



Breaking Free: Pornography, the Church, and the Hope of Christ

Elder Jeffrey Pang Shepherding Elder

In 2015, The Daily Signal described internet pornography as "the public health crisis of the digital age". A decade later, the problem has only intensified. With technology making access easier than ever, pornography now attracts more monthly visitors than Netflix, Twitter, and Amazon combined.

Since 2018, the **World Health Organization** (WHO) has recognized **Compulsive Sexual Behaviour Disorder (CSBD)** in its

International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11). CSBD is defined as a persistent inability to control intense, repetitive sexual impulses or urges that cause distress or impairment. Behaviours under this category include excessive pornography use and compulsive masturbation, often used as unhealthy ways to cope with emotional pain, stress, or loneliness.

"The Church is not exempt from the cultural tide, but it is called to stand against it with grace and truth".

The Church Is Not Immune

A 2023 Barna study revealed that 54% of practicing Christians view porn at least occasionally, and 22% view it weekly. Even among pastors, 67% admitted to past use, and 18% said they currently struggle. Most strikingly, 74% of Christians report that *no*

one is helping them overcome porn.

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Beyond moral concern, research shows that compulsive porn use harms individuals spiritually, psychologically, physically, and relationally. It fuels shame, anxiety, and sexual dysfunction, and damages intimacy in marriages and relationships.

The Root: A Deeper Longing

According to the Laurel Centre (UK), three main factors often underlie porn addiction: opportunity, attachment injuries, and trauma.

- **Opportunities** involve unstructured time and easy access.
- Attachment injuries are emotional wounds formed when caregivers fail to meet a child's need for safety and love, leading to insecure attachment.

• **Trauma** includes neglect, abuse, or abandonment in childhood or early adulthood.

Together, these factors reveal that behind pornography addiction often lies a **deeper** longing for intimacy, acceptance, and affirmation: needs that may have gone unmet in a person's life.

The Remedy: Steps Toward Freedom

Porn addiction is a complex struggle that requires time, grace, and perseverance.

While there is no quick fix, three key steps can guide believers toward healing and freedom:

1. Community of Grace

A community of grace is a safe and authentic space where believers confess sins to one another (James 5:16) and find prayer and encouragement rather than condemnation. Truth is spoken in love, and grace makes room for healing and growth. Such communities thrive only when leaders

model humility and empathy.

2. Pursuit of Christ

Cultivate spiritual practices—worship, prayer, Scripture reading, journaling, and service. These means of grace open the heart to the Spirit's transforming work and help rewire the brain through new, healthy habits that replace destructive ones.

