

In the first Chapter of Acts, God's people were promised a new season of ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8). But before that could happen, Jesus instructed them to wait in Jerusalem for God to usher them into this new season (Luke 24:49). So the 120 disciples waited and prayed for many days in the Upper Room. During the 50 days, there was much soul searching. The disciples had to grapple with their personal failures, sins and disappointments before God.

It was in those days of waiting, introspection, confession of sins and repentance in the Upper Room that the disciples got themselves realigned spiritually to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. On the Day of Pentecost, spiritual revival broke out and they were radically transformed and ready for God's new season. From Pentecost onwards, a powerful New Testament Church was born that brought the Gospel to the ends of the earth was born.

Similarly, we believe God is calling RiverLife Church to get ready for a new season of ministry. This new season is tied to our national destiny - to be the Antioch of Asia. The Pillar of Cloud over our Church is beginning to stir and we ought to prepare ourselves to follow the Lord's leading when the Cloud starts to move. Yes, we are like the New Testament disciples in the Upper Room waiting and praying for God's new season to come. Like them, we have no clear idea of what the new season entails but we want to prepare our hearts for Jesus to lead us forward.

I believe if we collectively prepare our hearts for a spiritual revamp, then the Lord will lead us into His new season. However, if we choose to be indifferent to His prompting, then we may miss going on this new adventure, just as the nation of Israel did when they failed to enter the Promised Land (Numbers 14:26-35).

In this new series, we want to explore what it means to live radically for Christ. Too often, our Christianity has no power because we live below the calling of Jesus. We need to go back into scriptures and learn what Jesus expects from His people so that we can live radically for Him and His kingdom's agenda.



# Aligning Ourselves To God's Agenda

3 Sept 2017

Many believers are living below what God has desired for them. They need to break free from these 5 ropes that bind God's people down today: Consumerism, Complacency, Compromise, Cynicism & a Critical Spirit. The only way forward is to put aside their personal baggages, align themselves to God's big agenda and seek for a personal revamp of their hearts.

# A Treasure Worthy To Lose Everything For

10 Sept 2017

Many believers are consumers in church. They want God's blessings but are unwilling to make Christ their all. Jesus is just another good thing to have in their quest as consumers. Believers need to see the true worth of Jesus in order for them to give up everything to pursue Him. Only a full commitment to Christ and to His church is able to break the bondage of consumerism among many believers.

# God Starts Working When We Realize Our Spiritual Poverty

17 Sept 2017

Many believers today live like the Laodecians – rich, smug, self-sufficient and complacent. They don't think they have to depend on God because they have enough of their own wealth, knowledge, experience and wisdom to enjoy a happy life. Spiritual Complacency is a big bondage that stifles the church today. The first step to overcoming it is to realize our spiritual poverty.



"He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also to walk even as He walked." - 1 John 2:6 (ASV)

Answering the call to follow Jesus is not simply a call to change religion or to change one's belief system. It is so much more than just coming to church each Sunday to warm the pews. The call of Jesus is a call to have a vibrant and fulfilling relationship with God, and to go forth and bear much fruit. In light of the season that the church and Singapore is in, there is an urgency for Christians to truly answer the call of Jesus.

Through this series, we will attempt to make clear the call of Christ - the call to be holy (obedience), the call to know God and commune with God, the call to love, to go and to give. Jesus modelled all of these attributes of the call. To be a true disciple of Jesus, we must do the same or we cannot call ourselves disciples of Christ. We will simply be religious people.



# The Call To Commune: Prayer & Fasting

24 Sept 2017, Pastor Joachim Tan

God has given us the divine privilege of communion with Him - a vibrant and active relationship with the Creator. Yet, many Christians go through life communicating with God only when a need arises. Many Christians fast and pray only when they require something from the Lord. This sermon challenges believers to pray and fast, not just for our needs and wants, but for a deeper relationship with God and for the things of the kingdom.



