

Respectable Sins: Love Of The World

Elder Frederick Chew Church Committee Chairman

Dear brethren,

While we diligently avoid more visible sins such as theft and adultery, how often do we overlook the subtle sins that go unnoticed? These are sometimes referred to as "respectable sins." In this short article, I will use a framework from 1 John 2 to help us reflect on this issue.

In 1 John 2:15-16, it says:

"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh, the desires of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world."

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Desires of the Flesh

The first category, desires of the flesh, is often obvious to those around us. When someone is controlled by their impulses, it's hard to miss. For example, a person addicted to gaming might skip meals or avoid interacting with family members. At work, the effects might include dozing off due to late-night gaming sessions or even getting caught using office computers to play games. Such behaviours are visible and usually prompt concern.

Desires of the Eyes

The second category, desires of the eyes, is more subtle. This refers to covetousness—a strong desire for something or someone that

causes a person to lose perspective. It might be a fast car, a luxury vacation, a big house, or even good looks. A person may convince themselves that they cannot be happy unless they acquire or possess this object of desire. This can lead to envy when someone else possesses what they long for. Covetousness is a powerful motivator that often drives a person's decisions and actions beneath the surface. The danger lies in how this desire grows unnoticed, potentially leading to disastrous outcomes. For example, someone might turn to gambling to fund their desire for something unattainable. By the time family and friends notice, it may already be too late.

Pride of Life

The third category, pride of life, is even more subtle than the second. Often, high achievers suffer from this without realizing it. The drive to excel—whether at school, work, or in a hobby—can become all-consuming. We frequently hear of people who compromise time with their spouses, children, or friends, pouring themselves entirely into their careers or personal pursuits. It's not

uncommon for Christians to say they can't serve in church or the community because they are too busy at work. To be clear, the Bible values hard work (see Ecclesiastes 9:10, Genesis 3:19), but we must ask ourselves: why are we so busy? The real issue is balance. Is there a hidden desire driving us to neglect our responsibilities as children, parents, spouses, workers, members of our physical communities, and most importantly, our spiritual communities where we are called to serve one another?

Conclusion

As believers, it's crucial that we regularly examine our hearts and ask God to reveal any hidden "respectable sins." Whether during daily devotions, small group meetings, or Sunday services, we should seek God's guidance in identifying these subtle sins that may be creeping into our lives unnoticed. Afterward, we can seek accountability from our spiritual community to help realign our desires with God's will. May the Lord help us to be ever conscious of and guard against these "respectable sins" in our lives.

VOLUNTEER TO BLESS OUR MIGRANT WORKER COMMUNITY!

Volunteer for our Migrant Worker health screening at Westlite Woodlands. We need a team of 6 doctors; 8 to 10 nurses plus 25 non-medical volunteers. A volunteer briefing via zoom will be conducted on Thu, 24 Oct at 8.30pm.

Date: Thu, 31 Oct

Time: 4.00pm - 8.00pm

Venue: Westlite Woodlands

The team will rally in church (39 Punggol Field Walk) at 2.00pm. Set up time at Westlite is 3.00pm.

Register as a volunteer today!

BULLETPROOF MARRIAGE WORKSHOP

Who should attend? Pre-Marriage prep and married couples who want to work on their marriage. We would like to emphasize 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).

Workshop format:

1 onsite session (7 Nov, 7.30pm - 9.15pm at GLCC, L2 Gospel Auditorium)

3 online sessions via Zoom (14,21,28 Nov, 8.30pm - 10.00pm)

*Subsequent workshops will be conducted in March 2025

Duration: 4 sessions

Register today!

Registration closes Mon, 14 Oct. For more enquiries, contact Ken at 9783 0984 or Caroline at 9616 8403.

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 9753 7964 for enquiries.

Date	Programme
2 Oct	Balik Kampung Talk - Stay Connected (HPB Talk)
16 Oct	Photo Frame Decoration *call 9753 7964 to register

EXPOSITORY BIBLE STUDY – GOSPEL OF JOHN

This Tue, 1 Oct, we will study John 13:31-38, and learn about the new commandment and Jesus foretelling Peter's denial. The Zoom dial-in details for our session are as follows:

Date: Tue, 1 Oct

Time: 8.00pm

Join **Zoom Meeting**

Meeting ID: 851 8603 0760

Passcode: 211761

HOST OUR APIIS GRADUATES!

Founded by Pastor Paul Choo, Asia Pacific Institute of International Studies (APIIS) provides Master of Ministry courses for believers all over Asia. We invite you to open your home and host our graduating international students from 14-18 November. Contact Terri@ 9658 2809 to find our more!

