



26 May 2024

CANCER AND MY JOURNEY OF “IFS”

“You have cancer”. Two years ago, these three words changed my life.

At age 40, I began my journey with cancer. Since then, I have undergone two major surgeries, had over 30 sessions of chemotherapy, and spent over a hundred days hospitalised. In many ways, my life feels unrecognisable.

In this new and unfamiliar season of life, my mind is often inundated with an array of “ifs”. There are nerve wracking “what ifs”, driven by fear and anxiety - What if the treatments fail? What if dying is unbearably painful? What if my worst nightmare becomes reality?

These are accompanied by wistful “if onlys”, full of regret and longing - If only I discovered the cancer earlier. If only it hadn’t recurred. If only I could have my old life back. If only... what if. What if... if only. When these questions swirl in my mind, Satan tempts me to despair. He paints a bleak picture - a road littered with broken dreams behind, and fraught with unspeakable danger ahead.

Fixating on these “what ifs” and “if onlys” cripples me with fear and discontent. It makes me covet a different life, desperate to somehow control my future. In these moments, God’s Word and His people have guarded my heart and mind, by directing me to a different set of “ifs” instead. These are the “even ifs” of God - rooted in who He is, and what He has promised.

Even if life changes beyond recognition, God will never leave or forsake me. Even if tomorrow is difficult, God promises to use it all for my good. Even if this life ends painfully, a glorious eternity awaits because of Christ’s finished work on the cross.

Unlike my own “ifs” of yesterday and tomorrow, there is nothing futile or tentative about God’s “ifs”. God’s “even ifs”

are immovable anchors, unchangeable across time and circumstance. They keep me rooted in Him, as I face the storms of life. These “even ifs” point me beyond my earthly circumstance, to the One who stands behind them. They remind me that my life is not determined by chance or human effort, but by an infinitely wise and loving Father whom I can trust.

Meditating on God, and His unfailing purposes, has also brought me to a new set of “what ifs”. What if God gave me cancer, to teach me to surrender and trust Him? What if this journey is God’s way of bringing new people into my life, whom I can reach for Him? Rather than fretting about yesterday or tomorrow, these new “what ifs” remind me to be faithful to the here and now of what God is working in my life, today.

I pray that God will use my cancer, to grow me to be more like Habbakuk:

“Even if the fig tree does not bloom
and the vines have no grapes,
even if the olive tree fails to produce
and the fields yield no food,
even if the sheep pen is empty
and the stalls have no cattle—
even then,
I will be happy with the Lord.
I will truly find joy in God, who saves me.”

(Habbakuk 3:17-18, GW)

Melanie Lim

(Melanie leads a discipleship group and has been a member of Gospel Light for over 10yrs).



CLASSES & MINISTRIES

• SHEPHERDS' TRAINING (SEM 2) REGISTRATION

We will be kickstarting Semester 2 Shepherd's Training in July! Word-based ministry leaders and potential leaders are invited to register and join us on this journey.

Semester 2 Dates: 27 Jul - 30 Nov 2024
(Every last Saturday of the month)

Time: 2pm to 5pm

Venue: Light Auditorium (L3)

To register, please visit this link: bit.ly/stsem2reg.
Registration is on first come first serve basis and subject to approval. Successful applicants will be informed 2 weeks prior to the training date.

* Registration closes, Sun, 2 Jun

• 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.

English

Date: Sun, 28 Jul & 4 Aug

Time: 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

Chinese

Date: Sun, 28 Jul & 4 Aug

Time: 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

To register, please visit this link:

<https://bit.ly/MembershipClass>.

Registration closes on Sun, 30 Jun.

• 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, 9 Jun.

Baptism Class (English)

Date: Sun, 14 Jul

Time: 1:30pm – 2:30pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

Baptism Class (Chinese)

Date: Sun, 14 Jul

Time: 12:00pm – 1:00pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

Baptism Date: Sun, 25 Aug

Venue: Shine Auditorium (L4)



• BEGINNING INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY

Date: 8 July - 22 November 2024

Discussion Leader: Brother Michael Lau

Study the Word of God inductively and know the God of the Word intimately.

We will be reading and observing the books of **Hebrews, Lamentations, Second Kings** and **Revelation** using *Precept New Inductive Study Series (NISS)* guides. What did God say and do in his relationship with the people, and what might we learn about God from His word and His works?

Your weekly commitment is 1-3 hours of personal reading and 2 hours of discussion in small groups. The cost is \$15/per book for the *NISS study guide* and Observation Worksheet (Optional).

Discussion sessions:

1. **Hebrews** Mondays: 7.30pm - 9.30pm
(08 Jul - 18 Nov 2024)
2. **Lamentations** Tuesdays: 7.30pm - 9.30pm
(09 Jul - 22 Oct 2024)
3. **Lamentations** Fridays: 9.30am - 11.30am
(12 Jul - 25 Oct 2024)
4. **Second Kings** Wednesdays: 9.30am - 11.30am
(10 Jul - 20 Nov 2024)
5. **Revelation** Thursdays: 9.30am - 11.30am
(11 Jul - 21 Nov 2024)

To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/44Bp7iB>

Registration closes, Sun 30 Jun

• KNOWING JESUS: EXPLORE CHRISTIANITY

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 hope in a world filled with brokenness and suffering.

