



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC The Power of the Gospel

SPEAKER

SP Chua Seng Lee

THEME Romans: The Righteousness of God

DATE

5 & 6 September 2026

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In Romans 1:16–17, Paul declares: “I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith as it is written “But the righteous one will live by faith.” These verses capture two central truths: the Gospel is the power of God for salvation, and the Gospel reveals God’s righteousness through faith.

SP shared four reasons why people, both in Paul’s time and today, might be ashamed of the Gospel: To some, the Gospel can appear incredulous, irrelevant, insignificant, or insulting. Yet Paul knew the Gospel was nothing to be ashamed of. The Gospel is not merely a concept or teaching, it is the power of God that transforms lives and brings salvation.

LIVING IN THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL

1) The Power of God for Salvation

Paul lived in a world that trusted in different forms of power: the might of the Romans, the wisdom of the Greeks, and the legalism of the Jews. Yet none of these could make man right with God. Only the Gospel has the power to save.

The Gospel is powerful because salvation is available “to everyone who believes.” It does not depend on our wealth, status, background, or ability to behave perfectly. Scripture does not say salvation is for everyone who behaves, because none of us can live up to that standard. God’s condition for salvation is to believe.

The transformative power of the Gospel is evident in changed lives. Paul himself had been a persecutor of the Church, yet after encountering Jesus, he became a bond-servant of Christ, called and set apart for the Gospel. Throughout history, the word of God has similarly transformed lives, including Augustine, Martin Luther, and John Wesley. SP also shared several testimonies of how the same power continues to transform lives today.

2) The Righteousness of God Through Faith

Romans 1:17 tells us that in the Gospel, “the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith” and that “the righteous man shall live by faith.” Other translations render “from faith to faith” as “from first to last” or “from start to finish.” In other words, God reveals His power throughout our lives, not

as a once off. Through faith in the Gospel, we are able to access and experience that power.

SP challenged the church with this question: “When was the last time you lived by faith?” Living by faith means believing that there is more of God that He wants us to experience and refusing to let our past limit what God wants to do in and through us. It means being willing to step into things we have never done before and trusting God as we do so. As SP shared “If you’re not involved in anything that stretches your faith, you are probably not doing what God wants for you.”

SP illustrated this through different levels of faith: his own personal experiences of trusting God; the Chinese Department and Bethesda Care Services taking a step of faith to engage seniors in the community; and, finally, the whole church being challenged to step out together and “bring the church” into the community through the upcoming Christmas Carnival. The church is not the building, but the people of God.

CONCLUSION

The Gospel is the power of God for salvation, and through faith in the Gospel, we are made right with God. But faith is not merely how our Christian journey begins. The righteous shall live by faith. From start to finish, God calls us to keep believing, keep trusting, and keep stepping out in faith.

QUESTIONS

1. What does the Gospel mean to you personally? Have there been times when you have felt hesitant or even ashamed to share or stand for the Gospel? Why?

2. SP reminded us that the power of God is “not just a once-off” and that we are called to live by faith “from start to finish”. When was the last time you had to live by faith? How did you experience God through it?

3. “If you’re not involved in anything that stretches your faith, you are probably not doing what God wants for you.” What is one step of faith you sense God may be inviting you to take today? What might help you take that step?