

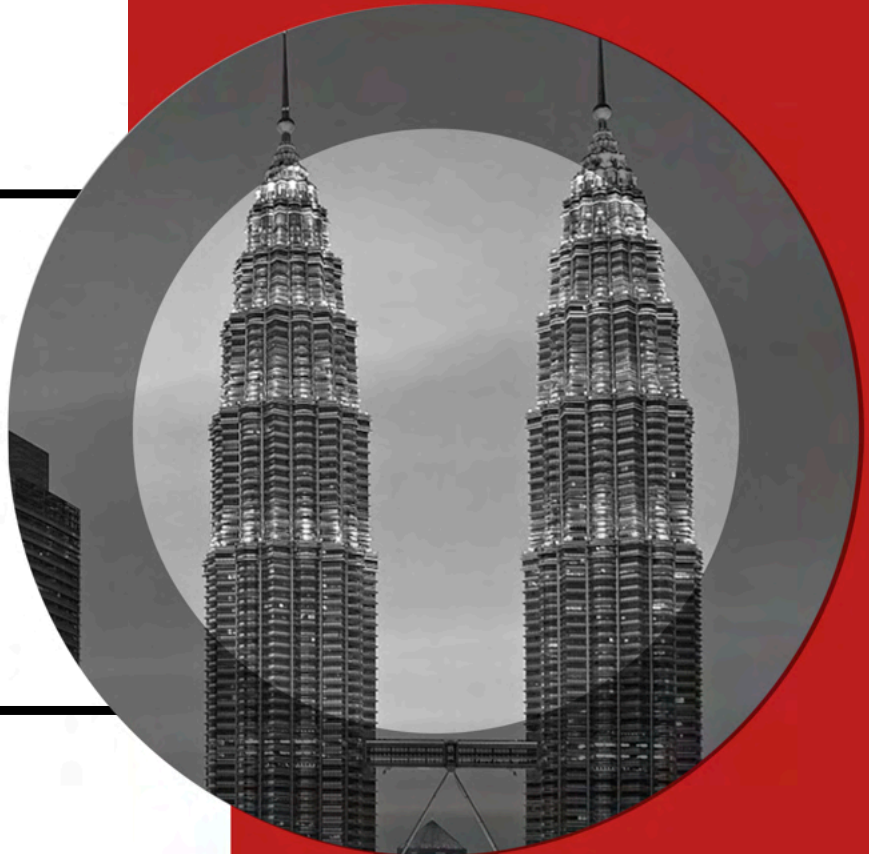
# WHEEL

ECCM

29 | 11 | 2024 FRIDAY

So I went  
down to the  
potter's  
house, and  
there he was  
working at  
his wheel.

— Jer 18:3



## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 2024

5 Dec, 2024

## HEDGE OF THORNS PRAYER

Rev. Eu Hong Seng

## FINISHING WELL IN LIFE & MINISTRY

Pr. Tay Wah Seng

## A MEMORABLE RETREAT IN MALACCA

SHEPHERDING THE LAST DAY CHURCH

- Pr. Justin Segar

EVANGELICAL  
CHARISMATIC  
CHURCHES  
MALAYSIA  
(ECC Msia)





# Christmas *Luncheon*

Let us come together for a heartwarming  
fellowship this Christmas season.

5 Dec, 2024  
9.30am to 1.00pm



Rev. Dr. Eu Hong Seng



Rev. David Ramayah

[Click Here To Register](#)

For registration or further information, please contact:  
Cindy Wong: 010-210 6011 [eccmsia@gmail.com](mailto:eccmsia@gmail.com)

Address: 5 Jalan TP4, Taman Perindustrian UEP, 47620 Subang Jaya, Selangor

# HEDGE OF THORNS

## Prayer



**Rev. Eu Hong Seng**  
ECCM, Chairman.

God called Hosea to marry Gomer who would be unfaithful to him. Hosea, (whose name means **"salvation"**) was from the northern kingdom of Israel and preached to the north, his homeland. His wife mirrored the people of God, Israel. Gomer's unfaithfulness is an allegory of Israel's spiritual infidelity.

