

**DATE: 20 AUG 2023 | SPEAKER: PASTOR LIONEL GOH**  
**TOPIC: LORD, HOW GREAT ARE YOUR WORKS! | SCRIPTURE: PSALM 92:1-9**

## SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

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

1. Recognise and remember the blessings of God in their lives.
2. Continually praise God because He deserves it.

## SERMON SUMMARY

The Psalmist exhorts us to praise and thank God for both His nature and His works. Even though evil men may seem to prosper like the grass of the field, they will ultimately be destroyed by our God. Only God stands to be exalted forever and it pays for us to set our eyes on Him and Him alone.

Resource: [Enduring Word Bible Commentary on Psalm 92](#)

## SERMON RECAP

### 1) Why is it good to praise God?

- God deserves all the honour and worship that we can give Him.
- Our faith is strengthened, and our heart is gladdened when we glorify Him.

### 2) What do we praise God for?

- His glorious nature – unfailing love (v2), faithfulness (v2), great wisdom (v5), eternal glory (v8).
- His great works – for me, my family, my church, my nation, and humanity (v4-5).

### 3) The greatest work of God is found at the Cross:

- Jesus died for the sins of the whole world ([1 John 2:2](#)).
- With His blood, He purchased us to be priests to serve God ([Revelation 5:9-10](#)).

### 4) Fools cannot praise God (v6-7)

- A fool cannot praise God because he believes that there is no God ([Psalm 14:1](#)).
- A fool will be perplexed and troubled by the evil he sees around him and despair because there is no one who can restore justice.
- Similarly, believers can look at the messy and evil world and get despondent and depressed. But remember that we have a God who is in full control of this world and who will eventually bring justice and rid this world of evil.

## 5) God's people have reasons to praise Him (v8-9)

- God has full control, and that is the God that we worship and praise.
- Jesus is exalted forever (Philippians 2:9-11)
- At the cross, Jesus has defeated all our enemies: Satan, sin and death! And Jesus had given us His victory! (Colossians 2:15, 1 Corinthians 15:56-57).

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **What are the reasons for us to praise God (Psalm 92:4-5, 8-9)? Is there a specific incident in your life that you are so grateful to God for? Please share.**

### Leader's Notes

Here are the reasons extracted from the Enduring Word Bible Commentary on reasons to praise God:

- It is *good to give thanks* to the LORD: This Sabbath Psalm begins with a simple yet profound statement. It is a good thing to give thanks to Yahweh, the covenant God of Israel and the Maker of heaven and earth.
- It is good because thanks to our Creator is *appropriate*.
- It is good because thanks to our Covenant Redeemer is *fitting*.
- It is good because thanks to the One who blesses and delivers us is *right*.
- It is good because thanks to the One who is all-good is *always good*.
- It is good because thanks to God *does us benefit*.
- It is good because thanks to God *sets an example for others* to do the same.
- It is good because a *mere attitude of thankfulness is not enough*.

We also give thanks to God for His works – to be made glad through the work of God – “... sing for joy at what your hands have done.” (Psalm 92:4b).

### Transition

When we praise God, we are not only expressing our thankfulness and proclaiming His glory, but it is to complete our joy/delight in Him. It is only when we are to praise something that our joy is complete. As the author C. S. Lewis observes, “I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation.” (*Reflections on the Psalms*).

2. **How does ungratefulness or forgetfulness of God's love and blessings upon your life affect your spiritual health and faith?**

### Leader's Notes

We often take God and His good works for granted and put Him in the shadow of our daily life. When we fail to remember God for His blessings, we become discouraged easily in the face of difficulties, are less dependent on Him, and start to strive. Then we get anxious and weary from all the self-effort and worries. Our spiritual health will suffer, and our faith will decline. Slowly and unconsciously, we will distance ourselves from Him.

But when we start to praise Him and give thanks for His works, He becomes the centre of our life. Our faith in Him is raised and our heart is gladdened.

### Transition

Remember Him in all things. In good and bad, remember to give thanks to Him.

### 3. **Why is it so important for us not to get distracted by evil men and their seeming prosperity (Psalm 92:6-9)?**

#### Leader's Notes

The “evildoers... will be destroyed forever” (v7).

It is written in the Bible that evildoers will flourish and do well but eventually will be destroyed forever ([Revelation 21:8](#), [Matthew 25:46](#), [Ezekiel 11:21](#)).

*“Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honourable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.’ To the contrary, ‘if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.’ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” – Romans 12:17-21 (ESV)*

We are also told not to judge others or avenge ourselves, for only God is able to judge. Let us not be distracted by evildoers and their lives and forget what God has done for us. Or to be distracted to the point of discouragement (consumed with envy and doubts) and forgo walking with the Lord. Keep in mind that ultimately, our treasure is in heaven, which we will enjoy for eternity while the things of this earth pass away.

#### Closing

Let us keep our eyes on God and not look at others. Remain grateful for what He has done for you.

## 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**

- Pray for us to cultivate and maintain an attitude of thanksgiving to God.
- Pray for us to anchor our faith in the solid foundation of God.

### 2. **RiverLife**

- Pray for our church that as we have concluded the 21 days of prayer and fasting, we will determine to live in a new normal – one that follows after the example of Christ.

### 3. **World**

- Continue to pray for the Russia-Ukraine war and the avoidance of using nuclear weapons.
- Pray for Singapore as we approach the presidential election – that a Godly president will be elected.
- Pray for Hawaii as catastrophic wild fires are sweeping through the various islands.
- Continue to pray for Thailand as they elect a new Prime Minister.

