



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	It All Starts With the Good News	SPEAKER	DSP Low Kok Guan
THEME	A Disciple-Making Church	DATE	15 & 16 Aug 2026

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

There is a 400-year period of silence from God to Israel after the last book of the Old Testament (Malachi). Then Jesus came, bringing us the Good News through the first four books of the New Testament - Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John - called the Gospels.

These four books present to us who Jesus is, what He said, and what He did, through four different Gospel accounts. Why four? They present Jesus from four different angles, giving us a deeper understanding of who He is. Scholars have often linked the four Gospels with the picture Ezekiel describes in Ezekiel 1:10, where he sees four faces—lion, ox, human, and eagle. This is one interpretation of the text that will be used today to help us better understand who Jesus is. DSP Low brings us through these four angles.

The Good News

1) Matthew - Welcome Jesus as King

Jesus is often associated with the lion, symbolising kingship. Matthew presents Jesus as King, beginning with His genealogy and birth. Matthew structures the genealogy of Jesus in three sets of 14: from Abraham to David, from David to the exile to Babylon, and from the exile to Jesus. This structure emphasises that Jesus is the fulfilment of God's promise that a King would arise from the line of David.

Matthew then chronicles Jesus' arrival and reception, His rejection, and His eventual triumph. In Matthew 27:29, Jesus is mockingly acknowledged as the King of the Jews, with a crown of thorns, a staff, and ridicule.

We acknowledge Jesus as the King of our lives by trusting and obeying Him in every area of our lives, knowing that He loves us and died for us.

2) Mark - Work like Jesus

Mark emphasises service and sacrifice for others, symbolised by the ox. Jesus is presented as a servant. He did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45). This theme is also reflected in earlier prophecies about Jesus, such as Isaiah 42:1-9, 49:1-6, 50:4-11, and 52:13-53:12.

If we want to be like Jesus, we are called to serve others, just as He did. We can reflect Jesus in our schools and workplaces by interacting with others with love, upholding truth and righteousness, and supporting those around us. We can serve others in our communities and respond to what God is calling us to do.

3) Luke - Witness For Jesus

Luke emphasises Jesus' mission to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10), including Zacchaeus, the unpopular and dishonest chief tax collector of his time. Jesus redeems even those whom we might consider completely lost. He seeks and saves them, just as He did us, and it is our part to share this Good News with them. We must understand the importance and urgency of the task we have been given, especially when 80% of Singapore's population* does not know God. As Carl F. H. Henry says, "The gospel is only good news if it gets there on time."

**referencing the Department of Statistics Singapore study on Protestants in Singapore by Age Group, 2025*

4) John - Worship Jesus

John was written to help us believe that Jesus is the Messiah, and that by believing, we may have life in His name (John 20:31). The Good News of the Messiah is a starting point, but it also calls us into a life of worship. We are to worship God in Spirit and in truth (John 4:23).

The background to this statement lies in 1 Kings 11:31-32 and 12:28-30. God had designated Jerusalem as the place of worship. For political reasons, King Jeroboam established alternative places of worship at Dan and Bethel, which contributed to the people turning away from God. Hence, in John 4:20, the Samaritan woman expressed confusion about where to worship God. Jesus shifted the focus from a physical place to the manner of worship, declaring that we should worship God in Spirit and in truth.

The ultimate goal of the church is not simply works and missions—it is worship and our posture towards God. We are here to be and to make disciples of Jesus, to become more like Him. Let us live to please Him in everything that we do. Let us live for an audience of One.

CONCLUSION

The Good News gives us a full portrait of Jesus—Matthew invites us to welcome Him as King, Mark calls us to work like Him, Luke sends us to witness for Him, and John draws us into worship of Him. Together the four Gospels equip us to build the church that Jesus wants so let this whole vision deepen your discipleship. Let us live to please God, through **welcoming** Jesus, **serving** like Him, **witnessing** for Him, and **worshipping** Him.

QUESTIONS

1. The Good News shows Jesus as King (Matthew), Servant (Mark), Savior (Luke), and the Lord we worship (John). Which aspect of Jesus speaks most to your life right now and why is it meaningful for you?

2. If you only focused on one Gospel emphasis (King, Servant, Savior, Worship), which aspect of Jesus might you miss, and how does seeing all four help you grow in faith?

3. Consider the four calls to action (Welcome, Work, Witness, Worship). Which area is God challenging you to step up in the future? What is one practical change you can make?