



The Heart of Idolatry

Article by Sin Yu Fei, Pastor, Youth Congregation

Understanding the Heart of Idolatry

When we hear the word "idolatry," we might think of statues or temples from ancient times. However, idolatry goes beyond these external symbols. The Bible commands us to "have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3). Idolatry is not limited to the worship of objects made of wood or stone. It happens whenever we love or rely on anything more than God. Idolatry occurs when we give something or someone the place in our lives that rightfully belongs to God.

At its core, idolatry is a problem of misplaced worship. Romans 1:25 explains that people "worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator." We can take good things—like work, relationships, or hobbies—and elevate them to a place of ultimate importance. As John Calvin famously said, "The human heart is an idol factory," constantly creating replacements for God.

"Common idols today include success, money, relationships, and comfort. Even blessings like family or ministry can become idols if they consume our hearts."

Recognizing Modern Idolatry

Although we may not bow down to physical statues, idolatry is pervasive in modern life. It can be subtle and harder to detect. Common idols today include success, money, relationships, and comfort. Even blessings like family or ministry can become idols if they consume our hearts.

Consider this: Have you ever tied your

happiness to your performance at work or school? Do you feel lost when a relationship falls apart? These feelings often reveal where an idol may have taken God's rightful place in your life.

The Consequences of Idolatry

Idolatry inevitably leads to pain and disappointment. Psalm 16:4 warns, "The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply." Idols may promise joy, but they leave us empty, taking without offering anything lasting in return.

When we worship idols, our relationship with God suffers. We push Him aside, allowing other things to control our hearts. This misplaced worship also harms our relationships with others, often leading to selfishness or conflict.

The Path to Freedom

Thankfully, there is hope. The Gospel of Jesus Christ addresses the root of idolatry. Only Christ can satisfy the deepest longings of the human heart. He calls us to repentance and

invites us to turn away from false gods and return to Him.

The journey begins with self-examination. Ask yourself: What occupies my thoughts? What do I fear losing the most? These questions can help uncover hidden idols. Once identified, we must bring these idols before God in repentance, asking Him to reorient our hearts toward Him.

Practical steps can help as well. Spending time in God's Word and praying regularly remind us of His rightful place in our lives. Scripture, like Matthew 22:37, calls us to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind. Being honest with trusted friends or mentors can provide accountability and encouragement.

Idolatry is not just an ancient problem; it is a challenge we all face today. The real question is not "Do I have idols?" but "What are my idols?" As we reflect, let us heed the prayer of Psalm 139:23-24: "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way

everlasting."

True freedom and joy are not found in idols but in worshiping the One who is worthy—our Creator and Redeemer. Let us cast down our idols and place our trust fully in Him.





God has saved you.

God has saved you for His glory.

What an amazing gift.

What a great responsibility.

What you do with this gift,

can impact everyone around you.

FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN BE PART OF GOSPEL LIGHT'S TEAM OF SUNDAY MINISTRY WORKERS.

Prayer Meetings

"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16







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.

CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH (PHONICS)

- Short and long vowels
- Duration: 10 lessons
- Date: 7 Mar 16 May (Fridays)
- Time: 2.00pm 3.00pm (lessons);
- 3.00pm 3.30pm (refreshments cum more
- speaking practice)
- Yenue: Attic Level, Hall 3
- Material fee: \$5
- Please contact Sue @ 9776 1377 to register and for more details. Registration closes Sun, 23 Feb.

PING PONG MINISTRY

Invite friends, neighbours, colleagues or family members who love playing ping pong to join us! The team led by Cyril Ong will be hosting sessions during the following day and time:

Mon and Thu: 7.30pm - 10.00pm

Sat: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Yenue: L3, Foyer

To find out more, please contact: Cyril Ong - 9005 3446 Eddy Anwar - 9487 7808

SILVER JOY (SENIORS) MINISTRY

Every chapter of life is a gift from God. And our ministry for seniors celebrates that gift. Silver Joy 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

Yenue: L1, Connections Corner Upcoming events coming your way. Register to join us!

Date	Programme
19 Feb	I can do it (Health Promotion Talk)

Contact 9753 7964 for enquiries.

