

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OVERSEAS STEADY READERS

Impact young lives among the urban poor in the nations, and give them hope for a better future. No prior knowledge of Phonics is necessary. Trainings will be provided. Find out more at the **Introductory Talk next Sunday, 8 Oct, 2:30pm at BPJ Centre.** To register, email [missions@cefc.org.sg](mailto:missions@cefc.org.sg)

### BREAKTHROUGH WEEKENDS

Tomorrow is the last day of early bird registration for CG members. Don't miss it! Register online through Voyager.

### TWO TO TANGO

Two to Tango is an outreach event for Covenanters to invite pre-believing couples who are married or about to get married. This will be held over five Wed nights starting this Wed, 4 Oct until 1 Nov. To find out more and sign up, go to [cefc.ch/twototango2017](http://cefc.ch/twototango2017)

### SERVE IN NEW LIFE

P.A.N.D.A. Champs is a character-based mentoring programme for 7 to 10-year-olds. We need 10 mentors to serve with us serve from 21 Nov to 14 Dec, 9am to 1pm (includes one hour of briefing and debriefing) at BPJ Centre. Training will be provided on 19 Oct, 7.30pm to 9.30pm at BPJ Centre Level 3. To sign up or enquire, contact Jason Lee at 9635 1135 or Lewis Woo at 9634 9457 or email [volunteer@newlife.org.sg](mailto:volunteer@newlife.org.sg)

### SERVE AT KIDZBLAST

KidzBlast is an outreach programme for kids aged 7 to 12 years old. Reach the next generation by serving with us on Sundays, 19 and 26 Nov, from 1.30pm to 6.00pm at BPJ and WDL Centres.

Sign up to serve at the booth at the foyer or go to <http://cefc.ch/KidzBlast2017-Volunteer> To invite pre-believing kids, flyers for the event are available at the Information Counter.

### DISCOVERY WEEKEND (DWE)

DWE is a one-day session for courting couples to see where they are and where God is in their relationship. This will be held on **Sat, 14 Oct, 8.45am – 5pm (lunch and breaks included) at BPJ Centre Chapel (Level 3).** Sign-up at the Information Counter on Sundays. Email [fic@cefc.org.sg](mailto:fic@cefc.org.sg) for enquiries.

### HOKKIEN MID-AUTUMN

Invite your Hokkien parents, relatives and friends so they can hear about God's love. Artiste Peter Yu will share his testimony and Rev Oh Beng Khee will be the speaker **this Sat, 7 Oct, 7pm to 9pm at BPJ Centre.** Admission is free. Buffet starts at 6pm on a first-come, first-served basis. For enquiries, email [faith.chen@cefc.org.sg](mailto:faith.chen@cefc.org.sg)

### CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Session 3 "Is the Bible reliable?" is happening today at 1pm at the Prayer Room.

## 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, 1 OCT 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS EDMUND WONG ■ WORSHIP LEADER: PS LIM KENG YEOW AND KAREN

### EFC Asia: Together for His Glory!

REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI, EFCS CHAIRMAN

About 270 folks gathered in Kuala Lumpur from 20 to 23 September 2017 for our 10th EFC Asia Conference 2017. Covenant EFC is part of a denomination called the Evangelical Free Church of Singapore (EFCS). EFCS in turn is part of Evangelical Free Church of Asia (EFC Asia) which consists of five Asian countries: Japan, China/Hong Kong, Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore. These are the countries where the EFC America churches sent missionaries to plant churches.

This year, the theme was "Bridging the Generation Gap". Two keynote speakers, a younger pastor (Rev Jayson Tham, Yan Fook EFC, Hong Kong) and a senior statesman pastor (Ps Daniel Ho, Founding Pastor DUMC, KL), shared their insights and experiences which encouraged us to press on in our endeavour to reach out, grow and develop the next generation for the Kingdom!

As the Chairman of the EFC Asia Committee, I was privileged to witness two special things that happened at this year's conference. Firstly, there is a growing trust and friendship among the EFC Asia Steering Committee. In the past, our representatives would meet once every four years for the purpose of getting the conferences going. Such infrequent contacts and

the recurrent change of country chairman did not allow for deeper conversations to know one another better. But God has been doing something new! Since 2011, He has orchestrated the EFC Asia Steering Committee to meet every year for various reasons. Along with the continuity of current EFC Asia country leadership, this has led to the deepening of trust and friendship. We believe this mutual love and honour is pleasing to the Lord, and by this all men will know that we are His disciples (Jn 13:34-35).

