

» PASTORS' INSTALLATION

Come bless our new pastors at their installation. Elder Sebastian Quek, Lim Keng Yeow and Kirk Tan will be installed as lay pastors. Portia Chan and Sharon Fong from the staff team will be installed as full-time pastors. A full-time pastor in CEFC is a salaried staff of the church while a lay pastor is non-salaried and serves firstly in the market place, and secondly, carries out some specific pastoral and leadership duties in church. Please RSVP at <http://tinyurl.com/InstallPs> by today.

Date: 29 May (next Sun)

Time: 2.30pm to 5.30pm

Venue: BPJ Centre

» PARENT-CHILD DEDICATION

Registration for parent-child dedication is now open at the Information Counter. Please note that there is a **class for parents on Sun, 5 Jun, 1pm-3pm at WDL Centre**. It covers the purpose and significance of dedication, and explains the charge to parents for discipleship at home.

» SERVE IN CHILDREN'S FEST

New Life still needs more than 400 servers for Children's Fest on 26 Jun! Partner with them to bring joy to the children and families of the community. Sign up as a CG through your CGL. If you do not have a CG yet, contact Aiwei at 6892 7219 or caiaiwei@newlife.org.sg. Don't miss this opportunity to be a blessing!

» HOKKIEN PARENTS' APPRECIATION

B.L.E.S.S. your parents and loved ones at the Hokkien ministry's Parents' Appreciation Night. It will feature veteran local actor Zhu Hou Ren and a message in Hokkien by Pastor Chen Luan Qing. Admission is free.

Date: 28 May (Sat)

Time: 7pm-9pm (Buffet starts at 5.45pm on first-come, first-served basis)

Venue: WDL Centre

» PRAYER & PRAISE

Let's come together at this month's Prayer & Praise to pray for the next generation to resist the work of darkness in their lives and climb the ladder of godliness. Our guest speaker is Glenn Lim, former youth pastor and now a motivational youth speaker. WEB and MOMENTUM youths are encouraged to attend. See you there!

Date: 27 May (Fri)

Time: 8pm

Venue: WDL Centre

» MARKETPLACE DISCIPLESHIP

Sign up for IDMC Conference 2016 through Voyager before 31 May to enjoy the Covenanter early bird rates. This year's theme is Marketplace Discipleship. Do invite your friends who will get \$30 off the regular registration price when they use the coupon code *MKTCEFC*. They can sign up at www.idmc.org.sg

BUKIT PANJANG 22 MAY 2016
SERVICE LEADER PS VALERIE CHAN // WORSHIP LEADER JONATHAN CHI



Finding Your Place in the Community

BY: REV WILLIAM WONG, DISTRICT MENTOR, SMALL GROUP INFRASTRUCTURE (SGI)

When I first came on Covenant Staff Team in 2005 and was introduced to the congregation, my words were: "I did not come to work for you; I came to be part of the community of God's people in Covenant EFC. I am here to be part of a family!" After 10 years, this is still true for me. My family and I have not only settled comfortably, but we are also engaged in the life and ministry of the church.

When you come to Covenant EFC, you are more correctly coming into the community in Covenant EFC. Our community is not one that meets on Sunday morning; it is the small group that meets throughout the week. In these small groups—Covenant Groups (CGs)—we know people on a first-name basis, we share the joys and pain of our lives, and we hold hands to pray for one another.

But sometimes we still choose to walk alone. Some reasons may be: fear of rejection, feeling uncomfortable with other people, unwillingness to

be vulnerable, or the belief that we can manage things on our own.

In Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, we are reminded that two is better than one and a threefold cord is not quickly broken. The New Testament model of discipleship happened in the context of spiritual community. We need one another. We are designed to grow, serve and mature together in a community.

Are you a part of the spiritual discipling community?
Are you part of a CG that walks with you through the ups and downs of life? Are you contributing to help one another truly be the salt and light of this world?

We urge you to be a part of these transformational communities. There is no perfect CG. But our CGs grow deeper as we walk and work together to honour Jesus as the Lord and Master of our lives.

Take your first step today ... come on in!



VISION

AUTHENTIC
DISCIPLESHIP
& INTENTIONAL
DISCIPLEMAKING
OF A CERTAIN KIND

VALUES

GRACE
GROWTH
GODLINESS

COVENANT EFC

ACKCentre: 2 Kallang Avenue, CT Hub #10-26, Singapore 339407

Tel: (65) 6892 6811 // Email: mail@cefc.org.sg // Website: www.cefc.org.sg

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch

SERMON OUTLINE



The Heart of Discipleship

Scripture: **EPHESIANS 3:14–19** Sermon: **PS BARNEY LAU**

Introduction

Paul's prayer is for the discipleship of the heart:

A. A Heart that Calls Christ Lord (vv.14–17a)

so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith ... (v.17a)

B. A Heart that Knows Christ's Love (vv.17b–19)

and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge ... (v.19a)

Conclusion

The heart of discipleship is that the heart may be filled with the fullness of Christ! (v.19)

Next Week's Sermon Speaker:
29 May **REV TONY YEO** (BPJ) and **REV TAN KAY KIONG** (WDL)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY



Getting Out of Your Prison

Scripture: **EPHESIANS 3:1–13** // Sermon: **REV TAN KAY KIONG**

Introduction

1. "For this reason"

Paul began Ephesians 3 with these words: "For this reason" What reason? The immediate context is Ephesians 2:11–22 where God's grace has brought the Jews and Gentiles together as One Body, One Household, One Church together with Christ as the Chief Cornerstone. This is the new humanity that God is recreating through Jesus. But he got caught up and went on a grand digression from vv.1b–13. He also reconnects his train of thought from v.14. His imprisonment did not serve as a reason for his **apathy** but a mark of his **apostleship**. In Paul's world, Jesus is the King and Ruler of his life. He will not let his circumstance deter him from advancing the Gospel of Jesus.

2. Two spiritual convictions that will help us get out of our "prison":

A. Live as the Messenger of the Gospel (vv.1-7)

1. Paul is not a prisoner of anything or anyone except the Lord Jesus. He lives for Christ Jesus and his mission. Do we truly live for our Lord Jesus and let every other thing in our life revolve around it? In verses 2 and 7, Paul says it's the grace of God given to him—to know Him!
2. We have grace not just to know Jesus but to make him known. Paul writes from v2-7 how this mystery was revealed to him by revelation. That the Jews and Gentiles are co-heirs, co-members and co-partakers of the Gospel.

B. Live for the Message of the Gospel (vv.7-12)

Paul calls himself "the very least of all the saints". He is unworthy yet entrusted with the Gospel message. What is the message?

1. **Substance** of the Gospel: Unsearchable Riches of Christ (vv.8-9)

No English word can translate the idea of the unsearchable (*anexichniastos*) riches of Christ. But the good news is that it is now available and accessible to us! Not material riches but saving riches, sanctifying riches, relational riches, and eternal riches.

2. **Agent** of the Gospel: Irresistible Church of God (v.10)

Verse 10 says: "so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known ...". The Church is the chief means and instrument that God uses to declare the manifold wisdom of God. How humbling. There is nothing like the Church.

3. **Audience** of the Gospel: Rulers and Authorities in the Heavenly Places (v.10)

Now what on earth does he mean? Bottomline—even angels and demons will stand in awe of God's plans.

Conclusion

Run a different race. Run for the Gospel. Illus: Eric Liddle's story