

**DATE: 29 JAN 2023 | SPEAKER: REV PATRICIA OWYANG |**  
**TOPIC: TRANSITION IN PROGRESS! | SCRIPTURE: [EXODUS 3:8](#)**

## SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

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

1. Take advantage of the transition space to grow in the Lord.
2. Be thoroughly prepared for what is to come.

## SERMON SUMMARY

This sermon addresses the season of transition where we wait for the next door to open. It examines the emotions of fear and excitement, God's purpose for us, and what He wants us to do during this time. It also encourages us to go forward courageously when our transition time draws to a close and God opens the next door.

## SERMON RECAP

*"So, I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey." - Exodus 3:8*

God is calling His people out of Egypt (door shutting) and into Canaan (door opening). The journey they took through the Sinai Desert is the place of transition, where things must happen before they enter Canaan.

### 1. What does a transition look like?

- Transition is the intermediate space where one door closes behind you and another door has not opened.
- During a transition, you feel a blend of anticipation and fear at the change to come.

### 2. What is God's purpose in the transition?

- Transition is a process where God's purpose is to prepare us for the change that He has in store for us. He shapes, moulds, and refines us.
- Transition is a period where He teaches us to trust Him in an uncomfortable, uncertain, and disconcerting space.
- *Scripture References:* [Jeremiah 29:11-13](#), [Proverbs 3:5-6](#)

### 3. How long do you have to stay in the transition space?

- Your length of time there depends on your response to God.
- God's people were not aligned with Him, and they lost sight of His purpose in taking them to the Promised Land. Their negative response caused them to stay in the desert.
- Your response also determines what comes next in your life.

#### 4. What does God want me to do during my transition?

- Rest and recharge ([Mark 4:35-38](#)) – We can sometimes run ahead of God’s timing in our intense longing and excitement. We try hard to make things happen in our own strength. This is a period to discipline yourself to sit before God and rest by faith.
- Stretch to steady ([Luke 17:5](#)) – Ask the Lord to stretch your spiritual and mental capabilities. Stretch your faith and position yourself to receive and carry everything that God desires to give to you.
  - Worship ([John 4:23-24](#))
  - Study the Bible ([Joshua 1:8](#))
  - Practise hearing His voice ([John 10:27](#))
  - Pray ([1 Chronicles 4:10](#))
- Wait for launch ([Psalm 27:14](#)) – Waiting is the last thing that happens before the door opens.
- When the door opens! ([Joshua 1:2-3](#)) – Gather your courage and take the leap.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Many of us would have experienced a period of transition before. What do you think is God’s purpose for you to go through that season of transition?

#### Leader's Notes

The transition period is a period of waiting, where God prepares us for the change He has in store for us. It is also when He shapes, moulds, and refines us. In this period of uncertainty, He teaches us to trust Him when nothing seems to be happening.

#### Transition

In seasons of transition, keep [Jeremiah 29:11-13](#) in mind:

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.”*

2. Rev Pat advised us to ask the Lord to stretch our spiritual and mental capabilities during transition. She provided four ways: worship, study the Bible, practice hearing His voice, and pray. How do you make time to do all these every day?

#### Leader's Notes

When we ask God to stretch our abilities, we are seeking to grow. Be open to His leading and He will grow us in unimaginable ways. However, we must first desire to grow! Then, we will be motivated to cut down on the unnecessary and make time for God.

The key to success is perseverance and determination. Keep to the routine as much as possible, even if you are busy at work or on a holiday. Worship can be done throughout the day; you worship God through obedience and reverence – and this is reflected in your actions and words. You can practice hearing His voice whenever periods of peace or silence become available. Set a time, either in the morning or evening, to study the Bible. Embark on one of the three bible-reading plans provided by RiverLife. Prayer can be done throughout the day as well. Rev Pat suggested using arrow prayers: <https://www.prayerideas.org/using-powerful-quick-arrow-prayers/>

#### Transition

Be intentional about growing. Do these continuously and you will see God’s hands enlarging your territory. Prepare to reap the benefits.

