

CELL MEETING GUIDE 4 MARCH TO 11 MARCH 2024

ENJOY FRIENDSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

Refer to the resources page for ice breaker suggestions!

EXALT GOD IN PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Refer to the "Worship" page for song list and guitar chords.

(Pray in tongues as a cell before worship)

EDIFY ONE ANOTHER THROUGH HIS WORD

Sermon Title: Remembering and restoring relationships

Sermon Date: 3 March 2024

Reference Text: Luke 15:11-31

Speaker: DSP Melvin Gan

SERMON RECAP

1. Remembering Important Relationships

- A. **Important relationships in our lives:** Kinships and friendships are relationships that are paid the most attention to in our life because they matter the most to us. Yet these relationships bring both joy and most pain to us.
- B. **Relationships are beneficial but can be painful (Ecc 4:8-12):** Good family relationships give us a sense of purpose (v8), good kinships are important support in low moments in life (v10), good kinships protect us (v12) YET there are also difficult relationships that we cause us pain

2. Restoring Difficult Relationships (Refer to sermon's reference text)

Pains in difficult relationships must be acknowledged responded to correctly. These relationships must also then be restored.

A. The Victim-Father

- i. Natural response: A rollercoaster of emotions such as pain of abandonment, hurt, betrayal, rejection by own son etc should not be belittled as these are natural responses.
- ii. His response: Eph 4:32 reminds us that we must model after Christ's compassion, kindness and mercy. Forgiveness sets us free and it is only through forgiveness that restoration can take place as seen in Prov 17:19 and Luke 15:22.

B. The Perpetrator-Younger son

- i. Natural response: A possible sea of emotions such as rejection, guilt, isolation by others.
- ii. His response: Luke 15:18 shows his steps towards restoration and admittance of his mistake. Verse 19 shows that he accepts consequences of his actions and was not expecting forgiveness/restoration. He was also prepared to make restitution and probably only hoped for mercy and forgiveness.

C. The Collateral Damage-Older son

- i. Natural response: Luke 15 verses 28 and 29 showed older son's anger and feelings of injustice
- ii. Father's response (Luke 15:31-32): Be thankful despite pains, that God has preserved him. To forgive and restore the younger brother and lastly be a peacemaker (Matt 5:9)

SHARING

1. Most of us enjoy strong bonded aka healthy family relationships and friendships. How did these healthy relationships give you a sense of purpose or what spurred you to continue to strengthen them?
2. Yet many of us experience painful relationships or may be in the midst of difficult relationships. How do you identify your pain through the eyes of the 3 characters from the sermon – the victim (father), the perpetrator (younger son) or the one reeling from collateral damage (older son)?
3. What tangible steps would you take to restore the painful/difficult relationships? Why are these steps important?

PRAYER

1. Relationships and friendships:

- i. Give thanks for healthy family relationships and friendships
- ii. For forgiveness and restoration to broken family relationships and friendships. (Take time to minister to cell members)

2. Lease renewal

- i. Favor for full lease tenure to the church
- ii. LSBC members to sow into the generations to come

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please refer to the [bulletin](#) for more announcements.