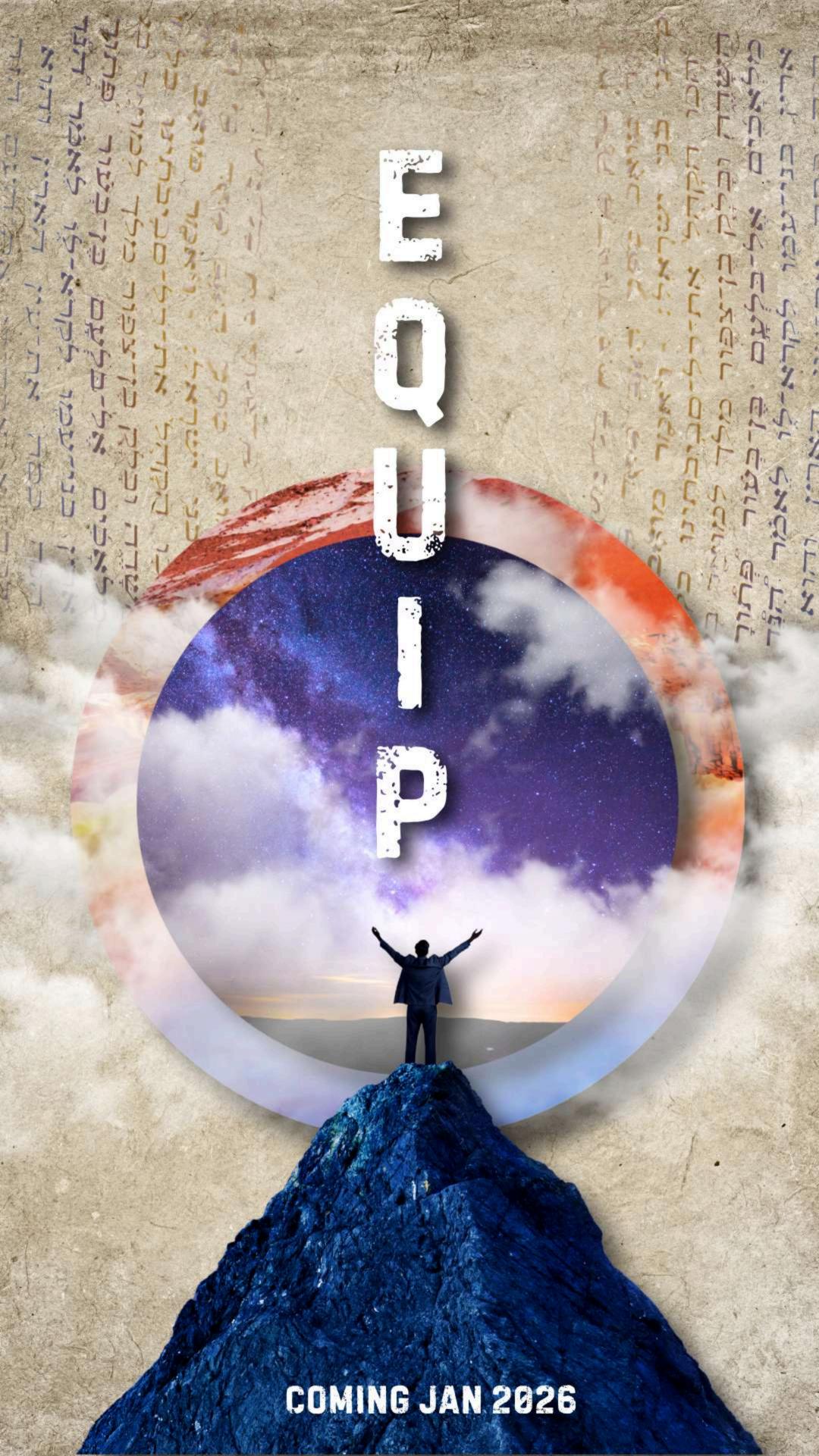
3. Removal of Access

While total disconnection may be impossible, practical steps, such as installing accountability software, setting device boundaries, fasting from social media, or even using a minimalist phone—can reduce temptation. Jesus said, "If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away." (Matthew 5:29). A vivid call to take radical steps to guard the heart.

Hope and Victory in Christ

Pornography is a growing wound in the church. Beyond the stats lies a deeper loss: it steals joy and peace from true intimacy with the triune God—a counterfeit offered by the enemy. To those who feel trapped, take heart: victory is in Christ, not willpower. "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor 12:9).

Read Elder Jeffrey's full article on this topic





READY TO GROW DEEPER IN A WAY THAT FITS REAL LIFE? EQUIP IS A YEAR-LONG, MONTHLY TRAINING JOURNEY THAT BRINGS SEMINARY-LEVEL TOPICS TO EVERYDAY DISCIPLES IN AN INTERACTIVE, GROUP-BASED FORMAT. CONDUCTED BY OUR PASTORS, SHEPHERDS AND LEADERS.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

- KNOW GOD & HIS WORD: BIBLE SURVEY,
 CANON, HERMENEUTICS, TRINITY
- GOD'S PURPOSE: SIN & SALVATION,
 ESCHATOLOGY, CHURCH
- LIFE & PRACTICE: EVANGELISM, FAMILY
 & SEX, WORK & MONEY
- TODAY'S ISSUES: CREATION, PROPHECY,
 CHURCH HISTORY, CULTURE/LGBTQ*
- WHY JOIN
 -INTERACTIVE LEARNING TABLE
 DISCUSSIONS REAL-LIFE APPLICATION CHURCH-FRIENDLY PACE
- REGISTRATION
 OPENS 9 NOV. SAVE YOUR SEAT EARLY!



(17-20 DEC): YOUTH CAMP 2025

IN A WORLD THAT FEELS LIKE A
BOX OF LIMITS AND PRESSURE,
YOU'RE INVITED TO MARK YOUR
[X] AND STEP INTO HOPE.

