

## 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. Training will be provided. Find out more at the **Introductory Talk today, 2:30pm at BPJ Centre Grace Sanctuary.**

### BREAKTHROUGH WEEKENDS

Registration for Breakthrough Weekends is still ongoing at regular rates. Register online through Voyager.

### C.Y.A.N. "SAVE THE DATE"

A panel of speakers will share from their experiences and answer questions relating to men-and-women relationships from the perspectives of a single, courting couple and married couple on **Sat, 21 Oct, 7pm to 9pm at 5 Little Monkeys Café, 20 Kallang Avenue.** Light refreshments will be provided. Seats are limited. Entry is strictly by registration. Register at <http://cefc.ch/cyanrship>

### EMPOWERING GOD'S MEN

Calling all men! Register at <https://mmn-egm.eventbrite.com> by tomorrow, 9 Oct to hear Rev Dr Tan Soo Inn speak at our last session.

### CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Session 4 "Who is Jesus?" is happening today at 1pm at the Joy 1 Room.

### IDT AND SFF SIGN-UP

**Intentional Discipleship Training (IDT)**  
Are you seeking to grow in Christian maturity and in becoming an authentic disciple and intentional disciplemaker? Apply today for the 2018 intake.

**Spiritual Friends and Foundations (SFF)**  
If you are younger in the Christian faith, learn the basics of discipleship lifestyle at SFF. Apply online through Voyager. Application ends on 31 Oct. For enquiries, email [idtadmin@cefc.org.sg](mailto:idtadmin@cefc.org.sg)

### 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.

### PARENTING WITH LOVE

For newly married couples and those who are planning for their first baby.  
**Dates:** 4 and 11 Nov (Saturdays)  
**Time:** 12pm – 5pm  
**Venue:** WDL Centre  
**Cost:** \$50 per couple  
Sign up today at the Information Counter!

### FLORAL OFFERING

Today's floral offering is sponsored by Chee Weng, Angela and Esther in celebration of Ethan's sixth birthday.

## 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)

## 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, 8 OCT 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS ADRIAN CHAN ■ WORSHIP LEADER: JONATHAN CHI

## Outreach Flywheel for Jesus

PS SHARON FONG, OUTREACH MINISTRY AND DISTRICT MENTOR

In Jim Collin's book, *Good to Great*, he introduced the flywheel effect: "A flywheel is a massive metal disk mounted horizontally on an axle. Now imagine that your task is to get the flywheel rotating on the axle as fast and long as possible. Pushing with great effort, you get the flywheel to inch forward, moving almost imperceptibly at first. You keep pushing and, after two or three hours of persistent effort, you get the flywheel to complete one entire turn. You keep pushing and at some point, there is a breakthrough and a great momentum!"

This year, we want to celebrate the Outreach Flywheel that is turning forward with greater momentum. We thank God for how it is "pushed" at different points:

**Individual.** I am hearing more and more stories of Covenanters B.L.E.S.S-ing their FRANS (friends, relatives, associates, neighbors and strangers). One Covenanter shared the Gospel with her driving instructor on several occasions. It was amazing to hear how she gave thanks to God for failing her

driving test so that she could reach out to her instructor again.

**Covenant Group (CG).** I am seeing more and more CGs serving the community together. I praise God for the Zone Mentors who are leading their zones consisting of three CGs to visit homes around WDL Centre in order to find out their practical needs. They visited these homes again to present a gift and have a meal with them, at the same time inviting them for the Christmas Service. Such intentionality!

**Church.** Recently, I visited the Mandarin Mid-Autumn Outreach Service on 30 Sep, with artiste Desmond Shen sharing his heartwarming testimony. I was encouraged to see so many Covenanters bringing their loved ones and friends. I am also blessed to see many Covenanters inviting their pre-believing friends to attend Two to Tango. Not to forget too the many Covenanters serving in this event.

Let's continue to push this Outreach Flywheel for Jesus, not by our own strength but by the power of the Holy Spirit!

## SERMON OUTLINE

### Prayer for the Journey

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 8:21-23 ■ SERMON: PS ANDY LEW

#### Introduction

Why prayer is critical for our spiritual journey:

#### A. It Establishes Our Priorities in Life (v.21)

“Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava ...”

#### B. It Expresses Our Dependence on God (v.22)

“... The hand of our God is for good on all who seek him ...”

#### Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

15 OCT – REV TONY YEO (BPJ), PS SHARON FONG (WDL) AND PS BARNEY LAU (EAST)

## LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

### A Few Good Men

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 8:15-20 ■ SERMON: REV TAN KAY KIONG

#### Introduction

“I found **no Levites** ...” How strange and sad. What happened? Where are the Levites? Without them, Ezra cannot proceed with the journey as the main purpose of the return was to reform the people through the Word of God. But Ezra wasted no time to mourn over what should or what ought to be done; No time to play the blame game. No time to give up and throw in the towel. He acted swiftly. God is earnestly looking for the following to serve the Church:

#### A. God Looks for GIFTED Leaders (vv.16-17)

1. Ezra “summoned” 11 gifted leaders to resolve the crisis. The first nine were the best of leaders; the next two were men of discernment. Solomon prayed for a discerning heart, to distinguish between right and wrong (1 Kin 3:9).
2. Eleven gifted leaders summoned by Ezra turned around to do a last minute recruitment. Verse 17 tells us they were sent to Iddo, the leader in Casiphia so that they might find the Levites for the house of God. They were even instructed by Ezra on “what to say to him”. In verse 18, the Bible is very clear that in spite of their giftedness, it was “because the gracious hand of our God was upon us” that they managed to recruit some 38 Levitical families to join them on the mission.

**Principle:** We must use our giftedness to accomplish God's work but our reliance must always be upon God!

**Application:** The Church needs the finest leaders. Pray for your leaders. Step up in leadership.

#### B. God Looks for WILLING Teachers (vv.18-19)

1. The 38 Levites recruited were from two families. This number is very low compared to the first return where they had 341 Levites. Why?
  - a. Life is good in Babylon: Probably settled down and not compelled to go back.
  - b. The work of the Levites is not very glamorous: Mostly logistics work like carrying the parts of the Tabernacle. But there is an important function to teach the laws of God (2 Chron 17:17-9; Neh 8:7,9).
2. That's why Ezra acted swiftly when there were no Levites returning with him to Israel. Thank God, there were 38 **willing** Levitical teachers who gave up their lives and comfort in Babylon in order to return to Israel.

**Application:** Reformation. Expository preaching through team preaching. My journey in preaching and teaching. We can learn to teach. Are you willing?

#### C. God Looks for HUMBLE Servants (v.20)

In verse 20, the 220 Temple servants were probably an unexpected bonus. Their response was larger than that of the Levites. Lesson: Those who are needed can't be found, but those who are not required stepped forward! That's a true and humble servant spirit.

**Application:** Annual Step-Up. Recent IDMC Conference in Bandung.

#### Conclusion

Follow in the footsteps of the Master (Matt 20:28)!