RUMMIKUB CLUB

Silver Joy will be playing Rummikub in Feb. Invite your friends, neighbours, family members who are Rummikub fans to join Sister Linn and Sister Vivienne. Great opportunity to introduce the game to those who are new as it is great way to connect. Join the team to build bridges for Gospel opportunities as He leads.

- Commencement date: 26 Feb 2025
- Date: 2nd & 4th Wed of the month (except public holiday)
- Time: 9.00am 12.00pm
- Yenue: L1, Connections Corner
- Contact 9753 7964 for enquiries.

EXPOSITORY BIBLE STUDY – GOSPEL OF JOHN

This Tue, 18 Feb, we will go through John 18:12-27 to learn about Jesus facing Annas Caiaphas, Peter denying Jesus, the High Priest questioning Jesus, and Peter denying Jesus again. The Zoom dial-in details for our session are as follows:

***Date: Tue, 18 Feb 2025

ATime: 8.00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 851 8603 0760

Passcode: 211761

YOUNG MUMS PRAY AND SHARE

Are you a mum of a newborn, preschool, school-age, or teenage children? Being a God-honoring wife and mother is not easy with the many ups, downs, and transitions in life. So if you are seeking to connect with other mothers in this journey of faith, join us as we pray, encourage, and support each other to be the mum that God wants us to be!

We meet online and in-person:

- Zoom @ 9.00pm 10.15pm, every2nd Monday of the month
- GLCC @ 10.15am 11: 20am, every last Sunday of the month.

For dates and details please contact Caroline Ong at 9616 8404.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

PARENTING WORKSHOP: THE FIRST 7 YEARS

Parents of children aged 0–6, this workshop is for you! "It takes a village to raise a child"—and that includes nurturing their spiritual growth. Why do some children embrace the Gospel while others stray? Studies show early environments shape a child's character and faith.

Join us for a practical, hands-on session by the Family Life Ministry to explore how parents can build a strong spiritual foundation for their kids.

Date: Sat, 1 Mar

____Time: 10.00 am - 12.00pm

Venue: L3, Light Auditorium

Children welcomed. Lunch will be provided.

Click here to register.

Registration closes Sun, 23 Feb.

For enquiries, WhatsApp Edwin at 9234 8139.

Invest in your child's spiritual future!

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

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, 23 Feb.

Baptism Class (English)

Date: Sun, 6 Apr

Time: 1.30pm – 2.30pm

Venue: L2, Hall 2

Baptism Class (Chinese)

Date: Sun, 6 Apr

___Time: 12.00pm - 1.00pm

TVenue: L2, Hall 2

Baptism Date: Sun, 18 May

ATime: 1.00pm

Venue: L4, Shine Auditorium

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

CHURCH CAMP 2025

Come spend time with the family of God from 10 - 14 June 2025.

Click on the respective camp FAQ: English / Chinese.

Click here to register.

Normal registration 1 Feb to 28 Feb 2025

The Church Camp booth will no longer be available on Sundays.

For assistance with registration or inquiries, please:

Email us at camp@gospellight.sg

Call us at 9639 6874

CHURCH CAMP SUBSIDY

If you feel led to be a blessing and subsidise brethren who are not able to afford camp fees, please write to

benita.teo@gospellight.sg.



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
of the month
Subscribe to Varsity announcement channel

Bahasa @Hall 1 (L2)
Every alternate Sunday 10.30am
For more info, please contact
9117 6000 / 9628 5061

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

(36 months - 6 years) @ Eshkol Valley Premises (Attic) Sunday at 8.30am, 10.15am and 12.00pm

PRIMARY

(Primary 1 - 6)

@ Light Auditorium (L3)

Sunday at 8.30am, 10.15am, 12.00pm*

*12.00pm service held at Eshkol Valley Premises (Attic)

Join our <u>Whatsapp community</u> for regular updates

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



FULL GIVING DETAILS HERE



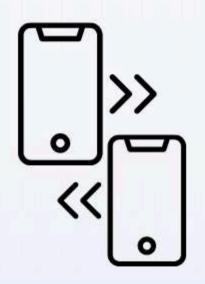
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Unique Entity Number (UEN)
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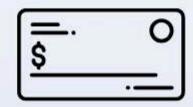
Scan With Your Bank App

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.