# The Call To Give

1 Oct 2017, Pastor Ben KC Lee

As Christians, we are called to be rivers of blessings to those around us. Unfortunately, many Christians have lived their lives as reservoirs. They hoard God's blessings for themselves. It is no wonder why there are still people around us that are in need. One of the natural fruits of a life changed by the Gospel is generousity. God has blessed us to be a blessing. This sermon attempts to challenge believers to live beyond themselves and to give of their time, finances and energy for the kingdom; not just for their own desires.

\*There will be a special Children's Day Service on 8 Oct. More details to follow.



# The Call To Go And To Love

15 Oct 2017, Pastor John Koe

The end goal of the Christian life is to love God and to love people. To be a disciple of Christ means to take on the mantle of Christ to go out, to love the unloveable, to give to those in need and to win the lost for the kingdom. Yet, many Christians are content to just attend church each Sunday. What hinders us from being the light in the world? This sermon will challenge everyone who calls himself/herself a disciple of Christ to go out and bear forth much fruit for the Father's glory because the time is near!



# The Call To Know God

22 Oct 2017, Pastor Ernie Song

God is not a God that is unknown. He has revealed Himself throughout history and especially through the Word. Why do Christians these days pay so little attention to the Word of God? The Bible says that the Word of God is alive! It brings life to us. Through the pages of the Word, a believer is able to encounter and experience God! Yet, many Christians struggle to read the Word. This sermon seeks to help believers bring the Bible back to life in their lives so that through it, they can know God at a deeper and more intimate level.



# The Call To Be Holy

29 Oct 2017, Pastor Ernie Song

In the garden of Eden, there lived a serpent. The serpent single handedly changed the destiny of human beings. In every believer's garden of life, lives a serpent. It is still deceiving and charming believers away from a good Father and towards destruction. Yet many believers today live unaware of this spiritual danger in our own backyard! This sermon will challenge believers to be wary of the devil's scheme and to live a life that is holy for the glory of God!

# THE SECRET OF RADICAL OBEDIENCE

Excerpted from Secrets of the Secret Place by Bob Sorge



Hearing God in the secret place is one of the greatest keys to living the Christian life. However, it must be linked with its corollary: radical obedience. We hear, and then we do. "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves" (James 1:22, NKJV).

By "radical obedience," I mean immediate obedience that fulfills the commandment to its fullest measure. Radical obedience does not seek to comply to the minimal standards but pursues extravagant, lavish fulfillment. If Jesus says, "Sell all," then we sell all! Immediately.

The New Testament word for obedience, hupakoe, is a compound word of two Greek words, hupo, "under," and akouo, "to hear." So to obey is "to hear under." Obedience involves listening attentively with a heart of compliant submission and, then, obeying his word.

Implicit obedience starts, for every one of us, not in doing good works but in sitting at his feet and hearing his word. Devotion to the secret place is the saint's first great act of obedience. Jesus revealed this:

But He answered them, saying, "Who is My mother, or My brothers?" And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, "Here are My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother" (Mark 3:33-35, NASB).



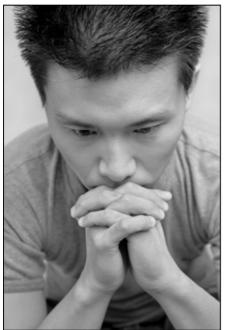
The will of God in that moment was for the people to sit at Jesus' feet and hear his word. Until you attend to this responsibility first, you will be constantly frustrated in your inability to uncover the joys of radical obedience. Works of service gain their spiritual energy from the furnace of a fiery love relationship at Jesus' feet. The true fulfillment of serving Jesus is discovered when we get first things first: First we sit and listen, and then we go and do.

My friend, Steve Peglow, once told me he thought some people were "common law Christians." By that he meant they want the benefits of living with Jesus without making the commitment. But even as the full joy of living together is found only within the context of the commitment of marriage, so too the joy of following Jesus is found only in abandoning oneself to every word that proceeds from his mouth.

