Love for the Unlovely

THE STORY OF GRACE IN THE LIFE OF JACOB



Responding to Difficult Doctrine The Preacher: Melvin Huang Sunday, May 4, 2025 | 9:15am - 10:30am

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ENGLISH WORSHIP SERVICE

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

Welcome & Call to Worship Worship in Song Offertory Pastoral Prayer Scripture Reading, *John 6:53-69* Worship in the Word, Brother Melvin Huang "Responding to Difficult Doctrine" - <u>Sermon Outline</u> Worship in Song Confession of Sin Assurance of Pardon Lord's Supper Benediction & Doxology

Lord's Supper

We partake in the Lord's Supper together to remember the price Christ paid to restore us into a relationship with God and anticipate Christ's return.

UPCOMING SERMON SCHEDULE

Every Sunday at 9:15 AM

Responding to Difficult Doctrine

May 4 | John 6:53-69 | Melvin Huang Finding Favor May 11 | Genesis 30:25-31:16 | Henry Ow Coming Home May 18 | Genesis 31:17-55 | Jason Tarn Wrestling with God May 25 | Genesis 32 | Stanley Chang



ONLINE

Sermon notes and video recordings can be found here:

hcc.lv/sermons



ENGLISH ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us for Sunday School classes at 11:00am -12:15pm. Jesus calls us to be disciples, workers, and leaders. Our teaching ministry aims to produce believers who are committed to the call of Jesus.

Old Testament Survey (Part 6 of 6) | *Rm 113* Shepherding a Child's Heart | *Rm 115* Systematic Theology Survey (Part 3 of 3)| *Rm 210*



Responding to Difficult Doctrine John 6:53-59

In the gospels, we read of Jesus' wonderful parables, grand sermons, weighty discourses, and masterful illustrations. We also come across his hard sayings and difficult teachings. We know we should not listen just to the words of Christ that we like, nor ignore the ones we find challenging to hear. We also know we ought to receive them all as the expression of his love, wisdom, and grace to us. But, the fact remains: Jesus' words can be very difficult. How then should we respond to them? We should take them to heart and believe them so that we can treasure Christ as his true disciples.

1. The Directness and Difficulty of Jesus' Doctrine (6:53–59)

2. The Response of False Disciples: Grumbling and Abandonment (6:60-66)

3. The Response of True Disciples: Recognition and Belief (6:67–69)

4. Application Points

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Meet our English Minister Candidate TODAY: Melvin Huang | *Today, May 4th* | *11am* During today's Sunday School hour, come to room 511 to meet the candidate for our open English Minister position, Melvin Huang. Melvin will share his testimony and his call to vocational ministry and will answer your questions about his life and doctrine. Rm511 is located in the trailer on the right when exiting the rear entrance.

Orlando Spring Mission Trip Sharing | *Today, May 4th* | *12:30pm-1:30pm* | *Trailer 411* Come hear what God did through our college students on their trip to Orlando!

Baptism and Membership Classes | *Sundays in May* | *11:00am-12:15pm* | *Trailer 416* Ready to proclaim your faith through baptism or just want to know more? Classes today, May 4th and next Sunday, May 11th are focused on baptism, and classes on Sundays, May 18th and 25th will walk through becoming a member of HCC.

Weekly Churchwide Legacy Ministry | *Wednesday, May 7th* | *10:00am-2:00pm* | *HCC* Starting this Wednesday, a weekly ministry for older adults will launch at HCC. Come enjoy a time of worship and fellowship. Register beforehand at <u>hcc.lv/legacymin</u>

English Members Meeting | *Friday, May 9th* | *7:00pm* | *Sanctuary* Join us for our quarterly gathering as we introduce new members and have an extended Q&A on the building renovation project. Dinner is provided starting at 6pm.

All Church Prayer Service | Sunday, May 11th (Second Sundays) | 5:00pm | Chapel Join brothers and sisters from all three congregations in a one-hour prayer service that includes singing, readings, testimonies, and guided prayer. **May's potluck theme is:** Mom's favorite dish. Nursery available for kids 3 and under.

