



7 AUG 2022 | ELDER LEE EE YANG POSITIONED TO PROSPER | 2 KINGS 18:5-7

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

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

1. Know that we can position ourselves to prosper in whatever we undertake.
2. Recognise that we can and should overcome the world and its ways by trusting in the Lord and follow God.
3. Commit to hold fast to God's commands and not to serve the ways of the world.

SERMON SUMMARY

Elder Ee Yang asks the question on how we can position ourselves to prosper in whatever we undertake. In 2 Kings 18:5-7, we see three lessons from the life of King Hezekiah:

- a. Trust in the Lord;
- b. Follow God and hold fast to His commands; and
- c. Do not serve the ways of the world.


In 2 Kings 19:35, God brought about a miraculous victory over Assyria. When we trust in the Lord, follow His commands and refuse to bow to the enemy, God will fight for us. As RiverLife turns 30, Elder Ee Yang exhorts every RiverLifer to become a River of Life, prospering, flourishing, giving life in the marketplaces and in our families. The river will flow outwards, touching lives, transforming our community. Let's believe that this will come to past in the days to come!

SERMON RECAP

Elder Ee Yang starts on a new sermon series: Church on Fire. Last year, RiverLife Church turned 30, a milestone age. What we choose at significant junctions of life will determine our trajectory for the next season. 30 is a significant age in the Bible – it is coming of age into spiritual maturity. Jesus started his ministry at age 30. Elder Ee Yang asks the question on how we can position ourselves to prosper in whatever we undertake. In 2 Kings 18:5-7, we see three precious lessons from the life of King Hezekiah.

1. Trust in the Lord (2 Kings 18:5)

During the reign of Hezekiah, he faced a big challenge – Assyria. Assyria launched a full-scale invasion on Judah with an enormous army. We face an Assyria today. Not a political Assyria, but a cultural Assyria.

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- “Deception” (discerning what is true and what is not),
 - “Oppression” (pressure to conform to the standards and expectations of the world), and
 - “Escapism” (temptation to seek alternate reality through addictions)

can be stumbling blocks for us to fully trust in the Lord, our God. Unlike his father, King Ahaz who trusted in Assyria, King Hezekiah trusted in God to help fight his battles.

2. Follow God and hold fast to His commands (2 Kings 18:6)

In 2 Chronicles 29:18-19, King Hezekiah rebuilt the Lord’s altar in the temple. He brought the people back to worship at the altar through his reforms. Similarly, we should follow God and hold fast to His commands!

3. Do not serve the ways of the world (2 Kings 18:7)

King Hezekiah refused to follow Assyria’s ways. In 2 Kings 19:35, God brought about a miraculous victory over Assyria. When we trust in the Lord, follow His commands and refuse to bow to the enemy, God will fight for us. Isaiah 55:8-9 tells us that God’s thoughts and ways are higher. God is positioning us to prosper even in the face of attacks. We can go to God and not fight alone and on our own.

As RiverLife Church turns 30, Elder Ee Yang exhorts every RiverLifer to become a River of Life, prospering, flourishing, giving life in the marketplaces and in our families. The River will flow outwards, touching lives, transforming our community. Let’s believe that this will come to pass in the days to come!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **3 John 2 “Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in good health, just as you soul prospers.” The Lord wants us to prosper in every area of our lives. Reflect and relate to the cell what prosperity looks like for you at this season of your life.** [10 min]

Leader's Notes

This is a recap and reflect question for members with regards to the Biblical perspective on prosperity, avoiding extremes of one, viewing or labelling prosperity as a ‘bad’ word and two, using it as a measure of our faith and putting it on the pedestal. Members can share what it means to truly prosper in our lives the way God designed us to prosper. The holistic vision for prosperity in Scripture goes beyond financial or material prosperity – it should be an experience that impacts every area of our living!

Resources


Understanding God’s Version of Prosperity by Jeremy and Ally Butrous

The Gods of the Prosperity Gospel by Diedonne Tamfu

5 Errors of the Prosperity Gospel by David W Jones.

Transition

What we choose at each milestone of our lives can present opportunities for growth and prosperity. King Hezekiah chose a life that attracted the Presence of God and we can position ourselves rightly with God in whatever we undertake.

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2. **2 Kings 18:5** tells of King Hezekiah’s trust in the Lord. King Hezekiah faced a formidable enemy – Assyria. In modern times, we too face a cultural Assyria of deception, oppression, and escapism. Reflect and share on these “ways of the world” that we as Christians must resist and not place any trust in. [15 min]

Leader's Notes

This is a reflect and relate question for members to share. “Deception” (discerning what is true and what is not), “oppression” (pressure to conform to the standards and expectations of the world) and “escapism” (temptation to seek alternate reality through addictions) can be stumbling blocks for us to fully trust in the Lord, our God. Members can choose to share a time where they felt challenged in any or other aspects that brought them away from trusting in God to provide and be their security/refuge. Members can encourage one another by sharing about how our trust in God is restored or reinforced.

Resource: [How to Trust in the Lord Completely](#)

Transition

In 2 Kings 18:3-4, we see that King Hezekiah acted by abolishing idolatry and boldly trusting in God’s all-sufficiency to protect and reward Israel in the face of a hostile environment. How must we respond as Christians?

