

» COVENANT EAST

Covenant East will hold its first worship service *next Sun!* Invite your pre-believing and unchurched family, friends and colleagues who live in the East. *Invitation cards are available at the Information Counter.*

» BREAKTHROUGH WEEKEND (BTW)

Today is the last day of registration. Don't miss this intentional time to be away with the Lord. Come with your CG mates. Register at voyager.cefc.org.sg

Men's BTW and Women's BTW

Dates: 2-4 Dec Fee: \$290/pax*

For enquiries, email menbtw@cefc.org.sg or womenbtw@cefc.org.sg

Marriage BTW

Dates: 25-27 Nov Fee: \$620/couple*

For enquiries, email marriagebtw@cefc.org.sg

*Rates do not include optional transportation.

» IDT & SFF SIGN-UP

We don't try to be disciples, we *train* to be disciples. Invest in your spiritual growth today! Join Intentional Discipleship Training (IDT) or Spiritual Friends & Foundations (SFF) commencing on Jan 2017.

Be grounded with an understanding of God's redemptive plan and an experiential knowledge of a Spirit-filled life within a small group, with an emphasis on inner life transformation through personal discipline and a growing love for God's Word.

Application Period: 1 Oct-13 Nov 2016

Download the application form at www.cefc.org.sg or get it at the Information Counter. For enquiries, email idtadmin@cefc.org.sg

» DIALOGUE SESSIONS FOR ALL PARENTS OF 14 TO 17-YEAR-OLDS

Calling *all* parents of 14 to 17-year-olds. We are having dialogue sessions to explain MOMENTUM's new timing and format starting January 2017. Choose *only one* session to attend.

Session 1:

6 Nov, Sun, 2.30pm-4.00pm at BPJ Centre, Chapel (Level 3)

Session 2:

13 Nov, Sun, 1.30pm-3.00pm at WDL Centre, Love and Joy Rooms (Level 4)

Please confirm your attendance at tiny.cc/Momentum-2017 For enquiries, email trng.momentum@cefc.org.sg or contact our ministry staff Barnabas Ngai (9144 0063) or Lee Hui Fang (9837 7947).

» NEW LIFE DAY ON 20 NOV

Celebrate New Life Day with us on 20 Nov in all the services at BPJ, WDL and East Centres. Hear stories how we have touched lives and mentored the next generation as Covenant EFC's face and hands to the community. You can be part of this too! **Find out more at our workshop on 29 Nov, 7.30pm-9.00pm at BPJ Chapel.** For more information, email email@newlife.org.sg or call 6892 7191.

» NEW MANDARIN SERVICE IN 2017

Praise God for the growth of our Mandarin and Cantonese ministries! The Grace Sanctuary where we have been holding our BPJ Mandarin and Cantonese services is full on Sundays. After much prayer and consultation, the **BPJ Mandarin and Cantonese ministries will merge to form the New Mandarin Service starting 1 Jan 2017.**
New Timing: 3.30pm-5.00pm
New Venue: BPJ Main Sanctuary (Level 2)
For enquiries, email chris.pang@cefc.org.sg

WOODLANDS 30 OCT 2016

SERVICE LEADER REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI // WORSHIP LEADER KAREN PHUAH



Seated for Blessings, Standing for Battles

BY: PS EDMUND WONG, PRAYER

Where we live determines how we live — this is what our Leadership Mentor Rev Edmund Chan taught when I underwent Intentional Discipleship Training (IDT). How does this year's series on the Book of Ephesians highlight this for us in eye-opening ways?

Ephesians tells us that the heavenly places is where we live (2:6) — *now!* And it has massive implications on how we are to live, before our Lord Jesus comes again:

Seated for Blessings

Ephesians tells us that the heavenly places is where we are seated (2:6). Though we often don't see or feel that way! This is where we are blessed with every spiritual blessing (1:3). We have been adopted as children of the Most High, received redemption and forgiveness of our sins, a heavenly inheritance that can neither perish nor fade. We can't earn any of these. All we can do is humbly and joyfully receive them, and rejoice in God's pure grace (2:8-9). To the praise of His glory (1:6,14)!