Newcomer's Luncheon | Sunday, May 18th | 12:30pm | Youth Room Are you new to Houston Chinese Church? Interested in learning more about our church and how to get connected? Join us at our next Newcomer's Luncheon. Lunch is on us!

Women's Bible Study | *Thursdays, June 5th-July 17th* | *7:15pm-9pm* | *Youth Room* Join the women of HCC for a summer women's Bible study through Isaiah! There is no cost to participate outside of the Study Guide. Sign up at: <u>hcc.lv/women</u>. Contact Sarah Peters for questions at <u>womensministry@hcchome.org</u>

CHURCH NOTICES

Welcome to our Chinese Ministry Resident: Timothy Ma

Timothy Ma, a member of the Chinese congregation, completed his ThM at DTS last year and has commenced a ministry residency on April 25th. This HCC residency will conclude at the end of the year. He will be assigned to the Chinese ministry at our Pearland Campus. Please welcome Timothy, his wife Chloe, and their daughter Charissa.

DONATION SUPPORT

Kindergarten Project in Cambodia

HCC has pledged to make a one-time donation of \$5,000. For every dollar donated to the school, the church will match, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$5,000. To donate to this ministry, write "**Cambodia Kindergarten Project**" on check memo line and on offering envelope if donating by cash. For more details on the project, visit <u>hcc.lv/cambodia</u>

Support for Myanmar Earthquake Relief

During its most recent meeting, the Church Council voted to increase the 2025 church budget by \$5,000 to support Christian Nationals' Evangelism Commission's (CNEC) earthquake relief efforts in Myanmar. We would also like to encourage members to consider giving to CNEC directly via Paypal at <u>cnecintl.org/contribute</u> with

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			THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR
HCC GENERAL	\$121,846.12	\$710,073.70	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR
HCC GENERAL PCC GENERAL	\$121,846.12 \$3,983.00	\$710,073.70 \$69,127.00	THIS YEAR	LAST YEAR



LUNCH PREPARATION

Newcomers can pick up a free lunch coupon & voucher to book stall at the Welcome Desk! *Cambridge* (this week)

Sean & Juddie/Austin & Jemima (next week)



CONGRATULATIONS

Sam & Queena Huang on their son, Zephan Huang, born on April 20, 2025.



STAFF ITINERARY

Henry Ow: Family Leave, 5/6-8 *Dinah Koh:* Vacation, 5/4 *Jason Tarn, Stanley Chang, Jeremy Cheng:* Cont'd Ed, 5/6-8



PRAYER

Join us as we pray for our long term workers in this month's Global Outreach Spotlight: hcc.lv/pray25



- PPGF GIVING CODES

Your donation will default to the General Fund, unless you use a code to designate a fund (e.g. \$250.25 for a pledge fulfillment).

"27" - Fulfilling your Renovation Pledge "25" - Fulfilling your Building Project pledge "22" - Designate to the HCC Building Fund

ABOUT US

New or Visiting HCC?

If you are a newcomer or visitor, we would love to connect you with our church community! Take a moment to fill out our Vistor's Welcome form: <u>hcc.lv/welcome</u> OR stop by our welcome desk in the lobby. We will contact you with ways to connect with our community!

Sign Up for Our Newsletter | <u>hcc.lv/news</u>

Subscribe to our weekly newsletters with announcements, opportunities, and updates.

Congratulations 恭賀

GRADUATES Class of 2024-2025

2024-2025 應屈 畢業生

<u>High School 中學</u>

IAN CHAU 周宇軒 NICOLAS CHEN OWEN CHENG SAMUEL DENG 邓仕鑫 EMILY HE 何欣惠 YIWEN HE CLARISSA LI 李金颖 ETHAN LIU 刘宇洋 REBECCA LUO 骆佳晨 JOSHUA NI ANDY SHEN 沈永恩