When Gomer (Israel) forsook her husband and prostituted herself, she was the pursuer. Similarly, many in church are no "accidental victims" of sin.

There are many believers who are living lives of compromise and are disobeying the Lord or who have turned their back on God and embraced many **"false lovers."**

Like members of the five churches (in

the book of Revelation), we have chosen to leave the groom's side and strayed into idolatrous and loose living.

For this reason, the prophetic proclamation of God (recorded in Hosea 2:6) rings true today – **"I will hedge up your way with thorns, And wall her in, So that she cannot find her paths."** NKJV

The Scriptures record for us three types of hedges.

### **Firstly, the Hedge of Restoration (Ezekiel 22:30 KJV)**

**"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none."**

The hedge here is the city wall that protects the city from imminent invasion, allowed by God because of the backslidden ways of Judah.

With God's impending wrath about to be poured out, there was no one who would intercede on behalf of the city and seek God's mercy.

Today, we need intercessors to stand in the gap in the hedge to plead for God's mercy on behalf of the people and the nation.

### **Secondly, there is the Hedge of Protection (Job 1:10)**

**"10 Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land."**

We also see that Job habitually prayed a hedge of protection around his family (Job 1:4-5). Consequently, the devil could not touch him nor his household.

This hedge of protection is a supernatural shield, a barrier - it is invisible, placed around someone you have prayed for, for God's protection to be upon them.

As we witness an increasing number of leaders falling, I wonder if it is because the Church has failed to pray for a hedge around them.

### **Lastly, the hedge of correction or Hedge of Thorns (Hosea 2:6-7).**

When Gomer (Israel) began pursuing her **"lovers"**, God intervened in a most unusual way. He built a hedge of thorns around his unfaithful wife (Hosea 2:5-7).

A hedge of thorns is something that stands in the way of a child of God who is heading further and deeper into sin.

It can be a disappointment, or failure that God places in the path of a Christian who is heading in a wrong direction, an affliction, obstacle - pointing the person back to God.

Once Gomer (Israel) is blocked from her lovers, she then says, **"I will go and return to my first husband, for then it was better for me than now"** (Hosea 2:7).

The present day Church needs this hedge as too many do not realise we have fallen short, nor do they realise what they have lost - and have no desire to return.

When we have a wayward member, spouse, child or grandchild who has tasted the good life in Christ and then chooses to pursue the ways of the world, then we can pray for God to do to them what He did to Gomer.

The thorns aren't only on the inside of the hedge! God desires to protect us not only from our own selves, but from the evil and temptations that seek to get at us from without.

Let's not forget our youth need to be hedged in so that they will make God's will a priority. Many are hooked onto pornography. Young Adults are preoccupied with career first, materialism and worldliness.

The seniors, too, even in church, are less passionate about church, enjoying the comfort of life with more zeal than for the affairs of God. Too few have any sense of destiny.

There is evil all around us. Sadly, it is easier for the devil to have a foothold in our lives, when our hearts are lifted up and we have forgotten the LORD our God (Deut 8:14).

God's hedge of thorns is there to define and direct our path, to give us guidance. To bring us back.

Thankfully, Gomer and many like her, including the prodigal son, came to their senses, because of the prayers of His saints. We cannot afford not to pray for the Malaysian Church to return. The final shaking is looming on the horizon. May we take advantage of this season of grace, and return to God's paths.

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by Rev. Eu Hong Seng



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# FINISHING WELL IN **LIFE & MINISTRY**



**Pr. Tay Wah Seng**  
Vineyard Church Johor Baharu

Finishing well in life and ministry is particularly important for leaders, pastors, and those in ministry. Only one in three people mentioned in the Bible finished well.

In Christian ministry, finishing well is highlighted throughout Scripture, with leaders like Paul the Apostle, who urged Timothy to **“fight the good fight, finish the race, and keep the faith”** (2 Timothy 4:7).