### 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. **Restoring the Foundations: Hope, Healing & Freedom (6 Hours). Sat, 30 Sep. 9am to 4pm Grace Chapel. \$40 for RiverLifers only (inclusive of lunch and materials).** This seminar will teach about the biblical basis of RTF. You will learn to identify Hinderances and Beliefs that are holding you back. Begin to receive the Freedom to fulfil God's plans, purposes and calling for you. This Integrated Approach to Healing will enable you to receive Personal Restoration. Register by Mon, 25 Sep: [rlc.sg/riverlifertf](http://rlc.sg/riverlifertf). Enquiries: [mosessho@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:mosessho@riverlife.org.sg).

2. **Joining The Family. Sat, 30 Sep. 10am - 1pm. Faith Chapel.** Joining The Family is a two-hour session that will help you understand what it means to be a son and daughter of this house. Learn about God's heart for the Church and His call for us to identify with a local body of believers. If you have been baptised, and you are a regular worshipper of RiverLife and belong to a cell group, we invite you to take the next step towards becoming a RiverLife family member.

Registration at [rlc.sg/jointhefam](http://rlc.sg/jointhefam) (Closing Date: 24 Sep). Enquiries: [karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg).

3. **Water Baptism Class. Sat, 7 Oct. 9am – 3.30pm. Room 205 (Level 2).** Water baptism is a public declaration of a believer's union and new identity in Christ and an outward expression of our commitment in receiving Christ as our personal Lord and Saviour. If you desire to take the step of faith to be water-baptised, do join our baptism class to understand the significance and importance of baptism.

Registration: [rlc.sg/baptism-class](http://rlc.sg/baptism-class) (Closing Date: 1 Oct). Enquiries: [karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg).

### **Note:**

- Participants will have a one-hour lunch break at own expense.
- Our upcoming Water Baptism Service will be held on Sun, 12 Nov at 2pm.

4. **Marriage Preparation Course. 3, 10 & 17 Sep (3 sessions) Sundays, 11am to 3pm. \$50 per couple (Excludes US\$35 for PREPARE-ENRICH Assessment).** This course is for courting couples that are exploring marriage. This course helps to lay the foundation for a God-centred marriage. Registration: [rlc.sg/mpc](http://rlc.sg/mpc) (Closing Date: 27 August)

5. **Call for a Suitable Liver Donor.** Father of RiverLifer Beverly Lim is calling for suitable donors for his son, Ryan, who is in need of a liver transplant. Ryan was diagnosed with Autoimmune Hepatitis (AIH) that affected his liver and bile duct. On 22 May 2023, Ryan was brought in to see the doctor due to his bloated stomach and the doctor concluded that a liver transplant was needed for Ryan as his liver was failing. The donor needs to be of blood type A+ or O+, with no prior illness and someone with a healthy diet. Read more about their story in this salt and light article [here](#). Should anyone wish to enquire or volunteer, do contact Ryan's dad, Lim Cheng Kwan, directly at +65 9768 4748.

6. **Marriage Preparation Course.** For couples exploring marriage in the next two years. 3, 10 & 17 Sep. Sundays, 11am to 3pm. Sign up online by Sun, 27 Aug: [rlc.sg/mpc](http://rlc.sg/mpc). Fees: \$50 per couple (Excludes US\$35 for PREPARE-ENRICH)

7. **RiverLife Mission Trips.** Come serve with us on a Mission Trip this year-end!

- **Trip 3: 7-11 Dec (Thu-Mon) Christmas Celebrations with B'laan Tribe in Sarangani, Philippines** Registration closes on Fri, 1 Sep.
- Sign up for a trip at [rlc.sg/missions-go](http://rlc.sg/missions-go).

8. **Marriage Retreat.** We had a powerful time with 27 married couples in March as we piloted our first Marriage Retreat. It was a powerful time of learning, rejuvenation, healing and restoration for our couples. No couple left unimpacted. We would like to encourage married couples to join us at this retreat and experience God's hand on your marriage.
  - For more information, download the eBrochure here: [rlc.sg/mrBrochure](http://rlc.sg/mrBrochure)
  - Highlights from previous retreat: <https://youtu.be/csHrCtBsuWg>
  - Link to signup: [rlc.sg/mr](http://rlc.sg/mr)

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### 1. Church Calendar Highlights

- *Quarter 3*
  - 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. **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](http://rlc.sg/YAgathering-apr-reg).

### 3. RiverLife Prayer Meetings.

- *RiverLife Prayer Room.* Tue, 8-9.30pm, Victory Chapel.
- *RiverLife Revive Nights.* Wed, 8pm – 9.30pm, Victory Chapel (livestream: [rlc.sg/revivenights](http://rlc.sg/revivenights))

## 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/9m](http://rlc.sg/9m)
  - Provide Prayer Support: [rlc.sg/serve](http://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](http://rlc.sg/missions).
4. **RiverLife Cares Opportunities.** Signup: <http://rlc.sg/serve-rlcar>
5. **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](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)
- 2. 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.
- 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](http://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](mailto: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](https://t.me/RiverLifeChurch)
  - **Facebook & Instagram:** [@riverlifechurchsg](https://www.facebook.com/riverlifechurchsg)

## 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:

#### **PayNow**

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.

