



# Reluctance To Redemption: A Tale of Two Kings

Article by Raynor Cheng Varsity Assistant Shepherd

The Gospel writer Mark sets up Gethsemane as a dark and gloomy scene, where the Anointed Son of Man is on the brink of His death—the death on the cross that ironically coronates Him as King. In Gethsemane, the King faces His deathly coronation, but my mind goes to another coronation many years earlier: the first king of Israel, Saul, in **1**Samuel 10.

## Saul: The Reluctant King

Many mistakenly believe that Saul was not

chosen by God, but **1 Samuel 9-10** clearly shows that God did, in fact, choose him to be king (**1 Sam 9:16, 10:1**). However, when the time came for his coronation, we see one of the most awkward moments in the Bible:

#### 1 Samuel 10:20-24

Then Samuel brought all the tribes of Israel near .. and Saul the son of Kish was taken by lot. But when they sought him, he could not be found. So they inquired again of the LORD, "Is there a man still to come?" And the LORD said, "Behold, he has hidden himself among the baggage." Then they ran and took him from there."

Though chosen by God, Saul was found hiding among the baggage—despite being taller than anyone else! He was a reluctant king, avoiding his God-given call to rescue His people.

## Jesus: The Willing King

Contrast this with the **True Anointed King**,
Jesus, who faced an infinitely greater
coronation—one that would mean suffering
and death. But unlike Saul, Jesus **went willingly** to fulfill the Father's plan, not just

to save one nation, but to rescue people from every nation.

#### Mark 14:34-36

And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

In the face of certain suffering, **Jesus did not** hide, He did not run. Instead, He actively moved toward the place where He would be crowned King—through torture and death on the cross.

#### What Does This Mean for Us?

Since our King willingly died for us, we can live in full trust of Him. He placed the Father's will above His own desires, and because of this, we too are called to trust in the Father's plan—even when it conflicts with our own.

The New Testament applies this particularly

to how we treat one another in the family of God. Philippians 2:1-12 calls us to count others as more significant than ourselves—just as Christ submitted to the Father's will and went to the cross.

So we must ask ourselves:Am I counting my brothers and sisters in Christ as more significant than myself? Do I imitate Christ's humility in how I live—through hospitality, generosity, and forgiveness?

## A Call to Follow Our King

As we approach **Good Friday**, may we fix our eyes on the willing obedience of **our King on the cross**. May we see the **sheer immensity of His rescue** for us, and may we **willingly obey His will**—just as He obeyed the Father.

# GOOD FRIDAY: A TRAGEDY TURNED GOOD

Why do Christians call the crucifixion of Jesus "Good" Friday? Betrayed, falsely accused, and condemned to die—Jesus' suffering seemed like the ultimate injustice. Yet, in the darkest moment of history, God's plan was unfolding. Jesus endured it all, not as a victim, but as a Savior!

This Good Friday, invite your unchurched friends and family to hear the powerful message of the cross—the ultimate act of love that turned tragedy into triumph.

Join us and experience why the worst day in history became the best news for all.

Date: Fri, 18 Apr

Time: 9.00am or 11.00am (English and

Chinese services run concurrently)

Venue:

English service @ Shine Auditorium (L4) Chinese service @ Gospel Auditorium (L2)

## **GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S SERVICE**

Calling all kids, invite your neighbours and friends! Come and hear the good news of Jesus Christ who came to rescue us from sin!

Date: Fri, 18 Apr

Time: 9.00am or 11.00am

Venue:

Primary kids @ Light Auditorium (L3) Preschool kids @ Eshkol Valley (Attic)

## **MISSIONS: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

Would you like to equip children with English skills while sharing the love of Jesus? We are seeking dedicated online volunteer teachers to make a meaningful impact on displaced community children in our neighboring country. Training will be provided.

Contact Lena via WhatsApp 9677 6812 to learn more.

# HUSBAND'S GROUP: EASTER FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Men, God has called us to be more than just providers—we are to be spiritual leaders, loving husbands, and godly fathers who reflect Christ in our homes. This dinner is a time to connect, grow, and be encouraged as we explore what it means to lead our families with strength, humility, and faith.