3. **We saw from the life of Hezekiah that he followed God and held fast to His commands (2 Kings 15:6). He also committed not to serve the ways of the world (2 Kings 15:7). Share an area of your life that the Holy Spirit has impressed upon you to hold fast to His command and/or not to give in and follow the ways of the world.** [15 min]

Leader's Notes

This is a response question for members to share an area that God has prompted to surrender to Him either by submitting to God’s command or not to conform with an ungodly standard that is of the world. God wants us to have victory through Christ over the “Assyria” we may be facing.

Closing

Whatever we face in life as obstacles may be daunting and larger than life, God promises to overcome and for us to live victoriously and prosper in the Lord. May we trust God to cause every RiverLifer to become a River of Life, prospering, flourishing, giving life in the marketplaces and in our families. We pray that the river will flow outwards, touching lives and transforming our community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Digital Bulletin: rlc.sq/bulletin

1. **Anniversary Sermon Series – Church on Fire. 7 Aug – 4 Sep.** This series will draw lessons from Hezekiah’s reforms in 2 Chronicles 29-31.
 - 07 Aug – Positioned to Prosper
 - 14 Aug – Consecrated Leadership
 - 21 Aug – Presence-Centred Worship
 - 28 Aug – Celebrating Jesus
 - 04 Sep – Contribute to God’s House



2. **31st Anniversary Celebration Calendar.**

- *Sat, 27 Aug.*
 - 10am – 1pm. Chinese Service (Victory Chapel)
 - 2.30pm – 4.00pm. English Service (Worship Centre).
 - 4pm – 6pm. Celebration Carnival (Atrium).
- *Sun, 28 Aug.*
 - 9am – 11am. Bilingual Anniversary Service (Worship Centre) with concurrent children's services (Pre-School @ Level 2 Classrooms, Primary @ Grace Chapel).
 - 11am – 1pm. Celebration Carnival.
 - *Note: No second service
- *Sat, 03 Sep.*
 - RCS Run for Families. \$65 per pax. Link: rlc.sg/run2022.

3. **Alpha @ RiverLife. 20 Aug – 29 Oct.** Alpha is a series of interactive sessions to explore the basics of the Christian faith. Each session includes a short video and a discussion at the end where you can ask anything or share your thoughts. Sign up online: rlc.sg/join-alpha.

4. **Marriage Preparation Course. Sundays, 4 Sep – 2 October, 1.45pm-5pm. \$280 per couple.** This course is specially tailored for couples exploring marriage or planning to get married in the next 2 years. This course covers Biblical foundations and practical principles needed to build a God-centered Marriage. Register: rlc.sg/mpc.


5. **RiverLife Missions Upcoming Trips.** Signup: rlc.sg/signupformissions.


- **Medical Mission Trip to Sarangani, South Philippines. 20-24 October. Cost: \$800.** We are looking for doctors, nurses, pharmacists and healthcare professionals to join us for this trip. Team members will help to dispense medication, take basic vital statistics, interact with families, pray for the sick and share the Gospel.
- **Encounter Camp & Revival Rallies, Asansol, India. 30 Sep – 6 Oct. \$1200.** Serve local churches through studying God's Word and corporate worship.

6. **Call for Musicians and Vocalists.** The Worship & Music ministry is on the lookout for musicians and vocalists – keyboardist, electric guitarist, bassist, drummer and singers. If you are interested, you can sign up at rlc.sg/serve. Do note that an audition will be required before joining the ministry.

7. **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.)

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8. **F&B Related Ministries Recruitment.** We're looking for RiverLifers who love connecting with new people and enjoy cooking and serving. Team members will serve once a month. For more details Karen Koh (Welcome Lounge) at karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg and Jonathan Cho (The Café and Volunteers Corner) at jonathancho@riverlife.org.sg.
9. **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.
10. **RiverLife Community Services (RCS).** In 2021, RCS focused on providing relief to families who were badly affected by the pandemic. We believe that in this season, God is calling RCS to build loving families and strong communities. Listed below are opportunities where you can serve or give to RCS:
- You can serve as a volunteer in one of our programmes to befriend and build relationships with children, youth, mothers and lower-income families. Find out more here: rlc.sg/rcs2022.
 - You can sow by contributing financially too. Your giving will go into initiatives such as grocery distributions and various programmes that will help our beneficiaries build resilience and break free from the poverty cycle. Find out more by writing to RCS at office@rcs.org.sg.
 - RCS is also looking to partner with organizations (donations of essential items – toiletries, wearables, etc). To find out more, write to us at volunteer@rcs.org.sg.
 - RCS is looking for 20 Food Collection Helper/Driver that is able to help with the loading/unloading of fresh food items at blocks where we are reaching out to. **Commitment:** Minimally once a month for 6 months, Saturdays, 12-4pm. Contact: rlcares@rcs.org.sg.
11. **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.
12. **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.
13. **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.*

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14. **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>
 15. **Bible Reading Plan.** You can access our 2-Year Bible Reading Plan 2021-2022 by visiting: <https://rlc.sg/brp2021>.
 16. **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.

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