



14 January 2024

EARTHLY TRIALS, GODLY PERSPECTIVES

When I took a film art class many years ago, one of my favourite movies was *Rashomon*. This 1950 Japanese classic pioneered a unique storytelling method, in which different eyewitnesses recount varying perspectives of the same event.

Rashomon showed how the same event could be viewed through different points of view. It came to mind recently, as I reflected on my journey with Melanie, my spouse, through her cancer. She completed several months of chemotherapy for ovarian cancer in November 2022. The cancer returned in August last year, and she has had to resume the treatments. God has used this long trial to change our perspectives. I list four examples here.

Perspective on provision — We live in a culture where it is common to complain, and praise is rarely given out. In our own flesh, we would probably bemoan why she has been so “unlucky” to be diagnosed with metastatic cancer in her early 40s. But, God has shown us how there is actually much to give thanks for, especially in how He has provided abundantly for our day-to-day needs. These blessings far outweigh the sufferings. Most importantly, we rest in the fact that God has given His Son, and promised us a glorious and painless future in eternity.

Perspective on priority — If life on earth is just a prelude to a glorious eternity, it raises the question of what we are spending time on. Are we building up treasures on this earth, or in heaven? Material possessions, earthly fame, as well as secular ambitions have dimmed in importance. Instead, building up

disciples in Christ, and finding opportunities to glorify God, have taken pre-eminence.

Perspective on power — Through the various surgeries and chemo treatments, God has taught us how His strength is made perfect in our weakness. He has shown us how He will continue to equip us to labour for Him, even with chipped and weathered jars of clay. He has brought us to the end of ourselves, and reminded us that we have an infinitely greater power in Him.

Perspective on people — We have received tremendous support and encouragement from close Christian friends. However, others have done the opposite, pushing the false doctrine that all Christians will be healed of sickness and disease. We could choose to be angry at them. But, we have learnt to view these incidents as God’s way of turning our eyes even more towards Him and His eternal promises, rather than relying primarily on man’s words for reassurance. We are also reminded of our own imperfection, and the need to be sensitive to others going through their own trials.

From an earthly perspective, this is a journey that Melanie and I would never have asked for. Yet, we can see how the darkness of this valley has shown us the dazzling beauty of God’s glory and love. He has taught us that we should see what lies before us not as challenge, but as opportunity - to grow in Him and share our testimony, while we are able.

Leonard Lim

Leonard has been a member of Gospel Light for almost 10 years. He was previously a care group leader and currently leads a Life-on-Life missional discipleship group.



CHURCH HAPPENINGS

•CHURCH CAMP 2024 – GREATEST HITS

Church Camp registration is closed.

Out of respect to the hotel, please do **NOT** book your own accommodation and just turn up at camp. You will be turned away.

•REUNION 2024 (团圆 2024)

Invite family, friends, neighbors, colleagues to our 团圆 2024 (Reunion 2024), our first CNY outreach since 2020.

Date: Sat, 17 Feb 2024

Time: 5:00pm to 8:00pm

Venue: Gospel auditorium (L2) followed by dinner at foyer (L1)

To register, please visit this link <https://bit.ly/41GKBcm>.
Registration closes Tue, 6 Feb 2024.

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

•LIVESTREAM AT 10:15AM (2024)

As we move to three services in 2024, our live stream will be shifted from 9:00am to the new 2nd service time slot of 10:15am. The live stream of our English service continues to be made available to serve the needs of those who are physically unable to join us. We encourage all to attend worship services in person.

•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, 21 Jan 2024

Time: 11:30am to 1:00pm

Venue: Gospel auditorium (L2) followed by lunch at foyer (L2)

To register, please visit this link <https://bit.ly/3Sa2viF>.
Registration closes Sun, 14 Jan 2024.

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



CLASSES & MINISTRIES

• MISSIONS – VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Do you have experience in writing English curriculum or teaching English? Volunteer your skills with us to engage and bless the refugees!

If you want to find out more, please contact Sister Lena at 9677 6812.

• BULLETPROOF MARRIAGE WORKSHOP

Who should attend? Pre-Marriage prep and married couples who want to work on their marriage. We would like to emphasise that it is a 4 session commitment and a subsequent 1:1 journey of several months with an assigned marriage mentor couple.

Registration is limited to 10 couples (first come first serve).

Dates: **Thursdays** starting **7,14,21,28 Mar** via Zoom

*Subsequent workshops will be conducted in Jul

Time: 8:30pm – 10:15pm

Duration: **4 sessions**

To register, please visit this link: <https://bit.ly/39bBsPt>

Registration closes Tue, 20 Feb.

For more enquiries, contact Ken at 9783 0984 or Caroline at 9616 8403.

• 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 - Commencement date: Sun, 18 Feb

Course duration: 13 weeks

Time: 12:00pm – 2:00pm

Venue: Hall 3 (Attic Level)

Thursdays - Commencement date: Thu, 22 Feb

Homemakers *for ladies only

Course duration: 13 weeks

Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Classes will be conducted via Zoom.

To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2X7D0nH>

Registration deadline: Sun, 4 Feb 2024.

Leading Generations into a Life-changing Relationship with Jesus Christ



CLASSES & MINISTRIES



• APIIS ENROLMENT

Dear Gospeliters,

As you may know, GLCC has a ministry called Asia-Pacific Institute of International Studies (APIIS) to train Asian Christian leaders. Since its inception in 1995 it has trained over 4000 Christian pastors/leaders. During the Covid lockdown, APIIS started a 2-year online Master of Ministry (MMin) program. So far, 535 Asian leaders have graduated from this program.

