



16 OCT 2022 | ELDER LEE EE YANG | BEING GOD'S REDEMPTIVE AGENT IN THE WORKPLACE | DANIEL 6:16-27; 6:3-5; 6:10; 1:8

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. Understand that we are living and working in a fallen world, and how we should live in the world but not of the world.
2. Be encouraged to be God's redemptive agents at our workplaces.

SERMON SUMMARY

A redemptive agent is one who is used by God to bring justice and righteousness, kingdom solutions and God's presence to his/her workplace. He/she also brings Godly values and reflects God's glory in the workplace. This stems from the Biblical perspectives of "work" – a platform for ministry and a vehicle to transform society.

In [Daniel 6](#), we see Daniel being used as God's redemptive agent in a fallen world, a pagan culture. Elder Ee Yang shared three aspects that qualified Daniel as such an agent:

- Daniel had an excellent Spirit
- Daniel had integrity
- Daniel trusted in God

We are called to be a redemptive agent in the marketplace. Let us walk in unwavering trust as we seek the Lord's anointing and empowerment as a marketplace minister.

SERMON RECAP

1. Introduction

We live in a fallen world. A world that has fallen out of order with God's divine design leads to injustice. As such, the outcome is unrighteousness, a Babylonian (ungodly, godless and man-centred) culture. There is a war between God's agents and the enemy's agents, and the workplace is a primary arena where this war is fought. The world says that we need to entertain to get business, visit night clubs, play the game, manipulate, sacrifice our families and health to climb to the top and win the prize.

But, we need to be God's redemptive agents to the world. We are called to be counter-culture, to be in the world but not of the world. Our workplace is the primary arena for this mandate to be expressed. A redemptive agent is one who is used by God to bring justice and righteousness to the workplace, someone who bring kingdom solutions, His presence and values to the workplace; to be the salt and light and to reflect His glory at the workplace.



2. Daniel – God’s redemptive agent in a fallen world (Daniel 6:16-27)

Daniel was one of the exiles that was brought to Babylon as a teenager after Nebuchadnezzar’s first siege of Jerusalem. He was then groomed to be a civil servant, serving the Babylonian kingdom that conquered his nation. He was mandated and appointed by God to serve the enemies that caused the Jews to be homeless and in captivity.

A lot of young people struggle with the meaning and purpose at work, at how they can contribute to the well-being of their organisations. In the case of Daniel, out of the seemingly meaningless role, God used Daniel mightily as His redemptive agent. Daniel served four pagan kings in Babylon, rose up the ranks and became a trusted confidant of each of the four kings. He asserted profound influence on all four kings and he demonstrated God’s values, justice and righteousness in a pagan culture.


Elder Ee Yang shared three qualities that made Daniel as such an agent:

(a) Daniel had an excellent spirit

- To be a redemptive agent, we need to engage our workplaces with the spirit of excellence.
- Why is excellence important? It is because:
 - (1) God is our employer. We work to please God as an act of worship daily and give God our best ([Colossians 3:23](#)) because God deserves our best.
 - (2) We work to add value to our employers to fulfil the aims of the organisation. This is measured by results and the key to results is excellence. Excellence opens the door for us to influence our workplaces. Excellence at work is to go “above and beyond the call of duty (ABCD)”.
- Elder Ee Yang also shared two handles for us to practice excellence at work:
 - (1) “Think Ahead” – try to be ahead of our bosses, plan to complete our tasks, be prepared during meetings with our bosses, etc. It is not about striving to achieve a certain standard but to partner with God. Be like Daniel, stay close and have an intimate relationship with God, then all other things will flow along and we will experience miracles at our workplaces.
 - (2) “Follow through” – achieve tasks that have been assigned to us, take responsibilities for things that we do wrong at work, etc. The same standard should be applied to our service to God in church.

(b) Daniel had integrity

- Daniel experienced classic office politics in his time. Daniel’s colleagues were jealous and felt threatened by Daniel as King Darius wanted to place Daniel above them to rule his kingdom.
- To trick Daniel up, his colleagues influenced King Darius to ask him to implement a new law that said that whoever prayed to any god, except for the king, shall be cast into a den of lions.
- Daniel continued to pray to God three times a day ([Daniel 6:10](#)). Hence, Daniel was thrown into the lions’ den. However, the Lord delivered Daniel and judged his oppressors.
- This resulted in King Darius making a decree that everyone must “fear and tremble” before the God of Daniel. Daniel maintained his integrity and demonstrated the power and righteousness of our living God.

