

DATE: 12 FEB 2023 | SPEAKER: ELDER LEE EE YANG
TOPIC: BEING GOD's CHANGE AGENT | SCRIPTURE: MARK 9:35-10:23

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

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

- 1. Be challenged to be "change agents" in the world.
- 2. Not be contented to be reservoirs of God's blessings, but to be rivers.

SERMON SUMMARY

Building on from last week's sermon on how Caleb (Joshua 14:6-13) lived his life trusting and being obedient to God, Elder Ee Yang encouraged RiverLifers to develop a spirit like Caleb's and be "Change Agents" for God.

Through Matthew 9:35-10:23, we see how Jesus proclaimed the Good News and brought healing. He also called his disciples to follow him and do the same. Elder Ee Yang shared about the 3 A's we must have to be change agents in our generation:

- 1. Be Awakened to Our Commission (9:36-38, 10:1, 5-8)
 - a) Jesus had compassion on them (9:36)
 - b) He gave them authority (10:1)
- 2. Be Anchored in God and spiritual community (10:2-4)
- 3. Be Audacious to step out of our comfort zone (10:16-23)

God desires to show us His glory and to partner with Him as His children in being "Change Agents" in our generation.

SERMON RECAP

Elder Ee Yang shares that he believes the river is flowing in our church, and times of refreshing is here in RiverLife. This is in line with our church vision — "...a disciple-making church catalysing kingdom transformation in our community and in the nations." In this message, Elder Ee Yang shares about our "Promised Land" as a church. In order for us to reach our Promised Land, we need to have a different spirit, like Caleb's; and we need to become "Change Agents" for God.

From the example that Jesus set for us in the Matthew 9:36-10:23, here are 3 ways we can become Change Agents in the world today (3 As):

- Be Awakened to Our Commission (9:36-38, 10:1, 5-8)
 - Jesus had compassion on them (9:36)
 In order to be "Change Agents", we will first need to be awakened to the lost and the needs of the people around us today. That can only come if we catch the compassion of God for the lost and the needy.
 - He gave them authority (10:1)
 Compassion alone is not enough. We need the authority and empowerment of God to do what we cannot do by ourselves.

It is only when we have the compassion and authority of Christ, that we can become "Change Agents" in the world.

- Be Anchored in God and Spiritual Community (10:2-4)
 - o In order to truly be "Change Agents", we will need to be anchored in God as well as our spiritual communities.
 - Jesus's disciples spent their days learning and observing Him, while remaining in community with each other. We will need to do the same if we would like to continue in the work Christ has started.
- Be Audacious to Step Out of Our Comfort Zone (10:16-23)
 - We are to expect hostility as we step out of our comfort zone, as warned by Christ in the passage today.
 - o Courage is needed because we will be against darkness, persecution and deception.

Elder Ee Yang shared that our journey towards becoming Change Agents must come out of our sonship identity. If not, we can fall into the performance trap and the vision becomes more important than our relationship with God. Our Elder Ee Yang ended his message by inviting all of us to be filled once again with the power and compassion of Christ through the Holy Spirit.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Elder Ee Yang spoke about God's invitation for us to be "Change Agents" in our generation. How would a "Change Agent" of God look like in everyday life?

Leader's Notes

This is a question for members to reflect on the influence and impact we can bring to our communities. We all influence our surroundings, be it actively or passively, overtly or subtly. Members can share about how we could be God's change agents in our speech, thoughts and actions. Members can also choose to share examples of

- how they have been a change agent
- other godly individuals they know who have influenced their community.

Transition

We are called to bring transformation to our communities and generations. Let's discuss on what we can do to start

2. Elder Ee Yang shared on how the 3 A's (to be Awakened, be Anchored and be Audacious) are to come out of a spirit of Sonship. As we remember our position in Christ, share with your cell if God is leading you to grow in any of 3 A's.

Leader's Notes

This is a response question for members to share on any area which spoke to them. Is there an area where they are being challenged in this year? Are there any barriers that may hinder them? What is an area they want to build on and be accountable to each other for?

