

Date: 26 May 2024 | **Speaker:** Elder Lee Ee Yang
Topic: From the Temple to the Dead Sea | **Scripture:** Various Passages

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

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

1. Reflect about being the temple of the Holy Spirit
2. Consider next steps to be involved in caring for the community.

SERMON SUMMARY

Elder Ee Yang shares about the vision from [Ezekiel 47](#) – where a river of water from the temple flows to the Dead Sea. The river is the prophetic picture of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives ([John 7: 37 – 39](#)).

The temple in the Old Testament is where God dwells, a house of worship and prayer, and a place of sanctification and purification. The Church in the New Testament plays the same role. However, believers of Christ are now the temple of the Holy Spirit ([1 Corinthians 3:16 – 17](#)). The Holy Spirit sanctifies us ([1 Corinthians 6:11](#)) and heals us ([Acts 10:38](#)).

In [Ezekiel 47:3 – 12](#), we also see how the river flowed into the Dead Sea, bringing life wherever it goes. This is a picture of how God empowers us through His Holy Spirit to be witnesses to the communities that need to hear the Good News ([Acts 1:8](#), [Luke 4:18 – 19](#)).

SERMON RECAP

“Revival is a work of the Holy Spirit wherein He moves amongst God’s people and unbelievers. The person and work of the Holy Spirit is crucial. He must not be ignored, seen as just an influence, or denied His place as shown in Scripture”. – *Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones*

The river of God begins at the temple ([Ezekiel 47:1](#)). The temple of God as mentioned in [Ezekiel 47:1](#) is God’s dwelling place, a house of worship and prayer, a place of sanctification and purification. Similarly, the Church in the New Testament is the place where believers encounter the manifest presence of God, where believers come together for worship and prayer and fellowship as a spiritual community and where God sanctifies us through the work of the Holy Spirit. We now play a similar role as the temple of the Holy Spirit ([1 Corinthians 3:16-17](#)).

God has been doing a work amongst us through the various events in our Church – the River is flowing in our midst ([Ezekiel 47:9](#))!

The destination of the River is towards the Dead Sea – it represents the community and the nations, places that are spiritually dead. The River becomes fuller as it flows ([Ezekiel 47:3 – 5](#)) and God empowers us to be His witnesses as we go into the community and the nations ([Acts 1:8](#)).

Elder Ee Yang encouraged us to rise up to our call to be a house of healing and restoration, a pillar of light and fire to our community and nations ([Luke 4:18 -19](#)). As we answer the call, we can be assured that God has anointed us to do His work as we walk in step with Him.

Discussion Questions

1. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Share with the cell what you understand by this statement and how this acts as a reminder for you to live for Jesus in everyday life.

Possible resources to reference

- *Temple of God* by GotQuestions
- *My Heart, Christ's Home* by Robert Munger

2. What comes to your mind when you think of community care? Share with the cell some possible barriers or hindrances you face when it comes to serving the community.

Resource: *"Christ has called us beyond the walls of our church: Cell groups that go out to serve the community together"* by Salt & Light

3. **Ezekiel 47** shows us that the river gives life wherever it goes. It ultimately goes into the Red Sea – a picture of the church, through the power of the Holy Spirit, going into the world and being the salt and the light. Share an experience you had serving the community – how was the experience for you? OR Share about a community that God is prompting you to serve and explore in.

Resource: *The Presence of God (Ezekiel 47:12)* by David Platt

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

1. Sermon Application

- Pray that we will remember we are the temple of Holy Spirit and to be people that desire deep communion with him
- Pray that God will continue to allow us to be ready and God-conscious, to be deliberate in our interactions with others and to have a heart to serve others in need.

2. RiverLife

- Pray for our church, that as we emerge from a season of prayer and fasting, that God will align all of our hearts and do what He needs to do so that we can live in a new normal that glorifies Him.

3. World

- Continue to pray for the various nations that are at war:
 - a. Russia and Ukraine
 - b. Myanmar (Civil War) – Pray for the situation where military service was made compulsory for man and woman between the ages of 18 and 35.
 - c. Israel & Hamas – Pray for the truce talks between Israel and Palestine in Cairo, that a peaceful resolution can be reached.
- Continue to pray for countries that have an escalated conflict situation:
 - a. Japan, China and the Philippines in the South China Sea
 - b. North & South Korea
- Continue to pray for countries recovering from recent natural disasters:
 - a. Taiwan (Earthquake)
 - b. Indonesia (Volcanic Eruption)
 - c. South East Asia – Heatwave across various countries
 - d. Canada (Wildfire)
- Pray for Singapore
 - a. Pray for PM Lawrence Wong and his cabinet as they begin a new chapter for Singapore
 - b. Pray for a stability in the cost of living in Singapore
 - c. Pray for those affected by the Singapore Airlines's SQ321 turbulence incident
- Other Global Issues
 - a. Pray for the situation in Malaysia where there is a heightened security alert due to acts of terrorism. Do also pray for safety for all church camps that will be happening there in the June/July period.
 - b. Continue to pray for the medical strike in South Korea
 - c. Pray for the situation in various parts of Indonesia where 58 people are killed by cold lava and flash floods.