<u>College</u>大學

RANA DUAN 段一如 JASON HAN RUTH HONG 方恩潔 CALEB HU 胡孟辰 ANDREW KIM EDDIE KIM SAMUEL KWAN JONATHAN LEE STONE LI GLORIA NI CAROL T SHAO 邵婷婷 EMILY WU BOWEN YAO 姚博文 DINGDING YE ANNABETH YEUNG 杨安宁 ZACH YU CHRISTOPHER ZHOU 周培钧

Congratulations 恭賀

GRADUATES Class of 2024-2025

2024-2025 應屆 畢業生

Graduate School 研究院

MELVIN HUANG 黃孟文 HUIYING HU 胡匯瀛 JIAMING LUO 羅家鳴 HELEN PU 浦伊诺 MILES WANG 王廷璟 SECHAN YOON SARAH K YUN 贠恩溢

We praise God for their faith in Him. We celebrate their accomplishments. We rejoice with their parents and family. But most importantly, we pray that God will continue to reveal His plan for each one of them.

為他們的信心感恩

- 為他們的成就歡於
- 與他們的家人同樂
- 求主繼續彰顯祂在他們
 - 每個人生命中的計劃



<u>Save the Date 請預留時間</u>:

Wed, May 7, 2025-10 am-2 pm

2025年5月7日,星期三,上午10點至下午2點

Kick-off Meeting for Older Adults

Join for worship, connecting and lunch. Also, group exercises, ping pong, gardening and other leisure time and social activities.

<u>第一次長輩傳承事工啟動,歡迎參加!</u> 敬拜、聯誼及午餐,活動內容包括團體運 動、乒乓球、園藝,以及其他休閒與社交活動。

Proverbs 16:31 – "Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life."

箴言16:31- 白髮是榮耀的冠冕, 在公義的 路上必能得著。

RSVP by May 4th to help lunch planning 務必於4月30日前報名參加,以便安排午餐。 *hcc. 1v/legacvmin*

HCC Legacy Ministry-Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the Legacy Ministry?

The Legacy Ministry is a new initiative to encourage and foster improved Christian community throughout the church. In addition to all the wonderful activities of the church, e.g. worship, Sunday School, small groups, missions, etc. it is intended to **supplement** these programs with a weekly daytime gathering for additional networking and building deeper relationships.

Will this be a replacement for the small groups?

No! This weekly activity is intended to supplement the existing small groups in each congregation.

How will it differ from the small groups?

In a number of ways. First, it is targeted for **older** adults, or those over 55 that have some free time during the weekdays. It will be for all three congregations, with translation as needed for different activities. Although we will have devotional time for a short message, singing and prayer, most of the time is devoted to more relaxed, enjoyable leisure activities: group exercises led by a professional personal trainer, ping pong, gardening hobbyists, singing and other personal interests. Lastly, we plan to enjoy a weekly lunch together as well.

Can I bring my parents or friends that are non-believers?

We hope that this programming which places less emphasis on mostly worship and pulpit messages will be attractive to outsiders, as well as the church family. By building a strong community of believers with attractive weekday programs, we hope to be an attraction to the entire community, with fun and food as part of our attraction.

Will there be transportation provided for those that need it?

Initially, we do **not** plan to provide transportation for those interested in coming, but lack transportation. We hope, however, that transportation for those needing it, can be met informally by the church members offering rides to those needing it.

When will the Legacy Ministry meetings be?

Meetings are scheduled for every Wednesday, starting May 7th from 10 am-2 pm. For those with afternoon conflicts, leaving at 1 pm after lunch is fine.

Are more volunteers needed to help out?

Yes, absolutely!! Like any HCC program, volunteers are always needed and welcome. We need folks to volunteer to serve in welcoming, providing refreshments and/or lunch, worship song leading, organizing and leading other activities, e.g. drawing, calligraphy, knitting or cooking groups. We also plan to regular have lectures presented by experts. If you have an expertise to share with the group, let us know.

Can I just drop in, or do I need to register every week?

Since the program includes a group lunch time, we need everyone to register each week, so we can properly plan for the meals needed. Please register at the following: *hcc.lv/legacymin*