- 
- What is integrity? John Maxwell said, “Image is what people think you are. Integrity is who we really are”. Integrity is being seamlessly whole, whether we are alone, at home, in church or in the public eye – the same person to everyone; where our conduct and values align.
 - Daniel’s intimate relationship with God was expressed through his everyday life. He did not compromise his true beliefs and core values.
 - Daniel’s source of integrity stemmed from a profound fear of God. Although he was in the Babylonian culture, he remained faithful to God. Daniel set boundaries right at a very young age ([Daniel 1:8](#)) when he stayed away from the king’s delicacies.
 - Daniel demonstrated total dependence and reliance on God instead of the pagan kings.
 - Elder Ee Yang encouraged us to be steadfast, firm and have courage to defend our faith and godly values at our workplaces.

(c) Daniel trusted in God ([Daniel 6:21-23](#))

- Our allegiance to God will be tested.
- In our calling as a redemptive agent, we will face opposition, hostility and injustice. But the Lord desires to give us breakthroughs.
- Elder Ee Yang encouraged us to walk out our call as God’s redemptive agents.
- We must trust God to protect us when we carry His presence and execute His redemptive will in our workplaces.
- We must be willing to be steadfast and stand firm, even when we are attacked and are victims of office politics.
- We must be willing to be salt and light in the workplace for the Lord, to witness and reach one more for Jesus, to walk in unwavering trust and prophetic wisdom.

3. Response


- For some of us who need deliverance or breakthrough over a work situation, Elder Ee Yang shared that the name of Daniel means “God is my judge”. God is our judge and He will come true for us.
- We are called to be redemptive agents in the marketplace. Elder Ee Yang encouraged us to embrace the Lord’s mandate as redemptive agents and to seek the Lord’s anointing and empowerment as marketplace ministers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In [Daniel 6](#), Elder Ee Yang shared how Daniel was groomed to serve the Babylonian kingdom - the enemies that conquered his nation, made the Jews homeless and held them in captivity. Yet, he excelled in his work and was recognised and promoted. However, he faced injustice and politicking even though he worked with excellence and integrity. **(a) Are you struggling with meaning and purpose in your work? Share about it. (b) What challenges are you facing at work that are opposed to godly values?**

Leader's Notes

This is a recap and reflect question for members to ponder on how we are living and working in a fallen world, and what we should do about it. Leaders can recap and remind members about how Daniel had to work under pagan kings, in a fallen society that worshipped false gods. Similarly, we work in a fallen world that has fallen out of God’s design leading to injustice and unrighteousness, and



we have an enemy that seeks to deceive, oppress and subvert God's order and design. Daniel served under four pagan kings and received promotion in a pagan environment. However, he demonstrated God's values, justice and righteousness in a pagan culture.

Leaders can encourage members to be like Daniel when faced with "office politics" - Daniel chose to continue to honour and trust God, and in the end God judged those who opposed him. Through the lion's den, Daniel testified to the righteousness and power of the Living God. As he used his "work" as a platform for ministry, it became a vehicle to transform society, leading King Darius to make a decree to all people in his kingdom "to tremble and fear the God of Daniel". Daniel was a salt and light to his generation and society. Members can also share challenges faced at the workplace and leaders can encourage members to pray and support each other within the cell community.

Transition

As we begin to understand what it means to be God's redemptive agent in the workplace, we need to be like Daniel, to demonstrate God's values, justice and righteousness in the work environment we have been placed.

2. How did Daniel exemplify being a redemptive agent in his work? In what ways can we follow his example?

Leader's Notes

This is a reflect and response question for members to share about what they have learnt from the sermon. Elder Ee Yang shared three things that Daniel did that qualified him as a redemptive agent in the workplace.

- Daniel had an excellent Spirit
- Daniel had integrity
- Daniel trusted in God

Members can share how they are engaging their work with a spirit of excellence, as working unto the Lord, and adding value to their employers. Leaders can also encourage members to share why integrity is important at the workplace, and the key ingredient for integrity, which is the holy fear of God. Members can also share experiences of trusting God at the workplace, even when we are attacked or face injustice. The cell can break up into smaller groups (if necessary) pray for each other.

Transition


As we learn from Daniel's example, let us consider and think of practical ways in which we can be God's redemptive agents at our respective workplaces.

3. As God's redemptive agent, what is one (or more) practical way(s) that you can start at your workplace or place of influence?

