

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Calling all registered members of Covenant EFC! You are invited to join our upcoming Annual General Meeting on 26 Mar, Sun, 2:30pm at BPJ Centre Grace Sanctuary.

IDMC CONFERENCE 2017

Sign up for IDMC Conference 2017 – Rekindling your Spiritual Passion! Date: 31 Aug – 2 Sep. Enjoy special Covenanter rates: \$60 (leaders) and \$120 (registered members and CG members). Sign up through Voyager today!

SERVE IN CHILDREN'S FEST

Children's Fest 2017: Friends in Unity!

We need more than 600 volunteers to partner with us in blessing the children in the community on 2 Apr, Sun. Serve as a booth facilitator, welcomer and helping hand, trained nurse or doctor.

If you're serving together with your CG, download a group registration form from www.newlife.org.sg and email to c.f@newlife.org.sg. If you do not have a CG, contact us at 6892 7191 or c.f@newlife.org.sg

DISCIPLESHIP AT WORK

Is the workplace a challenging place for you as a disciple of Christ? Gain biblical perspectives and be inspired by testimonies on how to practice biblical truths at work. Dates: 8 Apr, 13 May, 10 Jun, 8 Jul, 5 Aug and 23 Sep (Saturdays) Time: 9am – 1pm Venue: ACKCentre Course Fee: \$100 Speakers: Ps Lim Keng Yeow, Ps Sebastian Quek, Matthew Kok, Dieu Eng Seng Register at <http://cefc.ch/discipleship-at-work> Visit www.cefc.org.sg/idmci for more information. Last day of registration is on 22 Mar.

THE ALPHA COURSE

The Alpha Course will be held every Wed from 19 Apr to 17 Jun. This is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Many have been saved through Alpha and you can be part of this amazing experience by inviting a pre-believer or by signing up to serve!

Serve as a facilitator, intercessor or in administration. Facilitators' training will be held on 30 Mar and 6 Apr. Register at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com> or email alpha@cefc.org.sg for enquiries.

NURTURE MASTERCLASS

Are you keen to know how to multiply spiritually by helping others become disciples of Jesus? The Nurture Masterclass aims to equip CGs to nurture new believers in the foundation of their faith. Highly recommended for CG Leaders, Assistant CG Leaders and CG members who are passionate to nurture and to subsequently train their CGs. Register today at the foyer or online at <http://cefc.ch/nurture-masterclass> This is a one-time session at BPJ Centre, 19 Mar (Sun), 2.30pm – 4.30pm, Level 3 Chapel.

SERVE IN DANCE MINISTRY

Calling all dancers with a heart to serve God through dance! To indicate your interest, register at www.step-up.cefcapps.com before 17 Mar. To find out more, visit our booth at BPJ and WDL Centres **next Sun, 12 Mar** after the first and second service or email cefdance@gmail.com Auditions will be held on Tue, 21 Mar, 8.30pm at ACKCentre Performing Arts Studio #10-03.

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

BUKIT PANJANG CENTRE, 5 MARCH 2017

SERVICE LEADER: REV WILLIAM WONG ■ WORSHIP LEADER: PS FABIAN GHUI

Vision 2028: Faith Exploit 3

Disciple Now for a Growing Intentional Disciple Making Church Movement in Singapore

REV TAN KAY KIONG, SENIOR PASTOR

Bill Hybels, the Senior Pastor of Willow Creek Community Church once declared passionately that “the local church is the hope of the world”.

Certainly, Bill Hybels is not eradicating the centrality of Jesus and the power of the Gospel in Christianity. He is saying that God has entrusted the message of salvation to the local church and she is the appointed agent to preach the message of hope. This is the context when he said that the local church is the hope of the world.

Today, God has planted Covenant EFC in Singapore to “return the Church to its discipling roots”. If you have been in Covenant EFC for some time, you cannot miss our Mission: Authentic Discipleship and Intentional Disciplemaking of *A Certain Kind*. It's marked by a depth in Grace, Growth and Godliness, undergirded by Truth, Community, Stewardship, Balance and Brokenness.

We believe God has called us to be *one church with multiple worship centres*. Each centre is committed to *Win a Soul*,

Change a Life and *Send a Mentor*.

What does it mean for each one of us to be part of this mission?

Win a Soul

God has placed each one of us in strategic places to be a living witness for Him. Wherever you are, can you honestly say that people can see Christ in you?

Change a Life

Over the years, we have put in place various strategic vehicles so that you can encounter God and be transformed. One of the most important aspect of this is to be part of the Covenant Group (CG). And if you are already in a CG, then participate in Intentional Discipleship Training (IDT). Then find a place of ministry according to your spiritual gifts and passion.

Send a Mentor

There is no greater joy in our pilgrimage than to be used by God to mentor others. To pass on God's holy legacy.

Let's **disciple now** so that we can be part of a growing IDMC movement in Singapore!

SERMON OUTLINE

What Matters to God

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 2:1-67 ■ SERMON: REV TAN KAY KIONG

Introduction

A. Every Name Matters to God! (Ezr 2:1-35)

B. Every Role Matters to God! (Ezr 2:36-67)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

12 MAR – PS SHARON FONG (BPJ), PS ANDY LEW (WDL) AND PS BARNEY LAU (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

Homecoming

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 1:5-II ■ SERMON: PS LEE DA WIN

Introduction

In China, millions of people return to their hometowns every year to celebrate Chinese New Year. In Singapore, we too return home for the reunion dinner with family on Chinese New Year Eve. But this was not so for the Jews who had settled in Babylonian for 70 years. Two generations had passed since the exile. The returnees were returning to a foreign and desolate place. "Homecoming" for them, then, was really to return to meet with God. Similarly, there are two ways that we too, can return to meet God today.

A. Meet God with Our Heart (v.5)

God stirred up King Cyrus' spirit (vv.1-2) (alternative translation: moved his heart). The hearts of kings are in God's hands (Prov 22:1), and He sovereignly directs it as a stream of water! But God also weighs the heart (Prov 22:2), clearly implying that He allows man free choice to decide whether or not to do His will (or, in this case, to respond to His stirring). King Zedekiah is an example of one who chose not to (2 Chron 36:11-13); King Cyrus did. Similarly God stirred the spirit of the leaders of the people, and about 50,000 of the Jews chose to respond, rising up to go back to Jerusalem. The others did not. We are confronted with the same choice today when God stirs our heart. Would we respond to His stirring and meet God with our heart?

B. Meet God with Our Gift (vv.6-11)

Three types of gifts are observed. Firstly the free will offerings (v.6), given to God over and above the tithes. Secondly, the vessels of silver and gold, goods, beasts, and costly wares (v.6), given out of goodwill by both Jew and non-Jew neighbours, in aid of the returnees. Thirdly, Cyrus voluntarily returned the temple vessels that King Nebuchadnezzar had plundered from Jerusalem. The common thread in all three types of gifts given is the voluntary act of giving, not out of duty or obligation, but out of freewill. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor 9:7).

Conclusion

We meet God with our hearts, we also meet Him with our gifts. Give of your very best – the gift of your heart – to the Lord. Because God first gave of His very best – His only begotten Son, Jesus – to you.