

DATE: 11 JUN 2023 | SPEAKER: PS LIONEL GOH | TOPIC: SHARING LIFE TOGETHER IN THE SPIRIT | SCRIPTURE: ACTS 2:37-47

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

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

- Grow in deeper understanding about the importance of Christian fellowship and spiritual disciplines
- 2. Reflect on our attitudes and aspire to be a community that shares life together in the Spirit

SERMON SUMMARY

Pastor Lionel shared about 3 marks of God's prevailing Church

- a) Energized by the Holy Spirit
- b) Grows through various means of grace
- c) Reaches out in practical love

There are benefits of doing life together in the Spirit.

SERMON RECAP

Pastor Lionel shared about 3 marks of God's prevailing Church:

- a. It is energized by the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4, 4:31)
- b. It grows through various means of grace (Acts 2:42-46)
 - i. The importance of spiritual disciplines (1 Timothy 4:7-8)
 - ii. Sharing life together:
 - At the Temple: Receiving Apostles' teaching, corporate worship and prayer.
 - In the Homes: Breaking of bread, sharing of meals, and caring for each other.
 - iii. The importance of physical fellowship (Genesis 2:18, Hebrews 10:23-25)
- c. It reaches out in practical love (Acts 2:45, 4:32-35, John 13:34-35, 1 John 3: 6-7)

Ps. Lionel then went on to share that the starting point for faith communities must be the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. The benefits of doing life together in the Spirit:

- a. It's easy and sustainable (Matthew 11:28-30)
- b. It's productive and powerful (Acts 2:43, 47, 5:15-16)
- c. It honours God and His Church (Acts 2:46-47)

Let's continue to thirst for the Holy Spirit! (John 7:37-39)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Acts 2:42-47. As a cell, consider how are such aspects of doing life and engaging in spiritual disciplines seen as means of grace?

Leader's Notes

This is a recap question for the cell to look at the Acts 2 community. Take time to consider how these activities as well as developing spiritual disciplines aided the disciples in building their faith.

Resource

What is the importance of Christian fellowship – Got Questions
What is Christian fellowship and Why Is It So Important? – Jesus Film Project
What are Spiritual Disciplines – Desiring God (Generic)
What are Spiritual Disciplines – Zondervan Academic (Specific)
4 Reasons Spiritual Disciplines are Important - Jesus Film Project

Transition

Spiritual disciplines and having fellowship with the saints are pathways God has provided for us to grow.

2. As a cell, take time to examine our attitudes in approaching spiritual disciplines and engaging in godly community (compare your attitudes to Acts 2:42- 47). What has been our attitudes and mindsets towards sharing life together?

Leader's Notes

This is a reflect question for members to share their experiences, and to share their joys and challenges. Have we taken on society's mindsets in acting as consumers instead of active participants? If yes, we can use this time as a safe space to consider what had happened and the shifts we can make. If no, how can we continue to encourage one another to build on the good things that have been put in place? Members can encourage each other to build spiritual disciplines together as a community.

Resource

How to Not Be Just a Consumer at Church – Relevant Magazine How to Challenge the Consumer Culture of Your Church – The Gospel Coalition

Transition

God has not called us to be consumers, but active participants in sharing life together in the Spirit.

3. How can we invite the Holy Spirit into our fellowship in how we care for one another?

Leader's Notes

This is a reflect and response question for members to consider where they are in their cell life and the ways the cell community can take a step closer towards emulating Acts 2:37-47. The cell can also consider participating in church initiatives for outreach and missions (to share the good news and to love the poor and needy), or how they can support fellow believers in caring for non-believing family members.

Closing

May we continue to thirst for the Holy Spirit!

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 us to continue and hunger and thirst for the Holy Spirit
- Pray that we will continue to walk in step with the Spirit and be a vessel of His blessing to others.

2. World

- Pray for good weather in Singapore during this hot season.
- Pray for the tense situation along the straits of Taiwan.
- Pray for peace in the Russia-Ukraine war and in the US-China conflict.
- Pray for peace in the Gaza strip (Israel) as violence erupts between Israel and Islamic Jihad.

