



GOOD SHEPHERD GOSPEL CHURCH
நல்ல மேய்ப்பன் சுவிசேஷ சபை
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

LIVING TO SERVE

JANUARY 2025

Key Dates

- **Sunday Service**
(Bilingual Tamil & English)
10.00 am to 12.30 PM
- **Holy Communion follows**
The 1st Sunday Service
- **Fasting prayer**
1st Saturday of the month
@ 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM
- **Bible study**
Every Thursday
@ 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM
- **Youth Meeting**
Every Monday @ 6 AM
2nd Saturday of the month
@ 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- **Men's Meeting**
Last Wednesday of every month
- **Ladies Meeting**
2nd Friday of the month
@ 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- **UK nation prayer**
2nd Wednesday of the month
@ 8:30 PM - 9:15 PM
- **Kids class**
Every Friday @ 4:30 PM
- **Family prayer**
Every Friday @ 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
- **Leaders prayer meeting**
Every Friday @ 5.30 AM - 6.15 AM



Time to Celebrate

Birthdays

01st Jan – Miss. Lydia
02nd Jan – Sis. Banu Rajan Robert
02nd Jan – Bro. Indran
06th Jan – Sis. Pramya Harypraveen
10th Jan – Bro. Samraj
13th Jan – Sis. Sandhya Issac
16th Jan – Miss. Deborah Sajeetha Arumanayagam
24th Jan – Miss. Evangeline Hannah
27th Jan – Bro. Vaanan
29th Jan – Master. Josiah Darren Arumanayagam

Anniversaries

06th Jan – Bro. Harypraveen & Sis. Pramya
19th Jan – Bro. Gandhi & Sis. Geetha
25th Jan – Bro. Jose Solomon & Sis. Benedicta



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From the Pastor's Desk

THE GLORY SHALL BE GREATER THAN THE FORMER

Wishing you all a blessed and joyous New Year 2025!

As we step into this new year, let us meditate on the promise from Haggai 2:9: "The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former," says the Lord of Hosts. 'And in this place, I will give peace,' says the Lord of Hosts."

Reflecting on the journey through 2024, we acknowledge the trials and tribulations we faced. Yet, by God's abundant grace and mercy, we have been brought into 2025. This year, we stand on the promise that the glory of God in our lives will surpass all we have experienced before.

In Haggai 2:7, the Lord declares, "I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations." This prophecy is a divine assurance that God Himself desires to fill His temple with His glory. His purpose is singular: to make His dwelling place glorious.

The Hebrew word for "glory," Ka-Bod, signifies great purpose, governing power, and radiant light. Jewish rabbis associate this glory with Shekinah, the divine presence of God. In Haggai 2:8, God affirms, "The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine." He owns all resources necessary to magnify His glory in and through us.

Furthermore, God promises to establish peace in His dwelling place, the temple of His glory. Today, we are that temple—living tabernacles of God's presence, as declared in 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

Last year, God rooted us in His Word, preparing us for a greater manifestation of His glory. This year, we are called to spring forth and bear fruit as His glory increases in our lives.

Let us draw inspiration from the Word of God:

In Psalms 148:12-13, all creation is urged to praise Him, for His glory is exalted above the earth and the heavens.


In Psalms 145:3, we are reminded that God's greatness is unsearchable, and He is worthy of all praise. As God led Israel through the wilderness with His glorious presence in the pillar of cloud and fire, He continues to lead us today. Just as He instructed Moses to build a tabernacle for His glory, He has chosen us to be His dwelling place.

To experience this greater glory in 2025, let us reflect on three key principles from Scripture that will guide us.

The Latter State of Order with Greater Glory:

Ezekiel 36:10-11 highlights the importance of divine order in life. While our lives may sometimes be chaotic or without direction, God reassures us that He has rooted us to bring us into the right order. This process involves restoration, where God replenishes areas of lack with His fullness. Above all, He establishes us as His people, guiding us to live orderly lives that reflect His glory. In Ezekiel, God promises to increase us and make us fruitful, emphasizing that He Himself will bring divine order to our personal lives and the church.

In Acts 3:1-11, we read about a man who was lame from birth, carried daily to the temple gate to beg. Though he was near the place of worship, he never entered. His condition symbolized a life of shamefulness and stranded, lacking the ability to stand on his own. Despite sitting at the "Beautiful Gate," his life was anything but splendid-less state. When Peter and John encountered him, he asked for money, but they had something greater to offer.



Peter and John told the man to look at them, not to receive material wealth but to prepare him for a divine transformation. They declared, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk," and helped him to his feet. The man's life changed instantly. No longer bound by his former state, he stood, walked, leaped, and entered the temple, praising God.