4. Opportunities for Outreach

- Ask the Lord to bless us as we step out to reach a pre-believer.
- 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.

- 1. Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2024.** Sun, 9 Jun 2024. 11.30am, Victory Chapel (Level 1). A gentle reminder to all Leadership Members to attend our 23rd AGM. If you are unable to attend, kindly submit your completed proxy form at the Information Counter on Sunday, 2 Jun or to the church office by Friday, 7 Jun at 2.30pm.
 - 2. A School Holiday Guide for Parents of Primary School Children.** Parents - The June school holidays are upon us. When it comes to this season, most of us may be too preoccupied with juggling a packed schedule to see the opportunity this provides for us - there are some things in regard to parenting that we can only do during the holidays that we cannot do during the school term. Our FamilyLife Department has prepared a resource aimed at helping you steward the holiday season well as parents.
 - Access it here: rlc.sg/flnl
 - 3. Outing to NPark's Garden Festival by Caleb Ministry.** For Seniors Aged 55 & Above. Sat, 10 Aug 2024. 10.45am-2pm, Suntec Singapore (Level 4 & 6). The Caleb Ministry is organising an Outreach cum Outing to NPark Garden Festival. The event consists of a 3 course lunch @Olive Vine at Marina Square before proceeding to the Garden Festival. Do invite your pre-believing/unchurched loved ones and friends to this event where there will be a short sharing of the gospel over lunch before the Garden show.
 - Specially discounted entrance tickets and lunch are as follows:
 - \$35/- each for local Seniors (>60yrs, based on IC) and local Children (<12).
 - \$40/- each for other local residents
 - Registration: rlc.sg/CalebGdnFest (Closing Date: 3 Jun)
 - 4. Marriage Preparation Course (Run 2).** Sundays, 2, 23 & 30 June. 11am-3pm. Faith Chapel. This course will help couples lay the foundation for a God-centred marriage.
 - **Registration:** rlc.sg/mpc (Closing Date: Thu, 30 May)
 - **Fees:** \$50 per couple (Excludes US\$35 for PREPARE-ENRICH)
 - 5. Water Baptism Class.** Sat, 8 Jun, 9am to 3.30pm, Conference Room (Level 2). If you desire to take the step of faith to be water-baptised, do join our baptism class to understand the significance and importance of baptism.
 - Class Registration: rlc.sg/baptism-class (Closing Date: Sun, 2 Jun).
 - Enquiries: karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg (Karen Koh).
- Note
- Participants will have a one-hour lunch break at own expense.
 - Our upcoming Water Baptism Service will be held on Sun, 28 Jul at 2pm.
- 6. RiverLife Missions.** Mission trip schedule for 2024 is out now on our Missions website! Discover how you can sow into the nations this year: rlc.sg/missions
 - 7. Sustaining the Fire.** As our 21-day season of prayer & fasting comes to a close, we thank God for reviving us individually and collectively. It is needful for us to go on walking closely with the Lord and be faithful stewards of the work that has been done in us. We can continue this journey by spending time with God daily using this recommended 21-day devotional:

Announcements

- 21 Days to Overflow takes readers on a 3-week journey of emptying themselves of self, being filled with the Holy Spirit, and living out an overflowing spirit-filled life. 21-Day Devotional: [YouVersion Bible App](#) | [PDF](#)

Our Revive Us, Lord website has been updated with resources to help you grow in these four aspects – spiritually, relationally, physically & missionally.

For more information: rlc.sg/21days

8. Family Life Portal.

- Our Family Life ministry strengthens relationships within the family so that they are reflective of who God is – married couples loving and serving each other, parents discipling their children in the ways of God, grandparents inspiring the generations by their faith and actions, and the singles living secure and fruitful lives for God’s kingdom! RiverLife's Family Life portal is an online platform that contains this year's calendar of Family Life initiatives as well as a wide range of resources for various life stages.
- Access the portal: rlc.sg/familylife or www.riverlife.org.sg (Under the “Resources” tab)

1. **YA Gatherings (For Young Adults in their 20s). First Saturday Every Month, 5pm-8.30pm Victory Chapel (Level 1).**
The YA Gathering is a space where young adults can get together to connect and build community. This gathering is made up of two components – Community Conversations & Communal Dinner – both with a focus on relationship building and life conversations. If you are interested in joining the gatherings and would like to find out more, connect with us on our Telegram Channel: [rlc.sg/ya](https://t.me/rlc_sg_ya).