APIIS has received over 1300 applications for its MMin (2024/25) program. About half of these applicants are pastors and the other half are church leaders/members who want to serve God more effectively.

APIIS is inviting Gospeliters who want to “master their ministry,” and who are willing to:

- spend 15 hours/week of self-study (using MMin videos and study guides)
- take weekly online MCQ tests
- attend a weekly 2 hour Zoom discussion

To find out more about this course through:

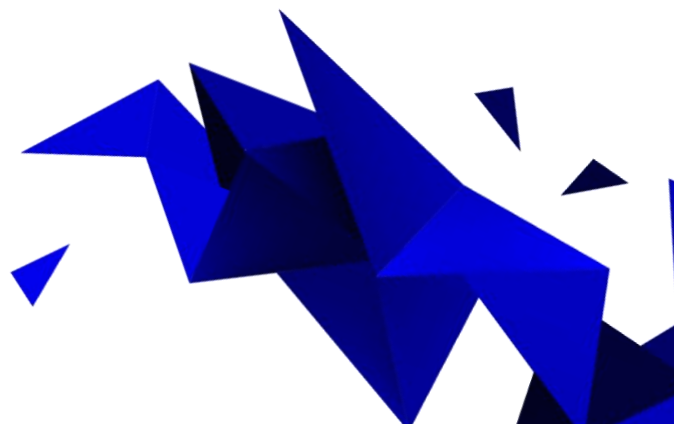
- <http://www.apiis.org>
- Facebook: APIIS MMin Program

To register, please visit this link: <https://bit.ly/4aL7gIP>.

Application for Gospeliters closes on Fri, 19 Jan.

If you want to find out more, please write to apiis.mmin@gmail.com.

Pastor Paul Choo
President,
APIIS





• **SILVERJOY (SENIORS) MINISTRY**

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: 1st, 3rd & 5th Wed for the month of Jan 2024
Time: 9:45am - 12:30pm
Venue: Connections Corner (L1)

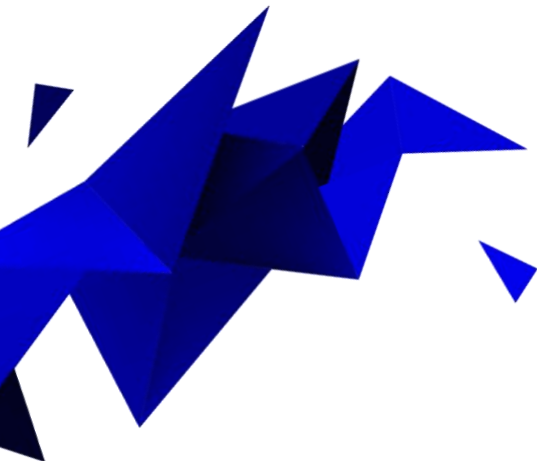
Upcoming events coming your way. Join us!
Contact CE Hotline – 9753 7964 for enquiries

Date	Programme	Activity
17/1/2024	3D Jelly Floral Art (Demo only)	Baking
31/1/2024	CNY Handicraft	Art & Craft

• **EXPOSITORY BIBLE STUDY – GOSPEL OF JOHN**

This Tuesday, we will study John 6:1-15 and learn about Jesus feeding the five thousand. The Zoom dial-in details for our session are as follows:

Date: Tue, 16 Jan 2024
Time: 8:00pm
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://bit.ly/3pd7C7T>
Meeting ID: 851 8603 0760
Passcode: 211761





WORSHIP SERVICE

- **Wednesday Prayer Meetings – 8pm**

Venue: Hall 3, Attic

- **Sunday Prayer Meetings – 7:45am**

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 8:30am, 10:15am and 12:00pm	https://bit.ly/3SH45uZ (only available at 10:15am)
Chinese @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Sunday at 8:30am and 10:15am	http://bit.ly/2Ng0TXT (only available at 10:15am)
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	Subscribe to Youth announcement channel https://t.me/+Yd524QzAjKk2Yzll
Varsity @ Light 1 & 2 (L3)	Sunday at 2:30pm	Subscribe to Varsity announcement channel https://t.me/+WDu3myEwjpcxZWU1
Bahasa @ Reception Room (L1)	Alternate Sunday at 10:30am	For more information about our services contact 9628 5061/ 9117 6000
Telugu @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)	Sunday at 5pm and 7:30pm	http://bit.ly/30G4fXI

(B) Children Service

Children's services are at **8:30am and 10:15am**:

- (i) Playgroup (12 months - 35 months): Hall 3 at Attic Level
- (ii) Preschool (36 months - 6 years): Eshkol Valley premise at Attic Level
- (iii) Primary (Primary 1 to Primary 6): Light Auditorium at Level 3

2024 BOOKING FOR PRESCHOOL/ PRIMARY SERVICES

Bookings opens on Wed, 8:30am for 1st service and Wed, 10:15am for 2nd Service

- Follow this link to complete your booking: bit.ly/cmbooking
- Bookings will be valid till the respective service start time, thereafter they will be released for walk-ins.
- Children with no bookings are welcome to walk-in but subject to available capacity

A step-by-step guide and FAQ can be found at bit.ly/cmbookingfaq. For assistance email us at children@gospellight.sg.



WORSHIP SERVICE

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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