Leader's Notes

This is a response question for members to start doing something as we embrace God's mandate as His redemptive agents at our workplaces. The following are possible ideas (not exhaustive):

- Start a prayer or fellowship group among fellow believers;

- 
- Learn how to share the gospel in 5 minutes and start praying for opportunities to share to at least one colleague;
 - Look for a spiritual mentor at the workplace or within your industry;
 - Encourage fellow believers at the workplace to be God's redemptive agents.

Closing

As we approach the last sermon of this series – Worship at Work, let us remember that our work is a worship unto the Lord and a means to shape us as we grow. Our work can be used as a platform for ministry and a vehicle to influence the world around us. In order to do so, we need His anointing and empowerment, so that we can work with excellence, integrity and an abiding trust in God

WORKS

Consider dividing the group into micro-groups for a deeper time of sharing as well as praying for the following items:

1. Sermon Application

- We will remember that constant reflection is key to our spiritual growth and maturity.
- God will show us the aspects of our lives that need strengthening in 2022 and for the Holy Spirit to guide us to continue to apply the lessons we have learnt from God in 2021.

2. COVID-19 in Singapore

- Praise God for the decrease in community cases.
- Pray for God's protection especially from the Omicron variant.

3. COVID-19 in the World

- A swift end to the COVID-19 crisis globally, if not a reduction in cases in third world nations, and a stable environment where humans and virus coexist.
- Healing and comfort for those who are sick and suffering.
- Protection and guidance for healthcare professionals at the frontline, giving them wisdom, courage, and strength to confront this crisis.

4. Opportunities for Outreach


- Ask the Lord to grant you opportunities to reach out to a non-believing loved one, friend, or colleague this week as we seek to mature in Christlikeness.


ANNOUNCEMENTS


Digital Bulletin: rlc.sg/bulletin

1. Nov-Dec Church Calendar

- 06 Nov, 11 am - "Irreplaceable" Movie Screening
- 13 Nov – Christmas Gear Up (Service extended for 15 mins)
- 13 Nov, 11 am – Workshop: How to Share the Gospel in 5 Mins
- 13 Nov, 2.30pm – Water Baptism Service
- 20 Nov, 11am – 377A Forum: Future of the Family
- 03 Dec, 4.30pm – RL Cares Community Outreach
- 17 Dec, 2.30pm – RL Cares Community Outreach
- 04 – 25 Dec – Christmas Evangelistic Services

- 
2. **New Pulpit Series – Family Matters.** In this series, we will explore issues concerning family, marriage and parenting. Our desire is to see families of RiverLife strengthened and be God’s light in this nation. This series is relevant for all as it also explores the role of one’s spiritual community in strengthening the families within RiverLife.
 - 23 Oct – Family: Love in the Midst of Imperfection
 - 06 Nov – Thriving, Not Surviving (“Irreplaceable” Movie Screening at 11am)
 - 13 Nov – The Arrow Makers
 3. **Leaders Advance 2022.** 3-5 November. More details and registration here: rlc.sg/la2022
 4. **Global Hunger Fund.** This fund will go towards RLC’s mission partners to help their local churches and communities gain access to food amid soaring costs. Refer to the [Digital Bulletin](#) for more details.
 5. **Children’s Day Book Gift Sets.** Missions from Home (MFH) are selling children’s day book gift sets to help families in Myanmar with food and necessities. Link: rlc.sg/mfhm-book
 6. **RiverLife Kindergarten**
 - RLK has vacancies for Chinese Teachers. If you wish to apply, please send your resume to Mrs Tan Oi Leng (oileng@riverlifekindergarten.org.sg).
 - RLK are looking for volunteers for their Annual Concert and K2 Graduation. Full Dress Rehearsal – Thu, 10 Nov, 8am-1pm. Concert & Graduation – 12 Nov, 9am – 12pm. Contact: 65114168
 7. **Updated Safe Management Measure.** Mask wearing for indoor worship services and religious classes is now optional. All worshippers and performers can sing and play instruments without wearing masks.
 8. **RiverLife Missions Upcoming Trips.** Signup: rlc.sg/signupformissions.
 - Arise and Shine Church Pastors & Leaders Conference. Pangasinan, North Philippines. 9-14 November. Cost: \$800.
 9. **Call for Musicians and Vocalists.** The Worship & Music ministry is on the lookout for musicians and vocalists – keyboardist, electric guitarist, bassist, drummer and singers. If you are interested, you can sign up at rlc.sg/serve. Do note that an audition will be required before joining the ministry.
 10. **Call for SuperLife Volunteers.** If you have a heart for children and a desire to disciple them in their spiritual journey, come be a part of the SuperLife team. Sign up at rlc.sg/serve. Immediate needs:
 - *SuperLife Primary Teacher* (Serve twice a month. Facilitate small group discussions after each Bible lesson, connect and pray with the children, be involved in SuperLife Ministry events, etc.)
 - *Special Needs Chaperone.* (Serve twice a month. Provided 1-1 support to children with special needs and help facilitate an inclusive environment between children with and without special needs.)