Transition

Serving God must always be birthed from the place of sonship and not strive. If our vision is not driven by our sonship, then we will serve as orphans which will then produce orphans.

3. Take a moment to pray for the compassion of Christ to come upon you as a cell. What needs in society or of the people around you is the Holy Spirit prompting you heart on? Is there anything that you can do together as a cell to be Change Agents in society?

Leader's Notes

This is an application question. As you pray together, God may birth in you a passion for a specific area of need in society or of the people around you. These needs may include a passion for the poor and needy, families that are broken, or those who are not yet saved. It is important to not just leave it as a feeling we feel but to take intentional steps to step out in faith to meet those needs. Help your members to process through what God has laid on their hearts and some of the things they can do as a result.

Closing

We are God's chosen people, blessed to know Him and privileged to play a part in His Kingdom. May we choose to be a generation that is obedient to Him and bold in proclaiming His glory!

PRAYER

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

1. Sermon Application

- That God will develop in us a spirit like Caleb's one that trusts and obeys Him wholeheartedly.
- That God will continue to grant us His compassion and empower us to act
- We will play a part in building a godly community where we can influence each other to be God-fearing individuals
- For us to be bold and wise in living our faith out in our communities.

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 God's providence as we go through a challenging year.

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

- Leadership Huddle. Sun, 19 Feb 11am to 1pm Worship Centre. For Cell Leaders, Core Team
 Members and Ministry Leaders. Lunch can be pre-purchased contact your Zone/Area Overseer
 or Ministry Head for details.
- 2. Vision Series A River Flowing Outwards.
 - 05 FEB A Different Spirit
 - 12 FEB Being God's Change Agent
 - 19 FEB A Sent People
 - 26 FEB No More Excuses

3. Church Calendar Highlights

- Quarter 1
 - Vision 2023 Sermon Series: 5 -26 Feb
 - o Bible Equipping Exodus: 4 & 5 Feb, 11 & 12 Feb
 - o Equipping "Engaging the Holy Spirit" Workshop: 17 & 19 Mar, 24 & 26 Mar
 - Cells Prayer Night #1: 31 Mar
- Quarter 2
 - o Easter Evangelistic Services: 8-9 Apr
 - O Bible Equipping Acts: 26 & 28 May, 2 & 4 Jun
 - o Children's Camp: 8-10 Jun
 - o Youth Camp: 15-18 Jun
 - Cell Revival Nights (Fridays): 2 30 Jun
- Quarter 3
 - Young Adult Camp: 7-9 Jul
 - o 32nd Anniversary Weekend: 26-27 Aug
 - o Bible Equipping Leviticus: 15 & 17, 22 & 24 Sep
 - o Cells Prayer Night #2: 29 Sep
- Quarter 4
 - Equipping Series: 17 & 19, 24 & 26 Nov
 - Christmas Outreach: Dec
 - Cells Prayer Night #3: 29 Dec
- 4. **The RiverLife Choir Recruitment.** Audition & Interview on 18 Mar, 2.30pm 6pm @ 2E Loyang Besar Close. Signup by 4 Mar: rlc.sg/serve
- 5. Alpha Course. 11 Feb 29 Apr. Sign Up Link: rlc.sg/join-alpha.
- 6. RiverLife Prayer Meetings.
 - RLC Prayer Room. Tue, 8-9.30pm, Victory Chapel. (Online: rlc.sg/rpr-watch)
 - Wed Night Prayer Meeting. Wed, 8pm 9.30pm, Victory Chapel.
- 7. **RiverLife Kindergarten Recruitment.** RLK is recruiting for the following roles. Link: oileng@riverlifekindergarten.org.sg. Refer to the e-Bulletin for more details.
 - Chinese Teacher

- Teacher Assistant
- 8. **9M Ministry.** The 9M 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/9mProvide Prayer Support: rlc.sg/serve
- 9. **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.
- 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. **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.
- 12. **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)
- 13. **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.
- 14. **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.
- 15. **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*.
- 16. **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
- 17. **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.

GIVING LINKS & QR CODES

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