WHETHER YOU'RE NEW TO CHURCH OR GROWING IN YOUR FAITH, JOIN A COMMUNITY OF SEEKERS CHOOSING FREEDOM TOGETHER THROUGH MEANINGFUL SESSIONS, TEAMS, AND STORIES.

REGISTER TODAY!

BEGINNING INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY (BIBS) - JAN-MAY 2026

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 2026 is as follows:
- **1 Corinthians:** Mondays 7.30pm -
- 9.30pm (15 Jan 25 May)
- Ezekiel 1-24 (Part A) (Men's group):

Wednesdays 9.30am - 11.30am - (21 Jan -27 May)

- **1 Corinthians:** Fridays 7.30pm 9.30pm (23 Jan 29 May)
 - Venue: Classes are conducted via Zoom

Enrol now!

Registration closes on Sun, 30 Nov.

CALLING ALL HUSBANDS INVITATION TO YEAR-END DINNER FELLOWSHIP

Calling all Husbands! Family Life Ministry is organizing a year-end buffet dinner event. Join us for an evening of makan and male fellowship. The event is free of charge.

Date: Tue, 2 Dec

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Foyer (L1)

Registration required — <u>Register</u> now!

YEAR-END LOVE GIFT – FOR OVERSEAS MISSION WORKERS

- Collection **Start Date**: Sun, 26 Oct Collection **End Date**: Sun, 9 Nov Note: Love gifts received after 9 Nov will be considered as a church offering.
- i) Internet banking PayNow and internet bank transfer. Indicate "Love Gift" or "LG" in the reference section.
- ii) **Cheque** Indicate "**Love Gift**" or "**LG**" on the reverse of the cheque.
- iii) Offering boxes Indicate "Love Gift" or "LG" on the front of the envelope.

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, 16 Nov

Time: 11.45am - 12.15pm (Welcome and intro leaders)

Lunch: 12.15pm - 1.15pm (Lunch fellowship)

7 Venue: Gospel Auditorium (L2)

Connect with us − <u>Register</u> now! Registration closes on Sun, 9 Nov.

If you want to find out more, connect with Sue at **9776 1377** or **email**.

EAPIIS MMIN (CLASS OF 2026–2027)

- REGISTRATION OPEN!

APIIS :Asia-Pacific Institute of International Studies), GLCC's training ministry offers **free 21st-century training** for Christians.

Join the 2-year online Master of Ministry (MMin) to "master your ministry".

Format & Commitment

- <a>~15 hrs/week self-study + weekly quiz
- 2-hr Zoom discussion each week
- TChoose Mon 8–10pm or Tue 8–10am (GMT+8)
- ✓ Who's it for? Pastors, ministry leaders, and any Gospeliter hungry to grow.
- **←** How to register

Register now or contact:

<u>registrar@apiis.org</u> | +65 9070 2809 / +65 8014 2581

Registration closes on Sun, 30 Nov.

<u>apiis.org</u> | Pracebook: APIIS MMin Program

CLASSES + MINISTRIES

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: Weds, excluding the 5th Wed of the month

Time: Refer to the table below

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

Date	Programme
05 Nov	Seniors Sports Game Day
12 Nov	Rummikub Game (9.00am - 12.00pm)

Contact 9753 7964 for registration / enquiries.

CLASSES + MINISTRIES

EXPOSITORY BIBLE STUDY – GOSPEL OF LUKE

We will take a break and class will resume on Tue, 18 Nov. The Zoom dial-in details for our session are as follows:

Date: Tue, 18 Nov

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



Wednesday 8PM | HALL 3 (ATTIC LEVEL)



Sunday 7.45AM | CRY ROOM SHINE AUDITORIUM LEVEL 4



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
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 Whatsapp community
for regular updates

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



FULL GIVING DETAILS HERE



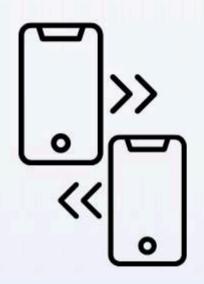
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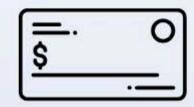
Scan With Your Bank App

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 "<u>Offerings</u>" 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.