Some people put their best energies into creative thinking. However, God has a way of negating the plans of men: "The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; He makes the plans of the peoples of no effect. The counsel of the Lord stands forever" (Psalm 33:10-11, NKJV). Instead of focusing on being creative, focus on being obedient. Give your best energies to waiting on God in his presence, listening for his voice, and then moving out in action only when he has spoken. There's no sense in coming up with your own ideas when it's only

God's counsel that will stand! I'm saying it several different ways: The key is in hearing and obeying.

Oh what joy to hear his word and do it! The benefits are profound (I will mention only a few among many):



Obedience Unlocks Eternally Abundant Life. Jesus said, "'And I know that His command is everlasting life'" (John 12:50, NKJV). Coming from the master of understatement, these simple words contain far more impact than a cursory reading would reveal. Take that statement to your place of meditation and let him awaken you to the life-giving power of extravagant adherence to his command. The life that resides in him flows into you when you obey.

### Obedience Incurs the Gaze of God.

God looks with special interest and affection upon the one who is devoted to obedience. He said it this way, "But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word" (Isaiah 66:2, NKJV). It's

fantastic to just imagine it: You're in the secret place with his word before you, and you're trembling at the prospect of his speaking to you; He sees your willing spirit and conceives of ways to honor your devotion. Wow! To tremble at his word means firstly that we long for him to speak, and secondly that we tremble with ready diligence to act upon the word that comes. When we tremble for his word with this kind of keen anticipation, he fastens his gaze upon us in order to do good on our behalf.

### Obedience Produces Greater Intimacy.

In my opinion, one of the most powerful statements Jesus made on earth is right here: "'He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him'" (John 14:21, NKJV). Jesus said obedience is the proof of love, and love brings us into incredible intimacy with the Father. Furthermore, obedience unlocks the affections of Christ and his self-disclosure to the human

heart. There's nothing more I long for than for Jesus to manifest himself to me! For the hope of beholding him I will embrace any and every command of his mouth. I choose to obey him, not because I am energized by watching my obedience change people's lives, but because his presence is so sweet when I obey. My heart is enflamed with zeal for his closeness, and obedience only fuels that fire.

### Obedience Builds Unshakable Foundations.

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended,

the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall" (Matthew 7:24-27, NKJV).

You will notice that the storm comes both to those who do Jesus' sayings and those who don't do them. No one is exempt. Storms are most certainly headed your way. The only question is, will you survive? Will your foundations be strong enough to sustain the winds and floods? Those who walk in radical obedience have made themselves



ready for the storm, and they will overcome. "Oh, that you had heeded My commandments' Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea" (Isaiah 48:18, NKJV). The greater the winds that assault the obedient, the more his righteousness rises up like mighty breakers, crashing on the shore in majestic thundering.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, gave us one of the greatest summations of obedience: "What He says to you, do it" (John 2:5). True servants are found sitting at Jesus' feet ("Where I am, there My servant will be also," John 12:26). Then, when he speaks, they just do it. Servants don't try to give the Master a better idea; servants don't complain that they think the task is stupid; servants don't try to decide if they're in the mood to do it right now; servants don't decide if the task is within their dignity to perform it. They just do it. "So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, "We are

unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do" (Luke 17:10).

The closer you get to God, the more obedient you must be. Some choose the level of obedience whereby they endeavor to avoid sin and choose righteousness. That was the level where the children of Israel, who knew God's acts, lived. Moses, however, knew God's ways. So Moses' level of obedience was of necessity much higher. The issue for Moses was no longer simply, "Is this action right or wrong?" The issue was, "What is God's command?" For example, when Moses was on the fiery mountain the command was, "Stay behind the cleft of the rock. Because if you come out from behind the protective rock and see My face, you'll die. You're so close to Me right now, Moses, that if you make a wrong move you'll see My face and have a cardiac arrest on the spot." Now, is there anything wrong or sinful about stepping out from behind a wall of rock? No. But when you're that close to God, it's imperative you follow his instructions to the letter and stay where he's putting you. It bears repeating: The closer you get to God, the more obedient you must be.



