

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MANDARIN SERVICE CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Come and hear artiste Li Nanxing's (李南星) testimony with a pre-believing friend at our Mandarin Service Christmas Eve Outreach on Sun, 24 Dec, 7pm to 9pm at WDL Centre Main Sanctuary (Level 2). Due to limited space, free entry tickets are available at 1 Friend per 1 Christian on a first-come first-served basis. For enquiry, email [chris.pang@cefc.org.sg](mailto:chris.pang@cefc.org.sg)

### C.Y.A.N. CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Christmas is just around the corner! Covenant Young Adult Network (C.Y.A.N.) will be having a Christmas gathering. Come for a time of fun, food and friendship! Register at <https://engage.cefc.org.sg>  
Date: 16 Dec (Sat)  
Time: 7pm – 9pm (dinner will be served)  
Venue: 5 Little Monkeys Cafe, Pico Creative Centre, 20 Kallang Ave, #11-00  
Fee: \$15 per person

### DEC DJ COLLECTION

The Devotional Journal (DJ) for Dec 2017 is now available at our church website and Covenant EFC app. Hard copies are available at the Information Counter at Level 1 while stocks last.

### MATURE ADULTS THANKSGIVING BREAKFAST

Let's give thanks to Jesus for walking with us through thick and thin. Let's thank Him for going before us as we look towards 2018 and beyond. If you're aged 50 and above, still working or retired and worshipping in Covenant EFC, this is for you!

**Date:** 2 Dec (Sat)

**Time:** 9:30 am – 11am (breakfast will be served from 8:30am to 9:30am)

**Venue:** WDL Centre Chapel (Level 4)

Register at <https://engage.cefc.org.sg>  
Registraton ends on 30 Nov. If you need help to register, head down to the Mature Adults Booth at the foyer after the service today. See you there!

### BAPTISM CLASS

The next Baptism Class will be held on 4 Feb 2018, Sun, 1.00pm to 3.30pm at BPJ Centre. Sign up at the Information Counter.

### COVENANT EAST SERVICE ON 10 DEC

Please take note that on 10 Dec 2017, Covenant East will be holding Sunday service in the Grand Ballroom at Hilton Hotel Singapore (Level 3, 581 Orchard Road, Singapore 238883), as Park Avenue Convention Centre is not available for our use. Service timing will still be 10am (pre-service prayer at 9.30am).

## 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

EAST CENTRE, 26 NOV 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS BARNEY LAU ■ WORSHIP LEADER: JONATHAN CHI

### Growing Older in Life, Lordship and Legacy

PS YAM KENG MUN, DISTRICT MENTOR

One in four Covenanters will be aged 65 years and above by the time we celebrate Covenant EFC's 50th anniversary in 2028.

A question that comes to mind about this growing number of older adults is: "How do we disciple them?" We may generalise their needs to evaluating their life events, and considering emotional aspects of chronic illnesses and relational losses confronting them. Another way of examining aging is through the A.D.I.D. perspective: Life, Lordship and Legacy.

**Life** – deciding how we live our lives. "Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." 2 Corinthians 4:16. Chuck Dolph, a psychologist wrote: "If we live long enough, we will lose our beauty, our strength, our wealth, our independence, the control of our bodily functions, our pride, and perhaps our very self." Aging can be an opportunity to depend more on God's grace and the love

of others as we trust Him to deal with disappointments and losses.

**Lordship** – defining for whom we are living. Instead of retiring from serving the Lord, it's the Lord who "re-tires" us to serve Him. We go into a fresh season equipping ourselves to be "capable of teaching and leading the flock," and "serving as overseers and examples of God's flock" (1 Pet 5:1-4).

**Legacy** – being determined to be faithful. "The righteous flourish like the palm tree ... they still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green, to declare that the LORD is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him." (Psa 92: 12-15). Instead of growing spiritually cold, we can be teachers of good things like the men and women in Titus 1 and 2.

God requires both the young and old to serve Him. Much lies ahead, as we equip Covenanters to prepare, and present themselves to God, even when we are well advanced in years.

## SERMON OUTLINE

### How Will You Respond?

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 10:1-4 ■ SERMON: REV TONY YEO

#### Introduction

#### A. Acknowledge Your Sin Against God (vv.1-2a)

“We have broken faith with our God ...”

#### B. Affirm Your Hope in God (v.2b)

“... but even now there is hope for Israel in spite of this.”

#### C. Align Your Life with God (vv.3-4)

“... let us make a covenant with our God to put away ...”

#### Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

3 DEC – PS BARNEY LAU (BPJ), PS KATHERINE CHAN (WDL) AND REV TAN KAY KIONG (EAST)

## LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

### Go Back so as to Walk Forward

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 9:6-15 ■ SERMON: PS SHARON FONG

#### Introduction

Life is not just moving forward like being in a rat in a race, but also going back to the past to consider and reflect. To walk into God's appointed destiny for your lives, we need to go back to an episode that we have strayed away from God. Go back so as to walk forward.

#### A. Go Back to Our Point of Departure (vv.6-7)

Although Ezra did not marry a foreign women, yet he prayed a corporate prayer of confession for the nation's unfaithfulness for marrying foreign women in the land. He confessed the sins of the nation from where they had fallen since the days of their forefathers. He recognised that the sins of unfaithfulness of intermarriage did not only happen with the second wave of returnees, but since the days of their forefathers. There was a need to confess from their point of departure. Likewise, when we confess our sins, there is a place to go back to our point of departure and start our confession there. To do so, we need to seriously consider the following: 1) Get rid of old excuses; 2) Face old enemies and 3) Stop believing old lies.

#### B. Walk into God's Appointed Destiny (vv.8-15)

Verses 8 and 9 remind us that they were still slaves. Though they were back to the Promised Land, they were still under the foreign authority of Persia. They were back in the land but not in their destiny yet. What they had was only a short relief from their bondage which does not mean complete freedom. They must still confess their sins so as to walk into their destiny as strong people in the land. Mistaking a short relief from bondage as complete freedom is like missing out on their destiny altogether.

Some of us keep pet sins that will give us short relief and pleasures but they enslave us and distract us from our destiny. We think that pet sins, insignificant sins, and small compromises in life are domesticated, tamed and under our control. We don't want to get rid of them but grow them secretly in our hearts and thoughts. We run to them for company and comfort. Some don't look evil but they replace God's throne in our lives. They give us short relief but they enslave us and distract us from our destiny. Let's confess our sins, big or small and don't let them enslave us and distract us from our destiny.

What is God's appointed destiny for your life? 1 Peter 2:9 “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”

Proclamation is our destiny! Proclaim God's truth in our lives, marriage, parenting, work and community. May our witness be the best inheritance that we can leave to those who come after us. Don't leave money as inheritance for our children. Leave good witness as an inheritance. Confess our sins, live a holy life and be a good witness!

#### Conclusion

Because of what Christ has done for us on the cross, today we have an everlasting inheritance in Christ. Likewise, we must live a holy life and let our witness be an inheritance for those who come after us. We must walk into our destiny to proclaim and witness for Jesus Christ.