It involves integrity, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to God’s purpose for our lives.

To finish well means to avoid burnout, moral failure, or distractions that can derail an entire life’s work.

We need to be faithful and stay committed to God’s call through the highs and lows.

We must continuously grow in wisdom, humility, and Christ-likeness.

We need to know the importance of maintaining healthy, God-honouring relationships with family, friends, and the church.

We must be intentional in promoting spiritual health, perseverance, and a long-term vision.

## Some practical steps to consider are:

### *Spiritual Discipline*

A regular and disciplined practice of prayer helps maintain perspective and keep one rooted in God's strength.

The Bible provides continuous guidance and refreshment, grounding leaders in truth and keeping them on course. We must not just read the Bible to prepare a sermon but read daily to feed our souls.

### *02. Importance of Relationships*

Invest in close relationships, especially with family, as they provide support and accountability.

We need people who can lift us up when we are down or minister to us. It is difficult to find close friends in ministry. Therefore, we must make time to build lifelong and meaningful friendships with both people who can mentor us and people that we will mentor.

ECCM or the local pastors fellowships provide a platform for forming accountability relationships to stay on course.

Regular fellowship within a spiritual community keeps leaders grounded, encouraged, and connected to others. daily to feed our souls.

### *03. Taking Care of our Health*

Ministry leaders often face burnout due to overcommitment, so taking time for rest is essential.

Regular exercise, a balanced diet, and adequate sleep help ensure that one

has the physical energy to finish strong.

Emotional and mental well-being are equally important. It is emotionally and mentally draining to listen to people's problems. Therefore, we need to find ways and take time to recharge.

### *04. Lifelong Learning*

Stay engaged in learning through reading. Beyond reading Christian materials, we also need to read widely to stay relevant to the people in the pews. We need to stay open to new ideas and have a teachable spirit.

Read biographies of men and women who have left behind a legacy in society and in the kingdom of God. I find this very inspiring and easy to relate to.

The world is changing rapidly, and ministry leaders need to adapt to cultural shifts without compromising core beliefs. Not following the latest trends but staying relevant.

### *05. Plan for Transition*

We must not neglect to invest in raising up and equipping future leaders who can continue the work.

We must learn to delegate responsibilities effectively to foster leadership growth in others.

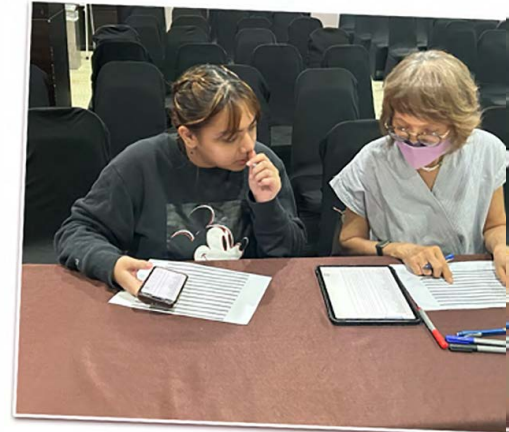
We need to establish a foundation, vision, or set of principles that will continue to shape those left behind.

It is not important how well we have started in life and ministry but how well we finished. My prayer is that we will be among those who finished well in life

# A MEMORABLE RETREAT IN MALACCA



From September 18-20, 2024, our pastors and leaders gathered at the Imperial Heritage Hotel in Malacca for an enriching retreat. The theme, "Shepherding The Last Day Church," resonated deeply as we navigated these critical times with faith and valuable friendships.



Our retreat was blessed with the presence of **Rev. Alan Wills** from Brisbane, Australia, a seasoned minister who delivered the word and led a powerful ministry time during our sessions. His insights and fervent prayers set the tone for a time of deep spiritual engagement.

In addition, our very own ECCM pastors, **Rev. Eu Hong Seng** taught us about 'Finding Good Friends & Keeping Them.' While **Rev. Elisha Satvinder** shared on 'Rediscovering Fellowship.'