God's message for us today is clear: He is transforming our shameful states into glorious ones. Our lives may have been influenced by disorder or the plans of others, but God has rooted us for His divine purpose. Just as the lame man was lifted by Peter and John, God is lifting us into a new season of leaping with praise and walking in His glory.

Philippians 2:9-11 reminds us that there is no name greater than the name of Jesus. The lame man's transformation amazed those around him, drawing them to witness the power of God. This teaches us that God's work in our lives is not only for us but also to glorify Him and lead others to worship Him.

God changes our shame into astonishment, our splendid-less state into spectacular state, and our stranded state into amazing state. When we live in divine order, people will see His work in us and be drawn to Him. Zechariah 3:8-9 refers to God as the "Branch," symbolizing life and fruitfulness. Even if our lives feel barren, God promises to make us flourish. Isaiah 11:1 and 4:2 further affirm that He knows the right time and way to bring growth and prosperity into our lives.

Let us hold fast to His mighty name and live as His representatives. When we walk in divine order, our latter state will be filled with glory, and others will be amazed at what God has done in our lives.

Latter Joy with greater glory:

In John 2:10, we read, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." The wine mentioned here symbolizes joy. Perhaps the joy you've experienced up until now was the result of your own efforts, your talent, or your hard work. However, such joy can sometimes lead to a sense of emptiness. In this passage, we see a wedding feast where the best wine had already been served, but when the next batch was brought out, it was even better. Jesus and His disciples had been invited to the celebration. In Jewish culture, weddings are a time of great honour and joy. During the event, however, the wine began to run out—a serious concern for the hosts, as it could impact their reputation. At this moment, Mary, Jesus' mother, instructed the servants to do whatever Jesus told them (John 2:5), a lesson she learned through her own experiences of trusting God's word.

Mary had believed in God's word when the angel announced that she would conceive by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35-38). Despite the potential shame and difficulties, she trusted God, saying, "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said." Her faith allowed her to bear Jesus, the Son of God, and her unwavering trust in God's plan is a powerful example for us. When we trust and accept God's instructions even without fully understanding we open ourselves to His divine supply.

For divine order to prevail in our lives, we need Jesus and His word. As it's written, we don't live by bread alone but by every word that comes from God (Matthew 4:4). When our lives seem empty or lacking, God's divine supply can fill the gap. Just as Jesus asked the servants to fill the jars with water, we too must fill ourselves with God's word, which is the true source of life. The servants didn't just fill the jars; they filled them to the brim, showing their faith. When we fill our hearts with God's word, His miracles can manifest in our lives.

This is the source of true joy—Jesus' intervention at the wedding turned the water into the finest wine, filling the feast with joy. Similarly, when our lives seem to lack what is needed, God provides in ways that we cannot foresee, often through His word. As we live in faith, we can experience the overflow of God's blessings.

In this new year, let us address God individually, asking Him to fill the areas where we are lacking and bring order to our lives. Jesus will provide the right words at the right time, and His divine supply will continue to overflow. When we act in faith, as the servants did at the wedding, miracles will happen.

Looking back to Haggai 2, we see the people of Israel working to rebuild the temple after years of delay. Despite the challenges, God spoke through the prophet Haggai, encouraging the leaders to be strong and continue the work. God promised to fill the temple with His glory, even though the current temple seemed insignificant compared to the former one. The glory of the later temple would surpass the former, for it would house the Son of God. Today, we are the temple of God. If you feel stuck or unable to build what's needed in your life, trust that God will guide you and provide for you. Let us wait for His word to work in our lives.

As Philippians 4:19 assures us, "God will meet all our needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus." The key to receiving God's supply is to take in His word and walk according to it. Whatever you lack today, bring it before God, and He will supply everything you need through His divine word.

Latter days shall be greater:

In Job 42:10, we see that after Job prayed for his friends, God restored his prosperity, doubling what he had before. Verse 12 tells us that the Lord blessed Job's later years more than the earlier ones, showing us that our future can be brighter than our past. We may currently face trials and tribulations, just as Job did. Yet, in Job 23:10, he declares that God knows the path he takes, and when tested, he will come forth as gold. Likewise, through God's testing today, we can have a vision of better days ahead. Job knew that even in testing, God was refining him to shine like gold for all to see. While Job questioned God about his wrongs, he ultimately surrendered to His will.

Whose latter days will be greater? It's not those who blame their circumstances but those who surrender fully to God. When we submit our lives to God, He blesses us with a double portion in our latter years. Job recognized that God's grace guided his life and that no one could thwart His plans. Job never questioned God's will, displaying true submission. Today, we are also called to submit ourselves to God, despite the trials we've faced. Even when others have wronged us, we must pray for them, just as Job did for his friends. Although his friends criticized him, Job still prayed for them, and in doing so, his suffering came to an end. We are free to move forward when God's glory fills us.