- 
11. **F&B Related Ministries Recruitment.** We're looking for RiverLifers who love connecting with new people and enjoy cooking and serving. Team members will serve once a month. For more details Karen Koh (Welcome Lounge) at karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg and Jonathan Cho (The Café and Volunteers Corner) at jonathancho@riverlife.org.sg.
12. **Technical & Production (TAP) Ministry Recruitment.** The TAP ministry comprises five teams – audio, graphics, lighting, sound and video – and they all work as one in partnership with the Holy Spirit to support an atmosphere that allows the congregation to encounter God. We are now opening up recruitment for this ministry. If you desire to take the next step in your walk with God through starting to serve, we invite you to sign up to explore serving in one of the five TAP teams. You may sign up online at rlc.sg/serve or refer to our [digital bulletin](#) for more details.
13. **RiverLife Community Services (RCS).** In 2021, RCS focused on providing relief to families who were badly affected by the pandemic. We believe that in this season, God is calling RCS to build loving families and strong communities. Listed below are opportunities where you can serve or give to RCS:
- You can serve as a volunteer in one of our programmes to befriend and build relationships with children, youth, mothers and lower-income families. Find out more here: rlc.sg/rcs2022.
 - You can sow by contributing financially too. Your giving will go into initiatives such as grocery distributions and various programmes that will help our beneficiaries build resilience and break free from the poverty cycle. Find out more by writing to RCS at office@rcs.org.sg.
 - RCS is also looking to partner with organizations (donations of essential items – toiletries, wearables, etc). To find out more, write to us at volunteer@rcs.org.sg.
 - RCS is looking for 20 Food Collection Helper/Driver that is able to help with the loading/unloading of fresh food items at blocks where we are reaching out to. **Commitment:** Minimally once a month for 6 months, Saturdays, 12-4pm. Contact: rlcares@rcs.org.sg.
14. **RiverLife Podcast.** The RiverLife Podcast allows you to listen to RiverLife content anytime, anywhere! The link to go to is rlc.sg/podcast or simply search '**The RiverLife Podcast**' on Spotify.
15. **Spiritual Growth Resources.** We have put together a curated list of recommended resources for the RiverLife family. These resources (books, articles, podcasts and videos) are recommendations for the various spiritual growth stages as you seek to grow deeper in the River of God this year. You can access them at rlc.sg/resource. This list will be continually populated throughout the year.
16. **Cradle Roll.** Our Cradle Roll is open from 9am to 10.30am every Sunday for children 24 months and below. *NO booking of tickets is required.*

- 
17. **Prayer Ministry.** If you require prayer ministry for any issues you face (eg. unforgiveness, demonic oppression, etc), you can sign up for RLC's RTF ministry: <https://bit.ly/rlcrtf>
 18. **Bible Reading Plan.** You can access our 2-Year Bible Reading Plan 2021-2022 by visiting: <https://rlc.sg/brp2021>.
 19. **Testimony.** If you have a testimony to share, you can write to us at stories@riverlife.org.sg to share with us your testimony as an encouragement to others.

ONLINE GIVING TO RIVERLIFE CHURCH

Contribute your tithes and offering digitally:

PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app. Scan this QR code on the right OR enter UEN No. 200100806DSCB.

Interbank Transfer

RiverLife Church Bank Account: *DBS Autosave*
029-902431-0
Bank Code: 7171 / Branch Code: 029



ONLINE GIVING TO MISSIONS

Give digitally:

PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app. Scan this QR code on the right OR enter UEN No. 200100806DTNO.

Interbank Transfer

UOB Account 450-309634-4
Kindly indicate "Missions" in your transaction reference.



ONLINE DONATION TO RIVERLIFE COMMUNITY SERVICES

Donate digitally:

PayNow

Log in to your bank's existing mobile banking app. Scan this QR code on the right OR enter UEN No. 200711586WDON

Kindly indicate your NRIC No. under the Bill Reference to qualify for tax deduction.

