

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Do you have a passion for singing? Use your voice to serve God's Kingdom.

Covenant Choir

Serve at BPJ and WDL Centres. Visit the booth at the foyer today or email cv.chorale@gmail.com

PARENTING TRAINING

Parenting with Hope. For parents of teens

Dates: 4 and 25 March, 1 and 8 April (Sat)

Time: 2pm – 4pm

Venue: ACKCentre, Live Recording Studio

Fee: \$90 / couple

Register at the Information Counter today!

STM TRIPS

CG members, join these STM trips and B.L.E.S.S. the nations!

Hanoi, Vietnam on 3-11 Jun. Build bridges into local community through English camp for 12 to 18-year-olds.

Yunnan on 28 Oct –5 Nov and 5-12 Nov (two trips) Village Doctor Training

Mongolia 7-10 days in April and Oct/Nov (two trips). Connect, network and train Mongolian medical professionals (both believers and pre-believers).

To register or enquire, email ailli.tay@cefc.org.sg

BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP

Baptism Class on 26 Feb, Sun, 2.30pm – 5.00pm at BPJ Centre.

Membership Class on 4 Mar, Sat, 9am – 4pm at ACKCentre.

Sign up at the Information Counter.

SERVE IN CHILDREN'S FEST

Children's Fest 2017: Friends in Unity!

We need more than 500 volunteers to partner with us in blessing the children in the community on 2 Apr, Sun:

- Booth facilitators for the game stations and other booths
- Welcomers and helping hands
- Trained nurses or doctor

You may serve on Shift 1 (7.30am – 10.30am) or Shift 2 (10.15am – 1.15pm). Serving for both shifts is encouraged.

If you're serving together with your CG, sign up through SGI. If you do not have a CG, call us at 6892 7191 or email c.f@newlife.org.sg

SERVE IN NEW LIFE

Student Care

Mentor the kids by interacting and building relationships with them through character lessons and activities.

Date: Once a week, every Friday (minimum of 3 months; 1 term)

Time: 3.45pm – 4.45pm

Location: New Life Student Care (BPJ)

Steady Readers

Facilitate group discussions and chaperone children during their March Enrichment Workshop.

Date: 13 or 15 Mar (BPJ), 14 Mar (WDL)

Time: 9am – 12:30pm

To volunteer or enquire, call Aiwei at 6760 0533 or email volunteer@newlife.org.sg

COVENANT EFC

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

ONE CHURCH MULTIPLE CENTRES:

BPJ Centre: 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30am ■ WDL Centre: 8.30am & 10.30am ■ East Centre: 10.00am

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch

VISION

AUTHENTIC
DISCIPLESHIP
& INTENTIONAL
DISCIPLEMAKING
OF A CERTAIN KIND

VISIBLE VALUES

- Grace
- Growth
- Godliness



UNDERLYING VALUES

- Truth
- Community
- Stewardship
- Balance
- Brokenness

COVENANT EFC

WOODLANDS CENTRE, 12 FEBRUARY 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS EDMUND WONG ■ WORSHIP LEADER: PS FABIAN GHUI

Rebuilding the Substructures of Our Lives

PS LEE DA WIN, SGI COORDINATOR

“We tend to ignore what cannot be seen. We gravitate toward the visible and the spectacular.

We judge and pride ourselves upon our influence and accomplishments. Though gratifying, this outward superstructure is however not where our primary energies should be expended.

It is in the substructure, the unseen foundation, that our true strength lies. Without a deep and secure substructure, the structures cannot hold. And the superstructures cannot rise to great heights without peril.

Who we are, what we do when no one sees, form the substructure of our life. A life of worship, lived before God in the fear of Him and held together by humility, wisdom and perseverance, constitutes a foundation that will withstand immense stress and strain. The continued maintenance and growth of this substructure, firmly anchored in God through the practice of the spiritual disciplines, is the work of a lifetime.