Gathering Dates: 1 Jun, 3 Aug, 7 Sep, 5 Oct, 2 Nov

YA Camp: 5-7 Jul

Christmas Outreach: 14 Dec

2. **RiverLife Prayer Meetings.**

- *RLC Prayer Room.* Tue, 8-9.30pm, Victory Chapel. (Livestream: [rlc.sg/rpr-watch](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rlc_sg_rpr))
- *Revive Nights.* Wed, 8pm – 9.30pm, Victory Chapel. (Livestream: [rlc.sg/revivenights](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rlc_sg_revivenights))

We encourage you to set aside every Wednesday for a time of fasting.

3. **Quarterly Calendar for Key English Adult Congregation Events**

**Some dates are tentative and subjected to change. Stay updated via our digital bulletin and our social media channels for the latest information.*

Quarter 2	Quarter 3
<p><u>May</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 May to 01 Jun – SuperLife Camp <p><u>June</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2, 23, 30 Jun – Marriage Preparation Course #2 • 08 Jun – Caleb Ministry Gathering, Water Baptism Class #2 • 09 Jun – RiverLife AGM • 13 to 16 Jun – Youth Camp • 27 Jun – Fun Day (Youth) • 29 Jun – Parents Gathering #2 	<p><u>July</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 to 7 Jul – YA Camp • 13 Jul – Caleb Ministry Gathering • 14 Jul – Leaders Equipping • 20 to 21 Jul – RTF 1B • 21 Jul – EA Welcome Lunch • 28 Jul – Baptism Service #2 <p><u>August</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 03 Aug – YA Gathering • 03 Aug to 3 Oct – Alpha Run #2 • 04 Aug – Q3 Leaders Huddle / Leaders Equipping • 10 Aug – Caleb Ministry Gathering • 17 Aug – Parents Gathering #3 • 24 to 25 Aug – RLC 33rd Anniversary Weekend, RTF (Round Robin) <p><u>September</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 07 Sep – YA Gathering • 14 Sep – Caleb Ministry Gathering • 01 to 15 Sep – Marriage Preparation Course #3 • 01 to 29 Sep – SPYces • 06 to 15 Sep – Equipping #2: Deuteronomy • 14 Sep – Caleb Ministry Gathering • 22 Sep – EA Mid-Autumn Lunch Outreach

Quarter 4

October

- 05 Oct – YA Gathering, Water Baptism Class #3
- 06 to 20 – Marriage Preparation Course #3
- 12 Oct – Caleb Ministry Gathering
- 13 Oct – Discipleship @ Home for Pre-School Parents (Parents Equipping)
- 16 to 23 Oct – Feast of the Tabernacles
- 19 Oct – Fun Day (Youth)
- 26 Oct – Local Outreach (Youth)

November

- 02 Nov – YA Gathering
- 7 to 9 Nov – Ministry Orientation Camp for Sec 1s (Youth)
- 9 Nov – Caleb Ministry Gathering
- 10 Nov – Discipleship @ Home for Primary School Parents (Parents Equipping)
- 10 Nov – Water Baptism Service #3
- 23-25 Nov – Marriage Retreat

December

- 14 Dec – YA Christmas Outreach, Caleb Ministry Gathering
- 19 to 21 Dec – Youth Conference
- 21-22 Dec – Christmas Outreach Weekend
- 28 Dec – Parents Gathering #4

Ministry & Opportunities



1. The 9M Ministry.

This ministry provides prayer support for expectant mothers on their 9-month journey of pregnancy. Sisters-in-Christ who are fellow RiverLifers are assigned as Prayer Buddies to walk alongside mums who sign up to receive prayer support.

- Receive Prayer Support: rlc.sg/9m
- Provide Prayer Support: rlc.sg/serve

2. Missions Microsite.

Discover how you can go, give and pray for the nations. Let's make a difference in the nations together! For more information, visit rlc.sg/missions.

3. RiverLife Cares Opportunities.

Enquiries/Registration: rlc.sg/serve-rlcar

4. Prayer Ministry.

If you require prayer ministry for any issues you face (eg. fear, worry, etc), you can sign up for RiverLife's RTF ministry: rlc.sg/rtf

1. Bible Reading Plan.

The church has provided 3 undated Bible Reading plans that will serve as a resource for those who wish to follow a Bible Reading plan. Link: rlc.sg/brp

- 2 Year Chronological Bible Reading Plan.
- 3 Year Bible Reading Schedule (Alternating readings between Old and New Testament passages)
- Redemptive Historical Bible Reading Plan (At your own pace, focusing on the redemption story)

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. Stay Connected with RLC.

Follow us to stay updated on latest church news and happenings.

WhatsApp Broadcast: rlc.sg/wachannelinvite

Telegram Channel: t.me/RiverLifeChurch

Facebook & Instagram: [@riverlifechurchsg](https://www.instagram.com/riverlifechurchsg)

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