# THE APOSTLE ANDREW

Inspiring Stories From Those Before Us



The Apostle Andrew was brought in before the Roman governor Aegeas to be reproved for constantly preaching the controversial message of Jesus. The governor threatened, "If you don't stop preaching this message of Jesus and this cross, I am going to crucify you on one, too!"

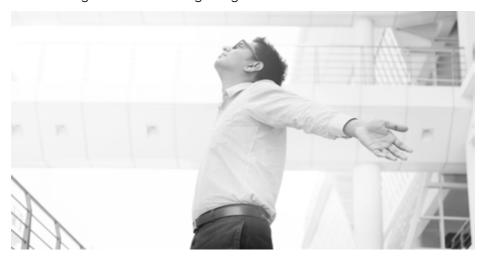
Andrew, though, was undaunted. He simply replied, "Sir, I would not have preached about the glory of the cross of Jesus if I was not also willing to die on it."

Andrew was immediately taken out and ruthlessly tied to two beams of splintery wood, then set upright to die a slow and painful death. He hung

there, in what must have been excruciating pain, for three days, preaching the triumphant message of Jesus and His cross the whole while, until he was finally taken home to be with the One he loved more than his very life.

# SPIRITUAL AWAKENING & THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

by John Piper. Adapted from http://www.desiringgod.org/articles/spiritual-awakening-and-the-knowledge-of-god



I have never understood or empathized with the view that knowing more about God gets in the way of loving God. And yet there are people who, it seems, build their lives and ministries inside the fog of doctrinal ambiguity.

It has been my conviction, and my experience, for over 40 years that knowing more about God from his inspired, energy-filled word puts more kindling in place so that the Holy Spirit can ignite a greater and greater flame of passion for God in our hearts.

### The Mountain of Majesty

But there are people who believe that we will marvel at the majesty of the mountain of God's truth more if we don't try to climb it, but stay at a distance, leaving it in a cloud, hazy and indistinct. I don't believe that. My life and ministry is built on the opposite conviction — that the fullness and clarity of the "whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:27) are a source of indomitable and exquisite joy, and passionate worship, and radical obedience, and biblical unity.

I was created — and so were you — to help people see and savor the glory of God. To that end I have devoted my life to spreading the truth that this happens

when we ourselves are profoundly satisfied in God — especially in times of suffering. God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in him.

### An Unspoken Assumption

But there is an unspoken assumption here. "Satisfied in him" means "him as he really is." For God to be loved duly, he must be known truly. Reveling in some rich pastry honors the chef. But not if it turns out that it wasn't his creation after all. Admiring the beauty of Jane honors her — unless it turns out that it really wasn't Jane. White-hot worship only honors God, if what moves us is really true about God.

It doesn't matter how intense our doxology is sung, if God doesn't recognize himself in the theology that stirs us. The more closely our portrait of God truly portrays him, the more our joyful response to that portrait will honor him as he is.

# "SPIRITUAL AWAKENING IS MAINLY ABOUT MORE AND MORE PEOPLE SEEING AND SAVORING THE GLORY OF JESUS CHRIST."

### **Awakening**

Therefore, my enthusiasm for spiritual awakening and unity in the body of Christ increases in direct proportion to the fullness and clarity of central gospel truths which are driving the awakening. And my enthusiasm for awakening and unity diminishes in direct proportion to the decrease of the fullness and clarity of the central biblical truths sustaining the awakening.

I want to see God send a great spiritual awakening marked by a passionate, God-centered, Christ-exalting, Bible-saturated consensus rooted in the fullness of central gospel truths. Spiritual awakening is mainly about more and more people seeing and savoring the glory of Jesus Christ. And that glory shines most

brightly when his beauty is seen most clearly, and savored most dearly.