Explore the truths of the bible in a 4-part 1-to-1 series with a personal facilitator. Join a series that has helped many come to understand the evidence for God better.

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

• 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 **4,11,18,25 Jul** via Zoom

*Subsequent workshops will be conducted in Nov

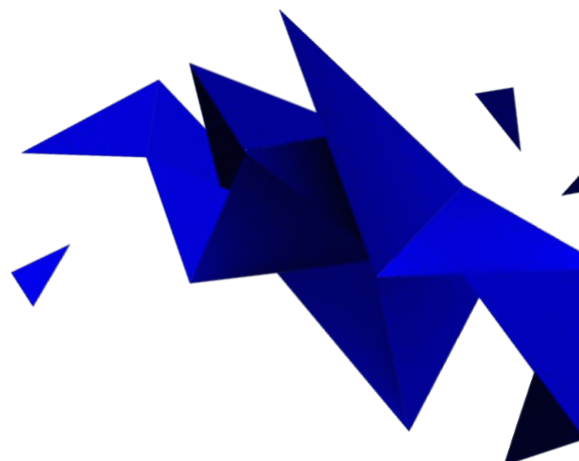
Time: 8:30pm – 10:15pm

Duration: **4 sessions**

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

Registration closes Mon, 10 Jun.

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





• **NAGOMI ART BEFRIENDERS EQUIPPING**

Join us to learn Nagomi Art and be equipped as a befriender/volunteer (cum assistant facilitator) for future community outreaches. Appended are 2 equipping sessions to choose from:

1st Session: 21 Jun, Fri (10am to 12pm)
 2nd Session: 29 Jun, Sat (10am to 12pm)

Venue: Connections Corner (round tables) near level 1 lift lobby.
 Fee is waived as material cost will be sponsored by church.

To register, visit: <https://bit.ly/3QbTXaB>
 Registration closes, 16 Jun

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

This Tue, 28 May, we will study John 8:30-38 and learn about what Jesus meant when he said “the truth will set you free”. The Zoom dial-in details for our session are as follows:

Date: Tue, 28 May
 Time: 8:00pm
 Join Zoom Meeting
<https://bit.ly/3pd7C7T>
 Meeting ID: 851 8603 0760
 Passcode: 211761

• **SILVERJOY (SENIORS) MINISTRY**

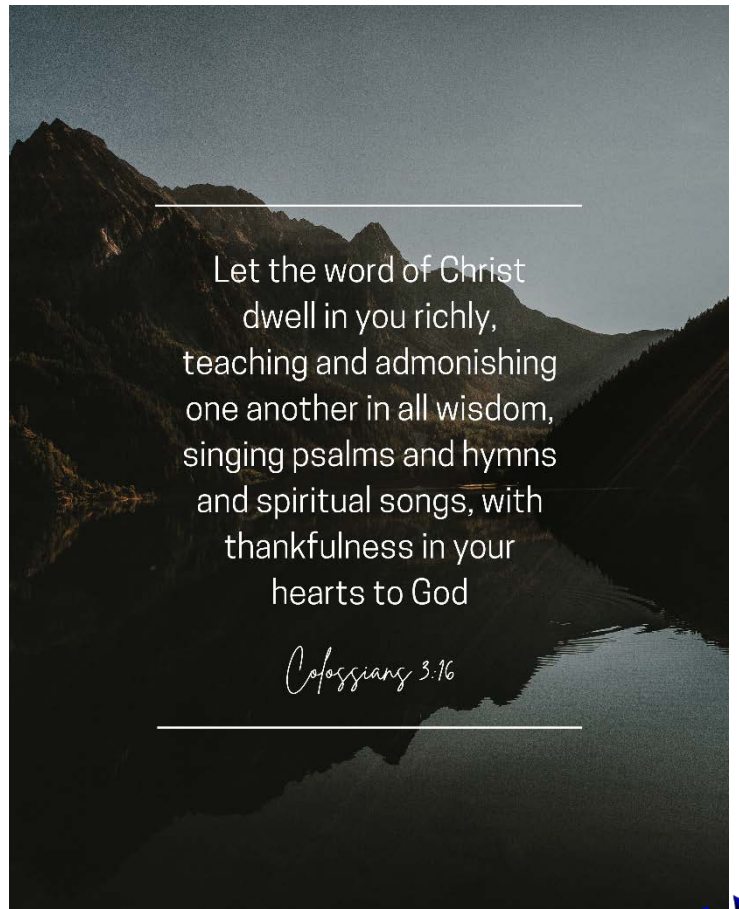
Every chapter of life is a gift from God. And our ministry for seniors celebrates that gift. SilverJoy isn't just a place for seniors to gather, it's a spiritual community of friendship and support.

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

Date: 1st & 3rd Wed of the month
 Time: 9:45am – 12:30pm
 Venue: Connections Corner (L1)

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

Date	Programme
5/6/24	Talk on Hearing Care
19/6/24	DIY Coaster making (Mosaic tiles)





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 4:30pm 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/+WDu3myEwijpcxZWU1
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 Services

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

(iv) Join our Whatsapp community for regular updates: <http://bit.ly/sonshineparents>

(v) Interested to explore serving in in Children's Minisntry? Email: children@gospellight.sg



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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