly/3Kd9015>.
Registration closes Sun, 12 Nov.

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

• SERVE WHERE THE 'SON' ALWAYS SHINES!

Sonshine club, Gospel Light's children's ministry is the epicenter of where faith and fun collide! Every week we have the privilege of impacting preschoolers and primary school kids with the gospel. Join us to minister to the spiritual needs of our children, in the spirit of Jesus' calling to, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them." (Mat. 19:14)

To find out more about the volunteer experience email: children@gospellight.sg.

Apply as a volunteer by following this link: <https://bit.ly/joinsonshine>.

• JOB RECRUITMENT

Do you love kids? Do you have a heart to impact them with the Gospel? The Lord has brought a harvest field to us through our ShineKidz Afterschool Care. If this is your heartbeat, join us to serve the children and point them to Jesus.

1. ShineKidz Supervisor
2. ShineKidz Executive

For more details of the job position, please visit our website at [Careers](#) or email Benita Teo at benita.teo@gospellight.sg.

• YOUTH CAMP: LIFE 2023

Date: 18 – 21 Dec 2023

Camp Fee: \$80

Venue: Gospel Light Christian Church, 39 Punggol Fieldwalk

To register, please visit this link: <https://bit.ly/45D9k1w>.
Registration closes Sat, 2 Dec.





CLASSES & TRAININGS

•EXPLORE CHRISTIANITY: LIFE ISSUES 1-TO-1 STUDY

Whether you're a seeker with doubts or a skeptic about Christianity, we're here to help! Exploring the faith may seem daunting, but we want to help you find answers to the most important questions in life.

Life Issues is a 4-part booklet 1-to-1 series, that allows you to explore the faith with a personal facilitator. Study the evidence for God at your own pace with the help of a mature believer.

For more information, email: sue.choo@gospellight.sg or call 9776 1377.

•SILVERJOY (SENIORS) MINISTRY RELAUNCH

Every chapter of life is a gift from God. And our ministry for seniors celebrates that gift. SilverJoy isn't just a place for seniors to gather, it's a spiritual community of friendship and support.

Invite your pre-believing friends, neighbours or family members.

Date/Time: Every 1st & 3rd Wed of the month
(10:00am - 12:00pm)

Venue: Connections Corner (L1)

Program:

10:00am – 10:30am: Light exercise

10:30am – 11:45am: Health talk (1st Wed); Crafts or Games (3rd Wed)

11:45am – 12:00pm: Wind down

12:00pm – 13:00pm: Lunch fellowship

Quarterly outings will be planned for 5th Wed.

Contact CE Hotline – 97537964 for inquiries.

•NAGOMI ART WORKSHOP

Nagomi Art is a Japanese pastel art that employs the use of unique techniques with fingers and soft pastels. Join instructor Jill Huang to learn the basic techniques over 4 sessions.

Invite unchurched friends and family to sign up for this outreach activity. Build bridges for the gospel as we connect with participants throughout the 4 sessions.

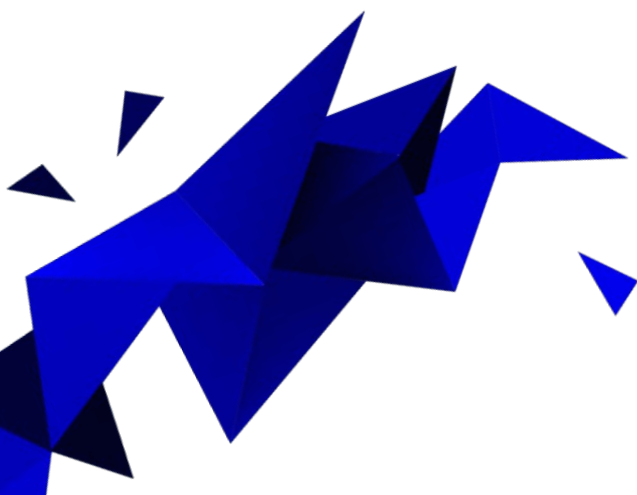
Date: 30 Nov, 7 Dec, 14 Dec & 28 Dec 2023 (Thu)

Time: 10.00am to 12.00pm

Venue: Connections Corner (L1)

Fees: \$20

To register, please visit this link: <https://bit.ly/3QbTXaB>.
Registration closes Sun, 19 Nov.





WORSHIP SERVICE

- **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	Livestream Link
English @ Shine Auditorium (L4)	Sunday at 9am and 11am	http://bit.ly/38BUOrA (only available at 9am)
Chinese @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Sunday at 9am and 11am	http://bit.ly/2Ng0TXT (only available at 9am)
Filipino @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Sunday at 2pm	http://bit.ly/30FjYFU
Youth @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Saturday at 4:30m No service on 4 th & 5 th week	https://bit.ly/2AaF8C3
Varsity @ Light 1 & 2 (L3)	Sunday at 2:30pm	Subscribe to Varsity announcement channel https://t.me/+WDu3myEwjpcxZWU1
Bahasa @ Hall 1 (L2) *For more info, please contact 9117 6000 / 9628 5061	Alternate Sunday at 10:30am	<u>Nil</u>
Telugu @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Sunday at 5pm and 8pm	http://bit.ly/30G4fXI

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

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





GIVING ONLINE

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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