We had a refreshing time of praise & worship led by Pastors **Justin Segar**, **Hock Huat** and **Jane. Ps Tay Wah Seng** and **Ps Moses Tay** contributed significantly with their devotional teaching.

Every session was marked by a shared commitment to understanding and implementing God's vision for the church in these last days.



A particularly uplifting aspect of the retreat was hearing testimonies from our member churches. **Pastor Johnathan Heng** from Touch Lives Community Church Penang, shared his journey of reaching out to the hawkers community in Jelutong area, their early morning connection with the hawkers paved a way for the Gospel being shared among the hawker community.



**Pastor Vanitha** from Rehoboth Revival Church in Ara Damasara shared on how she initially refused God's call to serve the poor and marginalised in the tough neighbourhood of Lembah Subang. Her story affirmed that God will make a way when He calls. Her simple obedience led the church to thrive and serve the community with the love of Christ.



**Rev. Chua Soon Kiat** from Johor Baharu encouraged us with amazing praise report on the growth momentum in the south, particularly among the Chinese language churches and how the spirit of togetherness helps pastors to serve various communities.



These accounts of God's goodness and transformative work in the lives and ministries of our members were both encouraging and inspiring. They reminded us of the faithfulness of the Lord and the power of His presence in our communities.

Beyond the formal sessions, the retreat provided ample opportunities for fellowship. Shared meals allowed us to deepen our relationships beyond ministry matters.

One of the highlights was a delightful boat ride along the beautiful Malacca River. This excursion was not only exciting but also served as a fun bonding time. Exploring the historic streets of Malacca added to the memorable experience, as we strengthened our friendships.



In conclusion, the Pastors and Leaders Retreat in Malacca was a time of receiving fruitful ministry and forming lasting friendships. It was a powerful reminder of our collective mission and the joy of walking this journey together. We left rejuvenated, ready to shepherd the last day church!



Let us continue to support and uplift one another as we serve our Lord Jesus Christ together!

**- Pr. Justin Segar**

## ABOUT US

*ECC Msia is a fellowship of ministers and churches who are like minded in doctrine, vision, character, values and purpose. We provide the context for biblical accountability amongst ministers and churches.*

## MISSION STATEMENT

*ECC Msia exist to promote and nurture relationship amongst member minister and churches, strengthening and equipping them to be more effective in building and multiplying strong churches.*

## OUR VISION

*The vision for ECC Msia is to impact our nation for Jesus Christ through strong local churches by upholding the biblical values with high moral and ethical standard.*

PEER RELATIONSHIP

PASTORAL MINISTRY

POWER IN UNITY

PERSEVERANCE FOR RENEWAL

## OUR OBJECTIVES

*To serve Evangelical Charismatic Churches Malaysia by the 3R as below:*

REPRESENTATION

We seek to provide a 'voice' for the indigenous charismatic churches.

RECOGNITION

We provide authentication and lend credibility to churches in this category which is often misunderstood for their 'independence'.

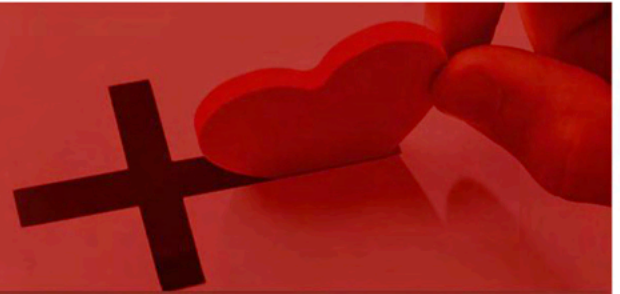
RELATIONSHIP

We seek to provide care, guidance and practical help for its member churches.



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We welcome your partnership. ECCM seeks to build strong churches by encouraging and equipping Pastors and Leaders. Your generous giving supports ECCM to continue to serve the local church. Thank You.