Standing for Battles

While grace is opposed to earning, it is not opposed to effort (Dallas Willard). Efforts must be made when we live in the heavenly places. Because this is where the battle rages, and where we must stand our ground and not lose it (6:11-12)!

Two arenas of battle are highlighted in Ephesians:

Deception (4:14) – False teaching is often a way that Satan infiltrates the church and dilutes our faith and fire. These appear not just as lies, but half-truths that an immature disciple can't detect and may even be confused by!

Disunity (4:26) – Relationships are often the place where Satan can create havoc if we do not watch how we respond to one another. Where bitterness and anger are allowed to rule, rather than love and submission.

Are you on guard this season? Let's be grounded in the Word and prayer *now* — that we may keep watch over ourselves and those whom God has entrusted to us. Remember — we fight not for victory, but *from* victory!



VISION

AUTHENTIC
DISCIPLESHIP
& INTENTIONAL
DISCIPLEMAKING
OF A CERTAIN KIND

VALUES

GRACE
GROWTH
GODLINESS

COVENANT EFC

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SERMON OUTLINE



The Kingdom Strikes Back

Scripture: EPHESIANS 6:10-13 Sermon: PS SHARON FONG

Introduction

A. Put On (vv.10-11a)

B. Fight (vv.11b-13)

Conclusion

Next Week's Sermon Speakers:

6 Nov REV TAN KAY KIONG (BPJ) and REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (WDL)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY



Marketplace Discipleship

Scripture: EPHESIANS 6:5-9 // Sermon: REV TONY YEO

Introduction

Survey reveals Singaporeans as the unhappiest workers in Asia. What will enable us to be joyful and purposeful workers, amidst the challenges and difficulties?

Two Governing Principles for Marketplace Discipleship:

A. Subordinates, Serve Your Bosses as You Serve Christ (vv.5-8)

“Slaves, obey your earthly masters...Obey them not only to win their favor...”

Our obedience to our bosses is grounded in three Christ-centred foundations:

1. Know Our True Identity (vv.5-6) – “slaves, bondservants of Christ”

Slaves = *kata sarka* In reality, he is the Lord's freeman.

We are first and foremost servants of Christ rather than employees of a company or servants of an organisation. Two postures:

- a. Fear (*tromos*), trembling/respect (*phobos*) – knowing your strengths and weakness
- b. Sincerity of heart (*haplotēs*, “singleness”) – with purpose and generosity

2. Know Our True Motive (vv.6-7) – “as to the Lord”

Obedience to earthly master is to be offered as unto the Lord and for Christ. Whatever you do, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Col 3:17).

Eye-service (*ophthalmoudoulia*) vs “God-pleaser” (*theareskos*)

Man's approval is not requested, required nor relevant!

Focus: Don't be a men-pleaser but a God pleaser!

3. Know Our True Reward (v.8) – “from the Lord”

The good deeds of slaves can be easily overlooked, unnoticed and taken advantaged by their masters. They will try all means to get the master's attention. But the Lord will reward us accordingly. Don't get disheartened or discouraged. Don't place earthly rewards over true and eternal rewards, and trust in God.

Focus: Obey your human master as you obey your divine Master.

B. Bosses, Treat Your Subordinates as You Treat Christ (v.9)

“...masters, treat your slaves in the same way...and there is no favoritism with him.”

1. Treat them as you would like to be treated.

Golden rule of relationships: Treat your subordinates as you wish they would treat you. This is extremely challenging for bosses in ancient times because bosses had absolute power to do anything, anytime, anyhow, anywhere!

2. Threaten not the subordinates – “Do not threaten...”

“threaten” (*apeilen*) – “angry, harsh or domineering way”

Generally, masters do not treat slaves well. Slaves have no legal rights. Slaves are like living tools, a means to an end. Disposed once they are used.

3. Treat the subordinates impartially – “and there is no favoritism with him”

Without “favoritism” (*prosolēmpsia*) – lifting up the face, unbiased, unprejudiced, equitable. Accept people regardless of social status, wealth, and race.

Focus: We have the same Heavenly Boss!

Conclusion

Be a best Christ-centred servant as a subordinate or boss.