# **TIPS FOR FASTING**

by Lou Engle. Adapted from "The Jesus Fast: The Call to Awaken the Nations".



### 1. WHY SHOULD YOU FAST?

Fast and pray in order to humble yourself and purify your worship. In fasting we are not trying to get something from God, but rather seeking to realign our hearts' affections with His. We do holy violence to the "pleasures which wage war against the soul," opening the way for a greater submission to the Holy Sprit. Lust is a perverse form of devotion. Fasting enables us to cleanse the sanctuary of our hearts from such idols.

### Because You Have A Clear Target For Prayer Focus.

Without a vision (a clear, prophetic prayer goal) the people perish. During a fast I have four or five prayer goals, that are clearly articulated. When I'm not deeply motivated by a clear goal, I usually fast until break-fast! Write down your vision, so you can run with it.

### Because Fasting Shapes History.

We can be assured through the pattern of history and biblical truth that when we humble ourselves in prayer and fasting to cry out to God that He responds! This is our great hope, that we have a God who see, hears and responds to the sincerity of His people!

### 2. PREPARING TO FAST

\*\*\*Seek medical advice if you are older or have health challenges. If you are pregnant, do not fast food. Period.\*\*\*

### Find A Buddy: Do The Fast With Someone Else.

Two are better than one! We encourage young people to talk this through with their parents before starting the fast. Parents and kids should consider fasting together.

### Determine The Length And Type Of Fast In Advance, Not After You Start.

A total fast is without water. This is extremely hard on the body. Do not go

beyond three days. A wateronly fast is very challenging, but is a deep rewarding spiritual experience. Depending on your weight and metabolism, a majority of people can endure forty days on water alone. A fruit or vegetable juice fast allows you to enter into fasting but still gives enough energy to function. Most people can do a 40-day juice fast. Out of consideration for their health and metabolism, I would encourage teenagers to use juice and protein



drinks to sustain them. Seek the Lord for the extent for your fast whether water, juice, protein drinks or vegetables.



### Prepare Physically.

Two days before you fast, limit your intake of food to fruit and vegetables. Fruit is a natural cleanser and easy to digest. Stop drinking coffee before the fast. Prepare yourself for mental discomforts such as impatience, crankiness and anxiety. Expect physical discomforts. You may experience dizziness, headaches and different kinds of pains. The headaches are not a sign to stop fasting. Your body is working to cleanse itself of impurities.

### Prepare For Opposition.

On the first day of your fast, you can bet donuts will somehow show up at the office or in class. Your spouse (or mom) will suddenly be inspired to cook your favorite meals. Take this as encouragement from God to press ahead! Many times you may feel increased emotional tension at home. My fasts are just as difficult on my wife as on me. Satan tempted Jesus on the fast, and we must expect the same. Discouragement may come in like a flood, but recognize the source and take your stand upon the victory of Christ.

Expect to hear God's voice in the Word, dreams, visions, and revelations!

<u>NOTE</u>: If you are pregnant or have health concerns that restrict you from fasting food, consider fasting something else, such as media (Facebook, TV, movies, Netflix... etc.).







### 3. WHILE FASTING

Some things to keep in mind while fasting:

**Take time to pray and read the Word:** This may seem obvious, but busyness and distractions can keep you from devotions. Reading books with testimonies of victories gained through fasting will encourage you.

Have a clear target for prayer focus: Without a vision (a clear, prophetic prayer goal) the people perish. During a fast I have four or five prayer goals, that are clearly articulated. When I'm not deeply motivated by a clear goal, I usually fast until break-fast! Write down your vision, so you can run with it.

Do the fast with someone else: Two are better than one! We encourage

young people to talk this through with their parents before starting the fast. Parents and kids should consider fasting together.

If you fail, don't give in to condemnation: The "to fast or not to fast' dilemma can be a major tool of the enemy. Even though you may fail several times, God always extends grace. Hit reset and resume right where you left off.

