

## **LG Questions: "The Gospel for All of Life"** – Sunder Krishnan

**Connecting Q:** How are you responding to the increased restrictions?

Sunder taught there is a broader aspect of the Gospel that we often miss. Read **2 Corinthians 4:3-6**. Q: What does the Apostle Paul say is the Gospel?

Read **John 17:5, 24** — the other Lord's Prayer, which Jesus prayed with the cross less than 1 week away. Q: What is a major preoccupation — at the beginning and the ending — of Jesus' prayer?

Sunder taught that The Gospel is about the glory of Jesus. Read **1 Corinthians 10:31**. Q: How is Christ's glory connected to all of life?

Sunder taught us that it is absolutely crucial that we understand what glory is (since it links life and Gospel).

O: Do you recall Sunder's "working definition" of glory? The short version was "whatever makes us go \_\_\_\_!!"

- Q: What are some examples of glory in life that make you go "wow!"? (e.g. radiance, abilities, power, etc.)
- O: What are some things about Jesus that make you go "Wow!!"?

If the Gospel and life are connected by the glory of Christ, how does this show that the Gospel is relevant not only to explorers of Christianity, but also long time believers?

- Q: How does the glory of Jesus motivate all areas of our life?
- Q: How does the glory of Jesus motivate all of our spiritual practices? e.g. Bible study? prayer? listening prayer giving? worship singing? serving? witnessing? solitude & silence? fasting?

In His first miracle, Jesus gives a sign that reveals He is the ultimate joy-giver who came to give us His joy. Read **John 2:1-11**. In **John 2:4**, Jesus responds, "...My hour has not yet come." Q: What did he mean by this? Sunder said, "Jesus knew something that Mary did not understand: that in order for Jesus to fully be our joy-giver, He would have to suffer. Inherent in that 1st sign of Jesus being our joy giver, was the glory of Jesus' suffering."

Sunder referred to **Revelation 5:5-6**, where John wept b/c no one was worthy to break the seals holding back the purposes of God in this world. He was told to weep no longer b/c Jesus was worthy. John was told to look (behold), see the victorious "Lion of Judah" in the midst of the throne. John turned expecting to behold the Lion, but saw instead a Lamb, as though it had been slain. This is a double-edged glory of power and weakness, "Lion glory" & "Lamb glory". Both represent the fullness of the Gospel.

When the Kingdom breaks in to our world, we can expect to experience both "Lamb glory" and "Lion glory".

- Q: Have you had experiences where you have encountered both?
- Q: How did Lion revelation help with Lamb experience?

Sunder revealed his authentic vulnerability in the story of his despair, feeling that his ministry was irrelevant to the needs of the world. While at Church in India, he had an encounter with glory thru a message from **John 2**:

- (i) Jesus occupied centre stage, but He made the servants fo the work
  - (we are partners with Him in His work in this world)
- (ii) Jesus had them fit the pots with water but the need was for wine
  - ("does your work seem irrelevant to the need?")
- (iii) Only Jesus can turn water into wine, but without water there would have been no wine (your work matters, even if it seems completely irrelevant)
- (iv) Jesus provided the best wine at the end of the wedding celebration

(the devil gives the best up front and its downhill after that: Jesus saves the best for last) Sunder was revitalized in his ministry for 32 yrs, motivated by the glory of Jesus. He said, "the answer to my problems at home were found in an encounter with glory 8,000 miles away"

Q: Which of these four points connects with you these days? How are you encouraged by this?

## **How to Pray for Ourselves and Others?**

- **1. We pray for a revelation of Christ's glory** a demonstration of His glory "show me Your glory"
  - e.g. Moses
  - (i) "Teach us Your ways so we can do Your work in Your ways"
  - (ii) "Let Your presence go with us" an authentication that You are different from all other gods ("victory in Canaan without a unique authentication is no better than slavery in Egypt")
  - (iii) "Show me Your glory" (with no prompting, something within him longed for God's glory)
- 2. We pray for enough "Lion glory" (power) to sustain us thru the "Lamb glory" (suffering)
  - e.g. Moses saw enough Lion glory in the burning bush to sustain him in the Lamb glory of the wilderness
  - e.g. <u>Stephen</u> dragged before the Sanhedrin, and his face was like that of an angel; when being stoned saw a vision of the heavens opened and he saw the glory of God and Jesus at the R-hand of God. (Acts 7)
  - e.g <u>Jesus</u> at the Mount of Transfiguration received God's affirming presence (Lion glory) to help Him endure the cross (Lamb glory)

Pray for those who are struggling to receive abundant revelation of Jesus's glory (Lion glory) that will sustain them in their experience of suffering (Lamb glory)