



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Celebrating Faith	SPEAKER	SP Chua Seng Lee
THEME	Celebration Series	DATE	20 & 21 September 2025

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Have you stood firm in your faith, only to be mocked by classmates or friends or taken advantaged of? Have you prayed earnestly, yet still faced spiritual attacks or setbacks? These experiences are not uncommon. We live in a fallen world where hardship does not differentiate between the righteous and the unrighteous. However, when we engage our faith, we position ourselves to see God's deliverance. Faith may not solve problems immediately, but it sustains us through until God's final deliverance comes.

CELEBRATING FAITH, EVEN IN TESTING

SP summarised Exodus 5-7, where God's people missed the opportunity to live out their faith and went through opposition until God sent His messenger.

1) Exodus 5: Collision precedes impact - warfare

Moses and Aaron approached Pharaoh with God's command: "Let my people go, so that they may celebrate a feast to Me in the wilderness." However, Pharaoh rejected their request and retaliated. He stopped providing straw for brick-making, forcing the Israelites to gather their own to meet the daily quota. When they failed, they were beaten, and the foremen blamed Moses and Aaron for their suffering. Discouraged, Moses cried out to God, questioning why harm had come upon His people.

2) Exodus 6: God's covenant was renewed - the Word affirms impact

God reaffirmed His covenant. He revealed Himself again as Yahweh, the covenant-keeping God, and promised to deliver His people. He reminded them of His promise to give the land to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Yet, the Israelites were too disheartened to listen. When Moses doubted his ability to speak, God reassured the calling of Moses and Aaron by recording their genealogy, affirming their authority and lineage. He recommissioned them to stand before Pharaoh and lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

3) Exodus 7: The showdown begins - Christ (the Spirit) empowers impact

God encouraged Moses, "I have made you as God to Pharaoh" and appointed Aaron as Moses' spokesman to address his fears. The first sign was performed - Aaron's staff became a serpent and

swallowed the staff of Pharaoh's magicians. Though the magicians imitated the miracle, they could not overcome God's power. Even as Pharaoh's heart remained hard, God's sovereignty was at work.

SP shared four key learnings from Exodus 5-7.

a) Persevering in Faith - obedience does not guarantee immediate deliverance

Israel's freedom did not happen overnight. It took ten plagues (about twelve months) before they saw God's deliverance. Often, God uses seasons of waiting to work on our inner lives and deepen our faith. We need to persevere in faith, trust in His timing and continue to obey to see deliverance.

b) Pausing in Faith - God is with us as He fulfils His will in us

God was with Moses through every challenge. Faith invites us to quiet our hearts from distractions, anxieties and busyness, so we can hear God's voice. God promises never to leave or forsake us, even when we cannot yet see His hand at work.

c) Power of Faith - His power is greater than the powers of the world

Aaron's staff swallowing the magicians' staff shows God's power prevails. Faith allows us to experience His power and rely on His power in the face of opposition.

d) Person of our Faith - Who is the Lord? Why not Lord?

Pharaoh asked, "Who is the Lord?" Our faith grows as we know and return to the Person of our faith - the Lord, and anchor our trust in His character and promises. He will see us through to the end.

CONCLUSION

Exodus 5-7 presents different responses to God's call, each revealing a posture of faith that challenges us to examine our own hearts. Who are you in this story?

Like Moses, do you feel hesitant, overwhelmed or unqualified?

God will help you, keep pressing on in doing His will, **persevere in faith** and trust God, even when it is hard.

Like Aaron, are you gifted and called to support your leader?

Pause in faith to listen to God's direction, avail yourselves to serve, strengthen your leaders, and do not defile the worship of God.

Like the Sons of Israel, do you focus on what you can see - the pain, the burdens and the challenges? God invites you to see the spiritual reality beyond the visible circumstances. Fix your eyes on the unseen instead of the seen (2 Cor 4:16-18; Eph 6:12). Exercise the **power of faith** and trust that God is working.

Or like Pharaoh, are you hard-hearted and resistant to God's call?

It is time to know the **Person of our faith**, believe in Him, yield to Him and see beyond the physical world. Let God's power transform your heart and life.

QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever tried to live faithfully but felt taken advantage of, mocked or faced spiritual attacks? How did you respond, and what did you learn about your faith through that experience?

2. Which character do you identify with most - Moses, Aaron, the Israelites, or Pharaoh, and why? What does that reveal about your current faith posture?

3. The sermon highlighted four key learnings - persevering in faith, pausing in faith, power of faith and the person of our faith. Which lesson feels most relevant to you right now? What are some steps you can take to grow in your faith and walk with God?