

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 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.

**Surabaya** on 23-27 Nov. Partner with a local church (GKI-PB) in ministering at a slum known as Kampong Malang by teaching English to the kids, ministering at the CGs, and connecting to the community.

**Yunnan** on 31 Jul – 6 Aug. Disciple the next generation of a tribal community by conducting a five-day discipleship camp for youths aged 12 years old and above. Trippers who can speak basic conversational Mandarin are preferred.

**Chiang Mai** on 30 Apr – 5 May. English camp for the children of street vendors focusing mainly on character building and spiritual values.

To register or enquire, email [aili.tay@cefc.org.sg](mailto:aili.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 doctors

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](mailto:c.f@newlife.org.sg)

### SERVE IN ALPHA

Introducing people to Jesus is an amazing experience! Serve as an Alpha facilitator or volunteer. Practical training and tools will be provided so we only require a willing heart to serve. Register at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com> To enquire, email [alpha@cefc.org.sg](mailto:alpha@cefc.org.sg)

### COVENANT EAST CAMP

East Covenanters, registration for the Camp opens **today** after the service! Hard copies of the registration form are available at the registration booth. You may get the soft copy from your CGL.

**Venue:** Hatten Hotel, Malacca

**Date:** 6–9 Jun (Tue–Fri)

**Theme:** Foundation, Faith & Fruitfulness

**Speaker:** Ps Dr Chew Weng Chee, Senior Pastor, SIB (KL)

Please register with completed forms and pay via cheque to “Covenant Evangelical Free Church”.

## 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](mailto:mail@cefc.org.sg) ■ Website: [www.cefc.org.sg](http://www.cefc.org.sg)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch](http://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

EAST CENTRE, 19 FEBRUARY 2017

SERVICE LEADER: DAVID CHONG ■ WORSHIP LEADER: PS LIM KENG YEOW

### Disciple Now for the Next Generation of Leaders!

PS BARNEY LAU, DIRECTOR, TNG

The place is not sacred, but the posture and process of seeking the Lord each year for His direction for Covenant EFC is. The annual pilgrimage of the Senior Pastor's Office (SPO) to Kota Kinabalu back in July 2016 was such. Today begins the first Heartbeat article about the Five Faith Exploits that the Lord confirmed for 2028, the year when Covenant EFC turns 50. Pray, support, and co-labour with us as we do what the Lord has led us to.

Surely one of the strategic task of being an *Authentic Discipleship and Intentional Disciplemaking Church of A Certain Kind* must be to disciple now the next generation of leaders for the Church of God. Yet, leaders of *A Certain Kind* do not just grow on any tree! Instead they are disciplined through the pilgrimage of life and ministry, and forged through moments of success and crucibles of failures and pain.

The Barna Group in their longitudinal research concluded that churches' dropout problem is, at its core, a discipling problem. David Kinnaman says in his book *You Lost Me*: “The church is not adequately preparing the next generation to follow Christ faithfully in a

rapidly changing culture.” This same principle applies to church leadership. “Entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also,” Paul exhorts in 2 Timothy 2:2-6. Christ's gospel and teachings are to be responsibly handed over to faithful men (v.2), who are ready (v.3), resolute (v.4), responsible (v.5), and resilient (v.6) to pass it further on to other faithful men. These are the *A Certain Kind* which are grown, not just plucked off any tree!

It has taken over 20 years to grow and groom the current set of SPO in the grace and provision of the Lord. The question is not merely who the next generation leaders are, but what kind — who and what kind of Deacons, Ministry Staff, Elders, Pastors, SPO and Senior Pastor must Covenant EFC entrust its mandate of authentic discipleship and intentional discipling of *A Certain Kind* to?

It takes *A Certain Kind* of leaders to grow and groom *A Certain Kind* of next generation leaders. Let's **disciple now** so that the Next Generation of *A Certain Kind* of Leaders of faithful men may be raised for Covenant EFC!

## SERMON OUTLINE

### Being Anchored Despite Uncertain Times

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 1:1-4 ■ SERMON: PS BARNEY LAU

#### Introduction

#### A. Standing on the Promises of God (v.1)

#### B. Serving the Purposes of God (vv.2-4)

#### Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

26 FEB – PS LEE DA WIN (BPJ), PS SHARON FONG (WDL), AND REV TAN KAY KIONG (EAST)

## LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

### Rebuilding the Foundation

SCRIPTURE: OVERVIEW OF EZRA AND HAGGAI ■ SERMON: REV TONY YEO

#### Introduction

1. Three Spiritual Burdens for 2017: Foundation in God, Faith in God and Fruitfulness for God  
Illustration: Ravi Zacharias on the Wexner Centre for Arts — we can be careless with the infra-structure of a building but not the foundation.
2. Why the post-exilic book Ezra and prophetic book Haggai? Haggai is mentioned in Ezra 5:1. Context for Ezra: God has a covenant relationship with His people (Exo 24:4-8). He renewed his covenant with the second generation through blessings and curses (Deut 28:49, 64) resulting in Israel (2 Kin 17:5-6) and Judah (2 Kin 25:8-11) being exiled. God's final Word is "this whole land shall become a ruin...for seventy years" (Jer 25:11).
3. Three Things We Must Do in Rebuilding Our Foundation:

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

1. Ezra 1:1-2 "... the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia..." God moved, inspired, woke up the heart of a foreign king, to build a temple for God in Jerusalem!
2. Why rebuild the temple after the return from exile?  
Exodus 25:22 "There I will meet with you... I will speak with you..."  
Focus: So that God can meet with us. Return to the worship of God. Meet Him daily.
3. Application: How to prepare to meet God for Sunday worship? Orientate your heart on Saturday night, go to bed early, get up early enough on Sunday, begin seeking God as soon as you enter.

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

1. Two interesting features in the book of Haggai: second shortest book in the Old Testament and most datable book in the Bible (five specific dates over three and a half months).
2. The Jews suffered mission drift for 15 years. They started well but went on cruising and surviving mode.
3. "Consider your ways ..." (Hag 1:5,7) – re-evaluate the purpose of your life and re-examine the priorities of your life. Move from mission drift to realigning the mission to God's way.
4. Application: Covenant App for reaching the lost to keep us walking in God's way

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

1. The temple of God was finally rebuilt (Ezr 6:15).
2. After about 60 years, God sent another spiritual leader, Ezra, back to Jerusalem.  
Why? Because the people who returned, including the priests and Levites intermarried with the locals (Ezr 9:1-2).
3. Point: The people knew God's Law but did not live it out. Obey and act upon His Word!
4. Application: Are there areas where we know the Word and yet are not obeying it?

#### Conclusion

Illustration: The fall of the 270-year-old Tembusu tree last 11 Feb 2017.

May Covenant EFC not appear ok and respectable on the outside only to fall because of its foundations. Rebuild the foundation of our lives. Come built an altar unto His Name!