

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALPHA: WHY DID JESUS DIE?

Introduce Jesus to your family and friends at Alpha this Wed, 3 May, from 7.00pm to 9.30pm at YMCA at Orchard. Registration is free, but pre-registration is required at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com>. For enquiries, email alpha@cefc.org.sg

MEN'S CONFERENCE

Men's Ministry Network brings you the men's conference "Facing the Uncertain". Sign up at <https://mmn-mensconf2017.Eventbrite.com>. Registration ends this Wed.
Date: 20 May (Sat) **Time:** 8.30am – 12.00pm
Venue: Queenstown Baptist Church
Speakers: Lucas Chow and Geoff Gorsuch

CYAN CAMP EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

Today is the last day of early bird registration. Don't miss it! Sign up with your CG through Voyager.
Dates: 23–26 Jun
Speaker: Rev Dr Tan Soo Inn
Theme: Drinking from the Fountain of Living Water
For enquiries, email cyan@cefc.org.sg

CHURCH STAFF RECRUITMENT

We are looking for the following:

- Executive (Finance)
- Human Resources Staff
- Manager (Media, Communications and Resources)
- Executive (Congregational Operations)

Applicants should either be a church or CG member. For job requirements, please go to <http://www.cefc.org.sg/index.php/about-us/recruitment>. If interested, email your resume to hr@cefc.org.sg

ALL THE KING'S DAUGHTERS

Families-in-Covenant brings you "All the King's Daughters", a tea party for mothers and their tween and teen daughters. Come and learn from Julie Hiramine, Founder of Generations of Virtue and Quek Shiwei, Director of Kallos.

Date: 20 May, Sat **Time:** 3.30pm – 5.30 pm
Venue: 5 Little Monkeys Cafe
20 Kallang Avenue
Fee: \$25/person
Sign up at bit.ly/ATKD2017 and pay at the Information Counter.

CHILD DEDICATION SERVICE

We will have our Child Dedication Service on 16 Jul at all the worship centres. Register today at the Information Counter.
Please note that parents dedicating their children are strongly recommended to attend the Dedication Class on 21 May at WDL Centre, 1pm to 4pm. We believe that discipleship begins at home and we look forward to journeying with you towards an Intentional Disciple Making Family!

COMMUNITY BLESSINGS

Would you like to bless the community kids? We need teachers for primary level to coach them at the following locations:

Senja Homework Corner
Once or twice a week (Mon to Thu) from 7.30pm to 9.00pm at Block 632A Senja Road

Choa Chu Kang Homework Corner
Every Thursday from 8.00pm to 9.15pm at CCK Community Club
Email vincent.chia@cefc.org.sg to sign up or enquire.

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, 30 APR 2017
SERVICE LEADER: PAUL SHI ■ WORSHIP LEADER: SAMUEL LIM

Let's Go Fishing!

PS SHARON FONG, OUTREACH MINISTRY

A few weeks ago, my family and I had the opportunity to attend an Admiralty Zone 3 Residents Committee (RC) dinner with Mr. Vikram Nair (MP of Admiralty) as the Guest of Honour. The RC thanked Covenanters for their faithful service to the community kids at HDB void decks through storytelling. As my sons saw pictures of Covenanters conducting storytelling, I asked them, "Should the Church just be within the walls of the church building or should we also go beyond?" They pondered for a while and answered, "The Church should be beyond our walls and should be a blessing to others." Indeed, Christ has not called us to stay within the church building; we have been commissioned to be "fishers of men".

This month of April, we want to celebrate how Covenanters are acting in obedience as they intentionally reach out to others. On Good Friday, approximately 400 newcomers came to our evangelistic services (adult, Sunbeam and Momentum), 35 persons

rededicated their lives to Jesus and about 50 prayed to receive Christ. In the Domestic Helpers' Appreciation Tea, 19 persons prayed to receive Christ. I also witnessed many employers setting aside their precious time to bring their helpers to this event. All glory to God! We rejoice too that Covenanters are walking in obedience by inviting their friends to hear the Gospel this month of April.

Recently, one couple in our church has encouraged me. One day, they hopped into a Grab hitch by divine appointment. Prompted by the Spirit, they decided to invite the Grab driver to attend our church's Good Friday service. Amazingly, he came and was blessed by the service. This testimony gives us a glimpse of how a church should go beyond the church building to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the community.

Indeed, we are blessed to be a blessing. Let's go out of the church building and be fishers of men. Let's go fishing together!

SERMON OUTLINE

Wake Up!

SCRIPTURE: HAGGAI 1:1-11 ■ SERMON: PS SHARON FONG

Introduction

A. Drifting Off (vv. 1-4)

B. Coming Back (vv. 5-11)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

7 MAY – REV TAN KAY KIONG (BPJ), PS ANDY LEW (WDL) AND PS BARNEY LAU (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

Life in the Meanwhile

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 4:24-5:2 ■ SERMON: PAUL SHI

Introduction

Can we miss God's calling for our lives? Can God's work actually be stopped? Yes and no. No, because God has ordained the end of history in the book of Revelation. But as we will see in the text today, God's work can be hindered or stopped.

Historical Context of Ezra 4:

Verses 1 to 5: Reign of Cyrus (550-530 BC), Reign of Cambyses (530 – 522 BC),
Reign of Darius (522-486 BC)

Verses 6 to 23: Reign of Xerxes (486-465 BC), Reign Artaxerxes I (465-424 BC)

Verse 24: Reign of Darius (second year)

Therefore, the events of verse 24 follow that of verse 5.

A. What Stops Us

1. Discouragement, fear and politics resulted in "then work on the house of God in Jerusalem ceased, and it was stopped" (Ezr 4:24). We need to beware of discouragement, fear and politics, because they have the capacity to hinder and stop the work of God.
2. Circumstances
The Israelites looked at their opposition and concluded that "it was not time to build the temple of the LORD" (Hag 1:2). They used their circumstances to discern the will of God.
 - a. God allows opposition. The presence of opposition does not mean the absence of God.
 - b. God allows opposition because He cares more about our sanctification than our comfort.
3. Complacency
The Israelites then said "it is time to renovate my house". The altar of the temple was still present, so the Israelites still continued their worship of God, but they had drifted from the mission which was to build the temple of the LORD (Hag 1:4).

B. What Revives Us

1. "The prophets ... prophesied to the Jews who were in Judah and Jerusalem." (Ezr 5:1)
Prophesy: forthtelling (asserting the mind of God) and foretelling (predicting)
2. The prophetic word resulted in this: "Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel and Jeshua the son of Jozadak arose and began to rebuild the house of God which is in Jerusalem" (Ezr 5:2). It did so by:
 - a. Unveiling the condition of their hearts
 - b. Divine revelation of the state of the land
 - c. Clarity of instruction
 - d. Encouragement to the leaders
 - e. Reassurance of His Presence

Conclusion

Some of us perhaps have been worshipping and offering our gifts on the altar, but due to discouragement, fear and complacency we have drifted from our mission. We are then to "kindle afresh" the gift of God for our lives.