Fast in secret: Don't boast about your fast but don't go to extraordinary lengths to mask it when people inquire. Just let them know you won't be eating if you need to. The bigger the deal you make, the more attention you draw. Be discrete, be transparent, then move humbly along.



Feel free to rest a lot and to continue to exercise.

Expect to hear God's voice in the Word, dreams, visions, and revelations: Daniel prepared himself to receive revelation through fasting (Dan. 10:1,2). Scripture also speaks of a fasting reward (Matt. 6:18). Expect God to fellowship and communicate with you in special ways.

Breakthroughs often come after a fast, not during it. Do not listen to the lie that nothing is happening. It is my conviction that every fast done in faith will be rewarded.

Break the fast over several days with fruit juice and/or light soups: On a light juice fast or a water fast your digestive system shuts down. This can be dangerous if you eat too much too soon. Break such a fast gently with several days of diluted, non-acidic juice, then regular juice, followed by fruit and vegetables. On one of my early water fasts, I broke it too quickly and almost needed hospitalization. Be careful!

May you be encouraged in your times of fasting, and may you, like Daniel, shape history through fasting and prayer!

# THE LIFE OF JOHN SUNG

by Dan Graves. Adapted From http://www.christianity.com/church/church-history/timeline/1901-2000/death-of-amazing-chinese-evangelist-john-sung-11630778.html



"What does it profit a man if he gain the whole world but lose his soul?" Those words kept bouncing around inside John Sung's head. The brilliant son of a Chinese Methodist minister, John was in the United States to learn all he could about the sciences. In just five years, even while working to support himself, he completed his Bachelor of Science Degree, his Master of Science and his Ph.D.

But the importance of the soul did not escape him. He entered Union Theological

Seminary. That brought him to the crisis of his life. Union had abandoned many clear teachings of Scripture and substituted modern theology (idea that God is dead) and Bible criticism in their place. John began to doubt everything that he had been taught while growing up. This troubled him and he prayed and studied the Bible looking for answers.

Suddenly, one night, his soul was transformed. He began to weep and to shout for joy. He raced to tell teachers and fellow students. The next thing he knew, he was locked in an insane asylum! In the eyes of the spiritually dead school authorities, his behavior indicated that he had gone mad.

John was allowed to take only his Bible and a pen into the cell with him. In the 193 days that he was locked up, he read the Bible from cover to cover forty times. He later said that that was his real theological training.

After his release, John returned to China. On the ship, he threw overboard all of his diplomas, certificates and awards, keeping or

WHAT DOES IT PROFIT A MAN IF HE GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD BUT LOSE HIS SOUL?

diplomas, certificates and awards, keeping only his doctorate for his father's



Dr John Sung preaching at Telok Ayer Methodist Church with Miss Leona Wu interpreting.

sake. From that moment on, his life was dedicated to winning souls.

And that is what John did. After a slow three-year start, God sent him from end to end of China and around Southeast Asia where he preached sermon after sermon stressing mankind's sin and need for the gospel. He named specific sins by name. Stung to the heart, his listeners wept openly. Many confessed their sins in front of the whole congregation.

At meeting after meeting, people listened to John and repented. He preached for only fifteen years, but in that time, he led hundreds of thousands to Christ. The secret of his success was hours of prayer. Every morning he rose early to pray for two or three hours. People said he prayed as if Christ were an intimate friend in the room with him. To him, faith was watching God work while you were on your knees.

John died on, August 18, 1944. He was only 43 years old.

"Seek your own spiritual revival and revival will come to others."

John Sung, 1931.

# FROM CLOCK TOWER TO SCIENCE LAB: A LOOK AT STUDENT-LED REVIVALS IN SINGAPORE

Excerpt from Unfolding His Story: The Story of the Charismatic Movement in Singapore by Georgie and Galven Lee. http://thir.st/blog/clock-tower-science-lab-look-student-led-revivals-singapore/



Singapore in the mid-1960s was a picture of frenetic industrial development and human activity, as the government restructured the economy and primed the citizenry for the demands of an unexpected nationhood.