YOUTH WHATSAPP CHANNEL

You can now stay updated with all announcements, activities and latest events on our newly launched Youth WhatsApp Channel!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CLOSURE (5th SUNDAY)

Children's Ministry will not be operating on Sunday 29 September. We encourage parents to accompany your child to the main English or Chinese worship services. Streaming of the English services will continue at Hall 3 (Attic level) and L1 Foyer.

CHANGES IN CARPARK TRAFFIC FLOW

Attention all drivers! As part of our effort to improve the safety and smooth flow of traffic on Sundays, we will be conducting a trial on 22 Sep, 29 Sep, 6 Oct and 13 Oct in basements 1 and 2. Kindly follow the instructions of our traffic marshals and only drop off your passengers at the designated drop-off points.

YOUTH CAMP 2024

Save the Date for Youth Camp 2024! 16-19 December!

INTERNSHIP

Wonder if full-time ministry is what you have been called to? Come explore under Gospel Light's Internship programme, especially tailored for those who are keen in shepherding/pastoral work. To find out more details on the application criteria, please visit our website at Internship.

JOB RECRUITMENT

IT MANAGER

We are looking for an IT manager to handle our day to day IT operations, oversee all IT projects and coordinate IT work with 3rd party providers, serve as technical and IT advisor to all church departments.

TECHNICIAN

Are you good with your hands and have training in electrical engineering? If so, join us to look after the house of God.

For more details about the above job position, please visit our website at Careers or Email Benita Teo.

KIDS BIBLE CAMP (KBC) 2024

Join us for an exciting 2-day adventure to find the greatest treasure of all — the person of Jesus Christ! Children will discover how to grow their faith & explore what it means to be deeply rooted in God's love & truth!

Age group: Primary 1 to 5

Date: Fri, 22 Nov - Sat, 23 Nov

Time: 8.30am - 5.30pm

Camp Fees: \$30 (includes meals, materials

and T-shirt)

Venue: 39 Punggol Field Walk, Singapore

828753

Register today!

Registration closes on Mon, 30 Sep.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR KIDS BIBLE CAMP

We are excited to announce our annual 2-day kids holiday camp and we need YOU to help make it an unforgettable experience! This is a wonderful opportunity to impact the lives of children from our church & the community with the love & truth of the Gospel. Sign-up today and be a blessing to the next generation!

Apply for the various roles. To find out more write to us today!



English @Shine Auditorium (L4)
Sunday at 8.30am, 10.15am, 12.00pm
Watch our livestream service at 10.15am only

Chinese @Gospel Auditorium (L2)
Sunday at 8.30am and 10.15am
Watch our livestream service at 10.15am only

Filipino @Gospel Auditorium (L2)
Sunday at 2.00pm
Watch our livestream service at 2.00pm

Youth @Gospel Auditorium (L2)
Saturday at 4.30pm
Subscribe to our announcement channel on
WhatsApp or Telegram.



Varsity @Light 1 and Light 2 (L3)
Sunday at 2.30pm *no service on 5th week
Subscribe to Varsity announcement channel

Bahasa @Reception Room (L1) Every alternate Sunday 10.30am For more info, please contact 9117 6000 / 96285061

Telugu @Gospel Auditorium (L2) Sunday at 5.00pm and 7.30pm <u>Watch</u> our livestream service at 5.30pm



PLAYGROUP

(12 - 35 months) @ Hall 3 (Attic) Sunday at 8.30am and 10.15am

PRESCHOOL

(35 months - 6 years) @ Eshkol Valley Premises (Attic) Sunday at 8.30am and 10.15am

PRIMARY

(Primary 1 - 6) @ Light Auditorium (L3) Sunday at 8.30am and 10.15am

Join our Whatsapp community
for regular updates

Contact us if you're interested to explore serving in Children's Ministry!



FULL GIVING DETAILS HERE



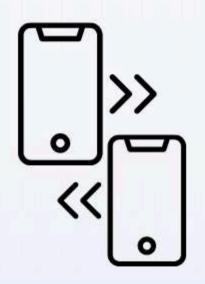
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Unique Entity Number (UEN)
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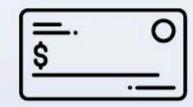
Scan With Your Bank App

All offerings will be directed to the "General" fund. State "Missions" in the UEN/Bill Reference No. section if you wish to designate the offering to our mission work.

Giving Online



> Internet Banking Transfer DBS Bank 033-021695-5



> Cheque
Make Payable to:
"Gospel Light Christian Church"
Write "Offerings" behind.

For internet banking transfer, indicate "General" or "Mission" to designate where the offering goes to

For cheques, you can further indicate on the reverse: "General Fund" 033-021695-5 or "Missions Fund" 001-042653-2.

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