

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVE IN HEALTHSERVE

Serve with us at Mandai HealthServe Clinic! We need medical professionals (doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, physiotherapists, and occupational therapists) who can serve at least one clinic session a month. If you are one of these, we would love to hear from you. Email missions@cefc.org.sg or call Michael Cheah at 8200 1917.

TWO TO TANGO

Two to Tango has come to an end last Wednesday. We praise God for the Covenanters who invited their pre-believing friends and those who rose up to serve, love and bless. We also give thanks to God for one salvation, one rededication, and for the one who asked God to soften his heart. Overall, many pre-believers have taken a step closer to Christ. Glory to God!

CHURCH STAFF RECRUITMENT

We are looking for the following:

- **Manager (Media, Communications and Resources)**
- **Executive (The Next Generation)**
- **Executive (Finance)**
- **Executive (Human Resources)**
- **Executive (Buildings and Facilities)**

Applicants should either be a church or CG member, with a heart to answer God's call in their lives in furthering Covenant EFC's mission. For more information, visit <http://www.cefc.org.sg/index.php/about-us/recruitment> Email your resumes to hr@cefc.org.sg by 19 Nov.

NEW LIFE DAY

Why do you do what you do? Join us next Sunday, 12 November at New Life Day as we discover the answer to this question. Come and hear inspiring testimonies of lives being transformed through New Life Community Service!

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 ■ 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 NOV 2017

SERVICE LEADER: REV WILLIAM WONG ■ WORSHIP LEADER: BENJAMIN AND SHARON TAN

Reformed and Always Being Reformed

REV WILLIAM WONG, DISTRICT MENTOR

As Bishop Emeritus Robert Solomon said, the Reformation is a back-to-the Bible movement. It brings us back to the centrality and sovereignty of a great and awesome God who created us in His image. It is a back-to-God movement.

The Reformation was a movement to return the Church back to God, away from the corrupt and man-centredness of the church hierarchy and traditions that had crowded God out of faith and life. The Church then had moved so far away from all that God had intended the spiritual community to be – filled with the Spirit, centred upon the Lordship of Jesus Christ, for the One and Only Glory of God.

The Reformation was a call to a radical reorientation that led to a turning away from the worldly church, from a corrupted ecclesiastical institution that was full of men but missing the power of God. The Reformation was a rebellion! It was a rousing response of the people of God who rediscovered their divine calling and came in full repentance and in utter dependence upon God. It was truly a back-to-God movement!

Fast forward 500 years and what do we see? Men, organisations, hierarchies, structures and

programmes have taken over the Church. We have become so much more man-centred, consumer-driven and we have moved away from the power of God. I see the loss of personal holiness in the people of God. Discipleship has become optional and elective. We can attain membership by attending more programmes and getting more busy in the ministry, yet missing out in our personal devotion and consecration. Marriages are weak, families are fragmenting, youths are disillusioned with the Church and are leaving or becoming disenchanted. Spiritual passion is low, deep convictions are missing and have given way to convenience, preferences and availability.

The Reformation reminded us of the five solas that should mould and form our faith and life: We are saved by grace alone, by faith alone in Christ alone, anchored and directed by the Scriptures alone for the Glory of God alone. We all need another Reformation today! Reformed and always being Reformed! As Van Lodenstein wrote "The church is reformed and always (in need of) being reformed according to the Word of God." May each of us continue to be reformed and be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ in our daily lives! *Semper Reformanda!*

SERMON OUTLINE

When Compromise Seems Harmless

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 9:1-4 ■ SERMON: REV TAN KAY KIONG

Introduction

A. Spiritual Regression Begins with Compromise (vv.1-2)

“The people ... have **not ... separated** themselves from ... their abominations ... has **intermingled** with the peoples of the land” (NASB)

B. Spiritual Restoration Begins with Contriteness (vv.3-4)

“Then everyone who **trembled** at the words of the God of Israel ... and I sat **appalled** until the evening offering.”(NASB)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:
12 NOV – PS EDMUND WONG (BPJ), PAUL SHI (WDL) AND PS LEE DA-WIN (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

Hold on to the Gospel

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 1:27-30 ■ SERMON: BISHOP EMERITUS ROBERT SOLOMON

Introduction

Though Paul wrote Philippians from a prison, it is full of joy — because it is about the Gospel. In this passage we discover the following truths connected with the Gospel.

A. We Must Comprehend the Gospel of Christ (v.27)

The Gospel is the good news centred around the life and Person of Jesus. Thus the early Church spent much effort in making clear who Jesus is. In Philippians 2: 5-11, we see Jesus as the God-Man who died for us. It is in Him that we are justified, sanctified, and will be glorified, and in Him we are on our way to our true Home. This Gospel was clearly proclaimed during the Reformation.

B. We Must Exhibit Conduct Befitting the Gospel (v.27)

The proof of the power of the Gospel is in the conduct, which depends on our character, which is shaped by God's grace, His Word and His Spirit. We must also not neglect Christian discipline. Faith is always connected with obedience, no matter what challenges we face. The Gospel is not only something you know. It is also something you live out.

C. We Must Contend for the Gospel (vv.27-28)

The Gospel will be opposed and we are to defend it, standing firm together. Courage is often needed as we encourage one another in the face of many difficult contemporary challenges. We remember how Martin Luther bravely stood his ground in defending the Gospel.

D. We Must Continue in the Gospel (v.29)

The Gospel is more important than our personal comfort, and we must be willing to suffer for the Gospel. What sustains us in this struggle is the knowledge that Christ is with us, that He is the absolute Lord, and that ultimate victory in Him is ours — “You will be saved” (v.28). Such convictions help us to persevere in Christ.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we need to examine how we are relating to the Gospel. Does the Gospel mean anything to you? Is it making any difference in your life? Are you living out the Gospel? In which areas has the Gospel not touched you? What are you doing to contend for the Gospel? How are you suffering for the sake of the Gospel? As Luther cautioned, “How soon ‘not now’ becomes ‘never.’” It is time for action!