The spiritual climate bore witness to the innate restlessness in the nation's soul. Campus-based student ministries flourished, as students channelled their creative energies towards ministry work. For example, the Singapore Youth For Christ (YFC) and the Inter-School Christian Fellowship (ISCF) meetings attracted large numbers of students who belonged to the baby-boomer generation, reaching up to 2,500 youths every week through regular fellowship or club meetings.

The youths in these ministries approached evangelism and discipleship with the same vigour and diligence as the government when it exhorted the populace for its secular nation-building purposes.

The outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Anglo-Chinese School started off quite

**innocuously.** It started at an Ambassadors For Christ (AFC) camp organised by a student, Tan Khian Seng, during the June school holidays in 1971. AG pastors Fred Seaward, Peter Kwan and Simon Chan were invited to speak to a small group of less than 20 students, which led to some of the attendees to desire receiving the charismata – the baptism of the Holy Spirit – for themselves.

A year later, Chua Eng Hui, received the baptism of the Holy Spirit while praying at home a day before that year's AFC camp. He told a fellow camp-goer about his experience, who then had a similar experience after being prayed for in school two days later.

The news of what was happening spread like wildfire, especially among the older schoolboys, resulting in an entire Pre-University 1 cell group from a particular class embracing Charismatic practices and experiencing it for themselves on July 1, 1972. Over the next two months, over half of that Pre-University 1 class joined the cell group to seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Over at Dunearn Technical Secondary School, students were also beginning to see a second outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It began when one of the schoolboys, Philip Lee, received the baptism of the Holy Spirit on July 15. On the same day, he prayed for his friend, Philip Seow, to receive it as well. The next day, the duo shared and prayed with some of their friends about their experience. Their numbers grew and this raucous group congregated behind the school's science laboratory, praying in tongues at all available times of the day.

By July 1972, the scene behind the science laboratory was transformed into a Pentecostal theatre of worship, as was the case for the clock tower at ACS, which became known as the place where students would receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit! The chaotic clamour of a growing multitude of tongues in both venues signalled an irrepressible and insistent desire among the schoolboys to receive these previously unknown spiritual gifts.



This period of several months beginning from June 1972 saw divine providence working in concert with the spiritual yearning of these schoolboys, kick-starting these events in both schools with almost simultaneous timing. It could be

said that an expanding hive of spiritual renewal had been created in ACS and Dunearn Technical Secondary School.

There was to be neither abatement nor turning back in the nascent burst of spiritual renewal among the schoolboys in Singapore. There was no plan or agreed upon direction. With their strong Evangelical foundation, these schoolboys saw the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in their school as a gracious and timely divine intervention to intensify their passion for evangelism, revival and world missions.

Soon, the phenomenon spread to St Andrew's School, an Anglican mission school, some time in August 1972. A Pre-University 2 schoolgirl from the school, Quek Peck Hong, had previously heard of the charismata from her brother, Quek Peck Leng, an ACS student who was one of the main leaders of AFC and the Pre-University 1 cell group that embraced the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Quek Peck Leng even demonstrated the gift of speaking in tongues to some of his siblings, but his sister remained sceptical. Quek prayed for help from God and to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Thereafter, she began speaking in tongues.

The efforts of the ACS schoolboys to promote the baptism of the Holy Spirit in their school had established a precedent that emboldened her to similarly

promote the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the associated charismata among her classmates. Soon, up to 30 students gathered at the school chapel to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and practise the charismata.

By the end of 1972, several schools had already experienced the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The Straits Times got wind of these unusual events and published a report on November 7 with the headline: "Students go into trance at prayer: Some end religious sessions in hysterics".

It was hard to put a stop to these meetings, though. The



students were promoting the baptism of the Holy Spirit to their peers; they were gripped by a heightened spiritual fervour to evangelise their unsaved friends, schoolmates and relatives.