3. 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

1. **Current Sermon Series.** This Pentecost Sunday, join us on a seven-week journey to discover seven distinct traits of the early church that will provide fresh revelation of how God wants to empower us as His river flowing outwards. May the lives of the first disciples inspire us to be the church that continues to advance the Kingdom of God and reveal Christ in our generation! (Sermon titles subjected to change)

28 May: A Beautiful Mission04 Jun: Revisiting Pentecost

• 11 Jun : Sharing Life Together in the Spirit

18 Jun: Ministering in Jesus' Name25 Jun: Boldness: Holy Audacity

02 Jul : True to God09 Jul : Unstoppable

- 2. **Cells Prayer Night: Revive Us, Lord! Fri, 30 Jun, 8-10pm, Worship Centre.** Part of what happens during a revival is that God's people return back to first love, to seeking His face and voice. Let's come together as cell groups to seek the Lord together through worship, prayer and sharing with one another.
- 3. Caleb Ministry: Helping Seniors & Retirees Live Well and Finish Well in Christ. If you are working, retired or intending to retire in the next 5 years, we invite you to attend our short Introductory Talk to hear more about this ministry and how you can be plugged in.

Choose one session to attend:

- Sun, 23 Jul | 11am after service | Worship Centre
- Sun, 6 Aug | 11am after service | Worship Centre
- 4. **RiverLife Kindergarten 2024 Enrolment Now Open.** RiverLife Kindergarten is a Christian preschool that nurtures joyful learners. Registration for 2024 is now open.
 - Playgroup (born in 2022 from 18 months onwards)
 - Pre-Nursery (born in 2021)
 - Nursery (born in 2020)
 - Kindergarten 1 (born in 2019)
 - Kindergarten 2 (born in 2018)

For enquiries, please call 6511 4168 or email us at office@riverlifekindergarten.org.sg. Visit our website at *riverlifekindergarten.org.sg* to find out more about our programmes and curriculum.

- 5. **Alpha Course. 1 July 16 September**. If you have questions about Christianity that you are seeking answers for, we invite you to join us for Alpha a series of interactive sessions that explores the basics of the Christian faith.
 - For More Information: rlc.sg/alpha
 - To Sign Up: rlc.sg/join-alpha
- 6. SPYCES Spiritual Parenting of Young Couples (Online). 2 5pm starting on 2 July. Cost: \$10. SPYCES is a series of <u>5 online sessions</u> where parents in the same season of life can come together to fellowship and build friendship with one another. You will also learn from the Bible

how to journey with your children and your children's children in the days ahead. Registration Link: rlc.sg/spyces (Closing Date: 25 Jun 2023).

- 7. **RiverLife Kindergarten is SPARK Certified!** RiverLife Kindergarten has obtained SPARK certification for 6 years from the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA). We rejoice with our principal, Oi Leng, and her team! May God continue to use RiverLife Kindergarten for His glory.
- 8. **An Invitation for Parents with Youths in MegaLife**. Dear Parents, you're invited to join us on Sat, 17 Jun from 9.30am to 12.30pm at MegaLife Camp to worship and pray with your child / children as a family. Kindly RSVP online at rlc.sg/mlc-parents.

CHURCH CALENDAR

- 1. Church Calendar Highlights
 - Quarter 2
 - o Youth Camp: 15-18 Jun
 - o Cell Revival Night (Fridays): 30 Jun, 8-10pm @ Worship Centre
 - Quarter 3
 - Young Adult Camp: 7-9 Jul
 - 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: DecCells Prayer Night #3: 29 Dec
- 2. 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 currently in a cell, register your attendance with your cell leader. If you are currently not in a cell, do register online: rlc.sg/YAgathering-apr-reg.
- 3. 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.

CHURCH MINISTRIES & OPPORTUNITIES

- 1. **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
- 2. **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.

- 3. **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.
- 4. **RiverLife Cares Opportunities.** Signup: http://rlc.sg/serve-rlcares
- 5. **SuperLife Ministry: Call for 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.)
- 6. **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.
- 7. **Prayer Ministry**. If you require prayer ministry for any issues you face (eg. fear, worry, etc), you can sign up for RLC's RTF ministry: https://bit.ly/rlcrtf

RESOURCES & CONNECTING WITH US

- 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: Text 'Subscribe' to 8923 1939
 - **Telegram Channel**: t.me/RiverLifeChurch
 - Facebook & Instagram: @riverlifechurchsg

GIVING LINKS & QR CODES

ONLINE GIVING TO MISSIONS

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Interbank Transfer

UOB Account 450-309634-4

Kindly indicate "Missions" in your transaction reference.



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Interbank Transfer

RiverLife Church Bank Account: DBS Autosave 029-902431-0

Bank Code: 7171 / Branch Code: 029



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