Conclusion:

Our God is declaring that He is about to change our situations. In His divine name, He will shift His divine order and provide divine supplies in our lives. Even in captivity, God will bring deliverance. As people inquire about our families, they will see that we lack nothing, for God is bringing peace into our homes. He will reign over us as both King and Priest, filling our lives with peace. A king rules, while a priest intercedes for his people. Today, God is sorting things out for us and blessing us.

As Ephesians 3:20-21 reminds us, God is able to do far more than we can ask or imagine, according to His power within us. Just as the lame man at the gate was expecting little, but God changed his life, or the host at the Canaanite wedding who feared running out of wine, only to see Jesus turn water into the finest wine, God can transform our situations in ways we never imagined. Job, who once thought that death would be better than his suffering, was blessed with double in his later years. Today, God desires to do the same for us.

Let God's divine order be established, His divine supply be poured out, and His divine deliverance come to our lives. Isaiah 60:7 tells us that people we don't know will come to us; we won't have to seek them out, for God Himself will bring them to us. This is because He has come to do His will. We are His temple, and He desires to fill and build it, giving us His word to flourish. God Himself will glorify His temple and fill it with glory.

Therefore, let us focus on these key points: Divine order through the name of Jesus, divine supply through His word, and divine deliverance through prayer. Holding onto these promises, God will make us bearers of His great glory.

Amen

Pastor Rajan Robert



DID YOU KNOW?? SOME FACTS ABOUT BIBLE

- The Bible is made up of **66 different books** that were written over 1,600 years (*from approximately 1500 B.C. to A.D. 100*) by more than 40 kings, prophets, leaders, and followers of Jesus.
- The Old Testament was written mainly in **Hebrew**, with some **Aramaic**. The New Testament was written in **Greek**. Chapters and verses were added in the 1200s CE.
- The Bible was the **first book ever printed on a printing press** with movable type (*Gutenberg Press, 1455, Latin Bible*).
- The Bible is **the world's best-selling book** of all time and the best-selling book of the year, every year! Fifty Bibles are sold every minute. It's never shown on the best-seller lists because it dwarfs the sales of all other books.
- **As the Bible was carried to other countries, it was translated into the common language of the people by scholars who wanted others to know God's Word.** Today there are still 2,000 groups with no Bible in their own language.
- **It's *The Most Shoplifted Book Ever*:** Clearly the Eighth Commandment is never considered when it comes to stealing the Bible. From books shops to hotels and places of worship where it's available for free, the Bible is the most commonly stolen book.



What happened?

Cherished moments from our Church carol service

“Glory to God for the Blessings of Our Church Carol service”

We give thanks to the Lord for all who participated in the stage performances, using their talents to glorify HIS name and edify our spiritual growth. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to those who worked faithfully behind the scenes, embodying the spirit of service for HIS kingdom. We also warmly welcome those who joined us for the first time; may God continue to unite us in HIS love and grace as we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

New Church building update

We would like to inform you all that, due to some delays in paperwork, we were unable to hold the New Year service in our New Church building. However, as it says in Proverbs 16:9 “In their hearts, humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps”. We trust in God’s perfect timing and will continue to have our Church services at our current location for now. We will update you through our WhatsApp group if by God’s grace we are able to move into the new Church building before the end of January.

18 years of our journey

We have now entered over 18 years of our journey in the GSGC ministries. I am reminded of Psalms 48:14: “For this is God, our God forever and ever; He will be our guide even to death.”

I thank God the Father with a heart full of gratitude, in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, for His mercy in granting us this ministry, His grace in giving His promises, His faithfulness in fulfilling them, His abundance in providing all our needs, and His help in guiding and protecting us.

without your support, understanding, and guidance, we wouldn’t have come this far in our ministry may God bless you all.

Amen

Prayer Request

Taking other's hands and praying for them is a powerful blessing you can give another person. We are here to support you through prayers.

Send your prayer requests by SMS or call
07916123274 / 07871872086



BIG THANK YOU FOR ALL LENDING HANDS!!

We are grateful for our food ministry volunteers and their families who prepared and served food after the Sunday service.

Call for Donors/ Volunteers

WE SEEK YOUR SUPPORT IN RAISING FUNDS FOR THE CHURCH BUILDING. LET US BE ENCOURAGED TO GIVE GENEROUSLY ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 9:7-8

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work”.

Please contact Pastor Rajan Robert for further details about the donation at 07916123274.