# FROM THE BEGINNING, THE MISSION OF EVANGELISING AND IMPACTING THEIR SCHOOL COMMUNITIES, UNDER THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WAS THEIR PRIORITY AS THEY GATHERED TO MEET TOGETHER.

Kenny Chee recalled emotive and spiritual power manifested in their meetings held at the home of one of the student's mentors: "Those were very powerful meetings. There were a lot of tears, a lot of conviction, a lot of crying ... and mucus on the mat. They would lay out those straw mats. You sat down on the floor to maximise space. The dining area became the preaching point. Then people would sit on the living area, the floor, cushion, the whole area was packed."

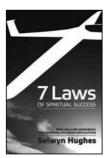
The manifestation of the charismata happened in the mundane and secular context of school life and the school campus. Making its mark outside a formal religious or church setting, the experience of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, along with the charismata, amplified a growing desire among the students to make a total commitment of their lives to God.

From the beginning, the mission of evangelising and impacting their school communities, under the power of the Holy Spirit, was their priority as they gathered to meet together. The power of the Holy Spirit through the baptism of the Holy Spirit was revealed together with the missional purpose of personal sanctification and community transformation.

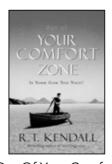


# RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

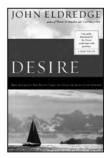
These carefully selected resources are to help you experience God and a personal renewal at a greater level.



7 Laws Of Spiritual Success **Selwyn Hughes** 

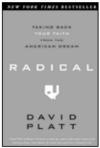


Out Of Your Comfort Zone **R.T. Kendall** 

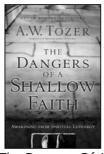


Desire

John Eldredge



Radical **David Platt** 



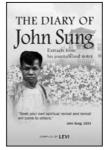
The Dangers Of A Shallow Faith **A. W. Tozer** 



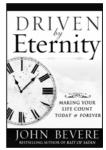
The Fire That Never Sleeps Michael Brown John Kilpatrick



Unfolding His Story Georgie & Galven Lee



The Diary Of John Sung **Levi** 



Driven By Eternity

John Bevere

# **ACTION STEPS**

Revival is more than just a concept. It is a lifestyle. As we journey through these two sermon series, we want to challenge you to prayerfully review your relationship and walk with God, and invite the Holy Spirit to do His renewing work.

### Daily Time with God

How has your daily time with God been? Have you been creating space in your daily schedule to be in God's presence, read His Word and commune with Him?

<u>Recommendation</u>: Re-read the 40 Days of Devotional Guide from Love Singapore starting from 25 September 2017. (http://www.lovesingapore.org.sg/40DAY\_2017\_English.pdf). As a cell, make effort to spur and share with one another what the Holy Spirit impresses on you.

### Fast

Have you fasted before as individuals and as a cell?

<u>Recommendation</u>: Fast a meal a day for 40 days starting from 25 September 2017 and reduce your time on personal pursuits or distractions (like interacting on Facebook, watching TV, movies, sports, etc) so as to create space in your life to pursue Jesus.

### Pray

How have your personal and cell prayer life been? Are you plugged into what God is doing in our church and nation and have you been praying about it?

<u>Recommendation</u>: Take time to review your prayer life as a cell. Make time as a cell to attend:

- weekly pre-service prayer at 8.20am on Sundays in Worship Centre
- weekly mid-week prayer meeting on Wednesdays at Victory Chapel
- special 'Fast & Pray' gathering at 8pm on Friday, 20 Oct at Worship Centre

### Read

Have you been reading for your spiritual growth? A growing Christian is a reading Christian.

<u>Recommendation</u>: As a cell group, embark on reading David Platt's book, Radical. This will challenge your cell to live a life worthy of Christ.

# "GOD, INTERRUPT WHATEVER WE ARE DOING SO THAT WE CAN JOIN YOU IN WHAT YOU ARE DOING."

**FRANCIS CHAN**