### 3. How has God revealed His faithfulness to you when He is leading you into something new?

#### Leader's Notes

Some of us avoid going into a transition because we fear change and the uncertainties that come with it. We rather remain where we are. But when God calls us to His purpose, and we respond in faith, He faithfully equips and provides for us to walk through that transition. There is no need for us to worry. We only need to obey.

By reflecting and sharing with each other how God has been faithful to us, the hope is that it would give us courage to follow His leading. It is time to enter the river – with both feet – confidently.

*“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” – Joshua 1:9 (ESV)*

#### Closing

Let us all enter new our season with renewed faith and trust in God. Great things are happening.

*Resource:* [5 Ways to Trust God in Times of Transition](#) by David Kaywood

## 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

- Pray for faith and obedience to embark on the season of change.

### 2. COVID-19 in Singapore

- Praise the Lord for the removal of the vaccinated-differentiated measures.
- Pray for God’s protection in the midst of a high number of community cases.
- Pray for protection against reinfection and the ill effects that it may bring.

### 3. 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.
- Pray for peace especially in areas of conflict (Ukraine) and potential conflict – China & Taiwan.

### 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.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Digital Bulletin: [rlc.sg/bulletin](http://rlc.sg/bulletin)

## 1. Church Calendar Highlights

- *Quarter 1*
  - Vision 2023 Sermon Series: 5 -26 Feb
  - Bible Equipping - Exodus: 4 & 5 Feb, 11 & 12 Feb
  - Equipping – “Engaging the Holy Spirit” Workshop: 17 & 19 Mar, 24 & 26 Mar
  - Cells Prayer Night #1: 31 Mar
- *Quarter 2*
  - Easter Evangelistic Services: 8-9 Apr
  - Bible Equipping – Acts: 26 & 28 May, 2 & 4 Jun
  - Children’s Camp: 8-10 Jun
  - Youth Camp: 15-18 Jun
  - Cell Revival Nights (Fridays): 2 – 30 Jun
- *Quarter 3*
  - Young Adult Camp: 7-9 Jul
  - 32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Weekend: 26-27 Aug
  - Bible Equipping – Leviticus: 15 & 17, 22 & 24 Sep
  - Cells Prayer Night #2: 29 Sep
- *Quarter 4*
  - Equipping Series: 17 & 19, 24 & 26 Nov
  - Christmas Outreach: Dec
  - Cells Prayer Night #3: 29 Dec

## 2. Bible Equipping – Exodus: Foreshadowing the Gospel: Encountering the Lord & Saviour.

- Session 1 - 4 Feb (Sat), 7-10pm
- Session 2 - 5 Feb (Sun), 11am – 2.30pm
- Session 3 - 11 Feb (Sat), 7-10pm
- Session 4 - 12 Feb (Sun), 11am – 2.30pm

## 3. RiverLife Prayer Meetings.

- **RLC Prayer Room.** Tue, 8-9.30pm, Victory Chapel. (Online: [rlc.sg/rpr-watch](http://rlc.sg/rpr-watch))
- **Wed Night Prayer Meeting.** Wed, 8pm – 9.30pm, Victory Chapel.

## 4. RiverLife Kindergarten Recruitment.

RLK is recruiting for the following roles. Link: [oileng@riverlifekindergarten.org.sg](mailto:oileng@riverlifekindergarten.org.sg). Refer to the e-Bulletin for more details.

- Chinese Teacher
- Teacher Assistant

## 5. 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.

## 6. 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](http://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.)

7. **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](http://rlc.sg/serve) or refer to our [digital bulletin](#) for more details.
8. **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](http://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)
9. **RiverLife Podcast.** The RiverLife Podcast allows you to listen to RiverLife content anytime, anywhere! The link to go to is [rlc.sg/podcast](http://rlc.sg/podcast) or simply search **'The RiverLife Podcast'** on Spotify.
10. **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](http://rlc.sg/resource). This list will be continually populated throughout the year.
11. **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.*
12. **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>
13. **Testimony.** If you have a testimony to share, you can write to us at [stories@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:stories@riverlife.org.sg) to share with us your testimony as an encouragement to others.

## GIVING LINKS & QR CODES

### ONLINE GIVING TO MISSIONS

Donate 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 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 DONATION TO RIVERLIFE COMMUNITY SERVICES

Donate digitally:

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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.

