



God's Unusual Messengers

Article by Simon Lim Care Group Leader

In Luke 2:8-10, the announcement of Jesus' birth presents a striking contrast between God's method of spreading news and how the world typically promotes messages. God had sent an angel to shepherds in the fields to deliver the message of Jesus' birth. This divine announcement of the very first Christmas reveals profound insights into God's priorities and method for His message and messengers.

1. The Audience:

God's choice to reveal the birth of Jesus to

humble shepherds is significant. At the time, shepherds were among the lowest and most marginalized members of society. By selecting them, God underscores that the good news of Jesus is for everyone, regardless of social status or power. Similarly, it shows that any child of God can share this good news. This is in stark contrast to how the world typically promotes messages, often targeting those with influence, wealth, or authority. Major news events in the world often focus on the powerful or famous, filtering stories through those in positions of control.

"The birth of the Saviour is not an extraordinary message. It is a monumental one. A message of joy that we must be excited to share!"

2. The Amazing Message:

The method of delivering this news is equally extraordinary. An angel appears, shining with the glory of God, filling the night sky with light and awe. This supernatural display emphasizes that the

birth of Jesus is no ordinary event but a cosmic occurrence of great significance. God's method—heavenly messengers and glory—to announce His Son's arrival. A glorious, good news of a Saviour to the world was made to shepherds who praised God in jubilation. In contrast, the world makes concerted efforts in mass communication: advertisements, news outlets, social media, celebrities influencers and press conferences to spread a very ordinary message. The birth of the Saviour is not an extraordinary message. It is a monumental one. A message of joy that we must be excited to share!

3. The Appeasement Message:

The angel's message is filled with reassurance: "Do not be afraid." The announcement is such "good news that will cause great joy for all the people," for Christ the Saviour is born. The message brings the promise of everlasting peace now possible between God and sinful men. This is quite different from how the world often spreads news. Headlines in the media are frequently sensationalized to evoke urgency, fear, or excitement. The tone of worldly news can

stir anxiety or conflict, often emphasizing division, disaster, or drama.

4. The Ageless Message:

The announcement of Jesus' birth is universal. The angel declares that this "good news" is "for all the people." The message of Jesus' arrival is not limited to a particular group or class but is meant for all humanity. The great commission unequivocally echoes that we must go to make disciple of all nations as a command and remains relevant and paramount. This timeless universal message contrasts with how the world often narrows its focus, addressing only specific demographics or those who hold power. In the world, fleeting messages that thrive on hype and fads are often tailored to appeal to certain audiences to accomplish a very specific agenda.

Conclusion:

The announcement of Jesus' birth through humble shepherds and the glory of angelic visitation is a beautiful reminder of how God's ways are different from the world's. His message is for you, no matter your background or status. It's a message of joy, peace, and salvation that invites everyone to draw near. As you reflect on this timeless good news, remember that God's love reaches out to you personally, offering hope and purpose through Christ. So, let us respond by sharing this joy with others, living out the grace and truth of Jesus in our daily lives. This season, may you experience the wonder of His love and the peace that comes from knowing Him as Savior.

BEGINNING INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY (BIBS)

Beginning Inductive Bible Study (BIBS) is an online platform where we meet to Investigate what the Bible says, so as to Interpret what the Scriptures meant, and then discuss the Implications of the Word in our daily lives. We study the word of God inductively that we may know the God of the word intimately and follow Jesus faithfully in the power of the Spirit.

BIBS January to May 2025 is as follows:

Jeremiah (Men's group): Wednesdays 9.30am - 11.30am - (Lesson starts 15 Jan)

Acts: Thursdays 9.30am - 11.30am - (Lesson starts 16 Jan)

Romans: Fridays 9.30am - 11.30am - (Lesson starts 17 Jan)

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Acts: Mondays 7.30pm - 9.30pm - (Lesson starts 20 Jan)

Romans: Tuesdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm - (Lesson starts 21 Jan)

Your commitment each week is 1-3 hours of self-study and 2 hours online discussion. Precept NISS guide (\$15/-) is optional. The discussion leader is brother Michael Lau.

Enrol today!

Enrolment closes Sun, 29 Dec.

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.

Register to join us!

Date	Programme
18 Dec	Christmas Lunch (圣诞午餐) *registration required

Contact 9753 7964 for enquiries / registration.

EXPOSITORY BIBLE STUDY – GOSPEL OF JOHN

We will take a break from end Nov to end Dec and class will resume on Tue, 7 Jan 2025. The Zoom dial-in details for our session are as follows:

Date: Tue, 7 Jan 2025

Time: 8.00pm

Join **Zoom Meeting**

Meeting ID: 851 8603 0760

Passcode: 211761

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2024

In a world filled with uncertainty, pain, and anxiety, we all long for hope. This Christmas, invite someone you know to see the unveiled true joy of Christmas in a hope that endures. Join us for our special Christmas service, "Hope Is Born".

Date: 25 Dec 2024

English services

Venue: L4, Shine Auditorium

Time: 9.00am and 11.00am

Chinese services

Venue: L2, Gospel Auditorium

Time: 9.00am and 11.00am

Download and share our invite card.

COFFEE CONNECTS CLOSURE

Please be informed that Coffee Connects will be closed on 22 Dec and 29 Dec. We thank you for your past support and look forward to welcome you in 2025.

The team at Coffee Connects wishes you a blessed Christmas and New Year!

SHEPHERDS' TRAINING (SEMESTER 3)

We will be kickstarting a new semester of Shepherds' Training in Jan 2025. Wordbased ministry leaders and potential leaders are invited to register and join us on this journey.

Dates: 25 Jan - 31 May 2025

(Every last Saturday of the month)

Time: 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Venue: Light Auditorium (L3)

Register here.

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, 29 Dec.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

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. Register here. Registration closes on Sun, 22 Dec.

English

Date: Sun, 19 Jan & 26 Jan 2025

Time: 1:30pm - 2:30pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

Chinese

Date: Sun, 5 Jan & 26 Jan 2025

Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

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 here. Registration closes Sun, 8 Dec.

Baptism Class (English)

Date: Sun, 12 Jan 2025

Time: 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

Baptism Class (Chinese)

Date: Sun, 12 Jan 2025

Time: 12.00pm - 1.00pm

Venue: Hall 2 (L2)

Baptism Date: Sun, 23 Feb 2025

Venue: Shine Auditorium (L4)

CHURCH CAMP 2025 - FAQ

Gyms are familiar to many of us, with different machines that help to work our different muscle groups. But how often do we flex and train our spiritual muscles? Borrowing the words of Paul in 1 Tim 4:7-8 "...Rather train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come." Come spend time with the family of God from 10 - 14 June 2025 in "Training for Godliness". FAQs for Church Camp 2025 is given here.

Registration starts on 5 Jan 2025.



"We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy."

Daniel 9:18







Prayer List
WE CAN ONLY MOVE FORWARD
AS A CHURCH BY PRAYER.
SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY
PRAYER LIST



Bereavement
WE MOURN WITH MEMBERS
WHO'VE LOST LOVED ONES.
(ROM. 12:15) STAY UPDATED
ON CHURCH BEREAVEMENT
NOTICES.



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
and for the month of December

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



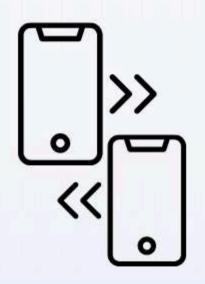
> PAYNOW
Unique Entity Number (UEN)
S88SS0082AGF1



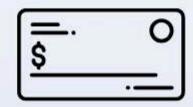
Scan With Your Bank App

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.