Secondly, the EFC America President, Rev Kevin Kompelien, flew all the way from America to join us just for this conference. As far as I am aware, this was the first time any EFC America President joined our conferences. I see this as a deliberate effort on the part of EFC America to re-engage with the EFC Asia countries. The timing is divine as EFC Asia is now maturing together as a team.

I see God's hand uniting our five Asian countries in mutual love and trust. For me, this forms a truer and deeper foundation for partnership and mission. God is also leading EFC America for deeper engagement this season. God's hand is over us to unite us for the Kingdom. May we live for a larger purpose and grow together for His glory!

## COVENANT EFC

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

ONE CHURCH MULTIPLE CENTRES:

BPJ Centre: 8.30am, 10.30am & 12.30pm ■ WDL Centre: 8.30am & 10.30am ■ East Centre: 10.00am (Pre-service prayer: 9.30am)

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)

## SERMON OUTLINE

### A Few Good Men

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 8:15-20 ■ SERMON: REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI

#### Introduction

“... I found no Levites there.” (v.15)

#### A. God Looks for GIFTED \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.15 – 18a)

“... who were **leaders**, ... who were **men of learning** ...”

#### B. God Looks for WILLING \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.18b-19)

“ they brought us Sherebiah, a **capable man** ... 20 men in all.”

#### C. God Looks for HUMBLE \_\_\_\_\_ (v.20)

“They also brought 220 of the temple **servants** ... to assist the Levites. All were registered by name.”

#### Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

8 OCT – REV TAN KAY KIONG (BPJ), PS EDMUND WONG (WDL) AND PS ANDY LEW (EAST)

## LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

### “Are You with ME?”

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 8:1-14 ■ SERMON: PAUL SHI

#### Introduction

Wave	1st Wave	2nd Wave	3rd Wave
<b>Leader</b>	Zerubbabel	Ezra	Nehemiah
<b>Purpose of Work</b>	Rebuilding the Temple	Establish governance structure and teach the law	Rebuilding the Walls
<b>Year</b>	538 BC	458 BC	445 BC
<b>Number of people</b>	50,000	5000	
<b>Scripture Reference</b>	Ezra 2	Ezra 8	Nehemiah

Ezra 8 is a recorded list of those who had returned to Jerusalem with Ezra. The structure of Ezra 7-8 is written in a Chiastic structure, emphasising the importance of this passage. The message it gives us is that God cares about those who are serving Him.

#### A. A Discipleship That's Born Out of God's Covenant Faithfulness

In Ezra 8, there are key distinctives of this genealogy compared to Ezra 2.

Chapter	Ezra 2	Ezra 8
<b>Number</b>	59,897	Listed: 1500, Estimated 5000
<b>List Structure</b>	Laity, Priestly, Levite	Priestly, Royal Family, Laity
<b>Emphasis</b>	Temple Staff	Unity and Continuity

There are three key family lines that are listed here. The priestly family (Phinehas and Ithamar), the Royal Family (Hattush), and the 12 lay families (Shecaniah, Pahath-moab, Zattu, Adin, Elam, Shephatiah, Joab, Bani, Bebai, Azgad, Adonikam, Bigvai). The 12 lay families speak of the reunification of Israel. This demonstrates God's covenant faithfulness to Israel. Israel had wandered off from God and sinned many times against the LORD, yet God's reunification of Israel here in Jerusalem testifies of God's unending covenant faithfulness to Israel. God indeed is a God who remembers His covenant with His people. When the people of God were asking, “Is God with us?” God responded, “I am with you.”

#### B. A Discipleship That Walks with God in Covenant Obedience

Ezra's goal was to gather “leading men”. In this return, there was a total of 5,000 people, the list here includes 1,500 men and these were the leading men. They had a clear purpose to teach the law of the LORD. These people were “with him (Ezra)”, in this project. “With him” occurs 13 times in this passage. Their purpose was to teach the Word of the LORD to Israel. This was a very important and strategic role as Israel had been worshipping God in ritual but not in the reality of their hearts. It was after this point when Ezra taught the law of the LORD that there was true repentance, and the people of God broke off from their mixed marriages. The antidote to having ritual without reality is the knowledge of God through the study of His Word.

#### Application

How can we grow in having a reality of God through the study of His Word today?