Built upon the substructure are the structures – the supporting beams and columns – which fit together to form the framework around which the facade and usable floor area are built. These

structures are the areas that we need to guard in our personal life. Time with family. Time with kindred-spirit friends. Time in the community of God's people.

The superstructure represents the outward accomplishments of our life and ministry. It is built by competence and skill. It is established by working excellently, as unto the Lord, in obedience and faithfulness. It is worthy only when the substructure is solid and the surface structures are set in place – for it is upon these that the strength, beauty and permanence of the superstructure depend.”

– *Mentoring Paradigms* (pp. 24-25) by Rev Edmund Chan

Today we begin our year-long exposition of the books of Ezra and Haggai. We have themed this series “Rebuilding the Foundations” because of the prominent call, through Israel's leaders, for God's people to rebuild the Temple and, more importantly, to rebuild their lives. For the rebuilding of the Temple's superstructure to be completed, God's people needed to rebuild the substructures of their lives. May we respond to God's Word that calls us to the necessary rebuilding of the substructures of our lives!

SERMON OUTLINE

Rebuilding the Foundation

SCRIPTURE: OVERVIEW OF EZRA AND HAGGAI ■ SERMON: REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI

Introduction

Three Things We Must Do in Rebuilding Our Foundations

A. We Must Return to the Worship Of God (Ezra 1-6)

B. We Must Realign to the Way of God (Haggai 1-2)

C. We Must Restore the Word of God (Ezra 7-10)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

19 FEB – PS EDMUND WONG (BPJ), PS IVAN HO (WDL), AND PS BARNEY LAU (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

Brokenness Centred on the Way of God

SCRIPTURE: PSALM 51:17; ISAIAH 57:15 ■ SERMON: PS LIM KENG YEOW

Introduction

Brokenness is a surprising core value. It is counter-intuitive and counter-cultural. It may be hard to accept as a core value if it is understood as referring to our fallenness, our woundedness, as condemnation, or as merely extrinsic acts or circumstances. But that is *not* the brokenness we are referring to as our core value.

A. What Is Brokenness?

1. Psalm 51 – Recognising our sins with honesty. Upon being confronted over his grave sins by the prophet Nathan, King David displayed brokenness. He even wrote the Psalm, a song about his sin and his contrition. Doing so effectively immortalised his moment of greatest shame. Even if we are truly repentant, most of us would hope for the sin to be quickly forgotten, not sung of for generations! Being willing to do so called for brokenness!
2. 1 Timothy 1:15 – Recalling our stain with humility. The Apostle Paul described himself as the foremost of sinners in recalling how he persecuted the believers. That was decades ago. By now he was near the end of his distinguished ministry, writing one of his last epistles. He knew grace, of course, but would recall his past sin with much humility. He matured into deeper brokenness. Brokenness is lifelong.

B. Why Do We Value Brokenness?

1. Luke 18:9-14 – Brokenness delights God. Between the Pharisee and the tax collector, Jesus' hearers would have been shocked to hear that it was the tax collector who was considered justified. Both have sinned. The difference between them? Brokenness. Before a holy God and just judge, no sin can be overlooked, no matter how trivial. Before a merciful God who Himself paid the price for our salvation, all sin is forgivable, no matter how grave. The only thing He required from us: brokenness. That is how important it is to God.
2. Isaiah 57:15 – Brokenness draws God. His holiness should mean that He lives separate from the unholy. But He chooses to live with us! Not only that, He lives with those the world does not care to even notice: the contrite and lowly of heart. And He draws near to revive them.

Conclusion

Brokenness is a contrite heart that is afflicted and grieved over our sinfulness in light of the holiness of God. It leads us to earnest repentance, to seek reconciliation with God upon any terms. Through brokenness, God breaks down our pride, aligns us to His heart, and revives us. It leaves in us a deposit of humility, tenderness of heart, fear of God and the willingness to surrender our self-will. We need brokenness!