Come enjoy great food, meaningful fellowship, and biblical wisdom that will equip you to build a stronger marriage and family. Let's welcome Easter together!

Date: Tue, 6 May

**©**Time: 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Venue: Hall 1 (L2)

RSVP to Jeremy on WhatsApp at 9679 1169 today and take the next step in becoming the husband and father God has called you to be!

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY QUARTERLY EVENT

Ladies, You're Invited!

Join us for an enriching afternoon as we explore how principles of biblical submission can bring peace, purpose and strength to our daily lives.

Topic: Submission at Work and at Home

Date: Sat, 3 May

Time: 2.00pm - 4.15pm (inclusive of tea)

Venue: Shine Auditorium (L4)

Don't miss this time to fellowship and learn with other sisters-in-Christ!

Register <u>here</u>. Registration closes on 18 April 2025 or when registration is full, whichever is earlier.

For more details, contact women@gospellight.sg.

Stay in the loop! Click here to join our WhatsApp Community for updates on Women's Ministry related matters. This is NOT a registration link for our events.

#### Save these dates!

- Sat, 02 Aug 2025: 10.00am 12.00pm (Followed by another scrummy lunch!)
- Sat, 1 Nov 2025: 2.00pm 4.15pm (Yes, more tea!)

As we get this ministry rolling, our priority will be all the wonderful ladies (18 years old and above) who are currently worshipping with us at Gospel Light, so let's come together to grow, support each other spiritually, and have a blessed time!

## **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, 20 Apr 2025

Time: 11.45am - 1.15pm

Venue: Gospel Auditorium (L2)

Lunch is provided.

Connect with us − <u>Register</u> now!
Registration closes on Sun, 13 Apr 2025.

If you want to find out more, email Sue.

### **SERVE CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS!**

We're building a welcoming, inclusive Children's Ministry where every child can hear the gospel and grow in faith. As we integrate children with special needs into our programs, we need trained individuals—but if you have a heart to help, we welcome you too! No experience? No problem! We'll provide the training and support you need.

Date: Sunday, 4 May

Time: 12.00pm - 1.30pm

Venue: Light 1 Auditorium (L3)

Join our briefing session to:

- Catch our vision for an inclusive ministry
- Learn how you can serve
- Discover training & support available
- Get your questions answered

Come and make a difference!

Sign up <u>here</u>.

**Questions?** children@gospellight.sg.

## **CLUB 39 (YOUTH CLUB)**

Come hang out with your friends in Club 39 (youth club). Play Pool, Pickle Ball, Table Tennis, Rummikub, Catan, X360, Nerf shooting or just study or do homework.

Join us on Fridays in Hall 1 (L2) from 2.00pm.

Looking for young and older adults (especially ladies) to come guide / supervise and provide oversight of our club activities. Drop us a message via the CE Hotline to find out more at 9753 7964.

## **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: Every Wed of the Month

Time: Refer to the table below

Venue: Gospel Light Christian Church Upcoming events coming your way.

Register to join us!

Date	Programme
9 Apr	Rummikub Game (From 9.00am to 12.00pm)
16 Apr	Paper Dumpling Making (Origami) (10.30am - 11.45am)

Contact 9753 7964 for registration / enquiries.

# EXPOSITORY BIBLE STUDY – GOSPEL OF JOHN

This Tue, 8 Apr, we will go through John 20:1-10 to learn about the Resurrection. The Zoom dial-in details for our session are as follows:

Date: Tue, 8 Apr

**A**Time: 8.00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 851 8603 0760

Passcode: 211761

# 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





NOTICES.



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



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



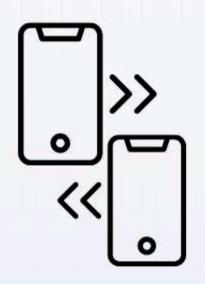
> PAYNOW
Unique Entity Number (UEN)
S88SS0082AGF1



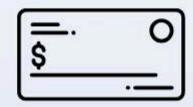
Scan With Your Bank App

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.