

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE OUTREACH SERVICES

Christmas is just around the corner! Invite your friends and loved ones to our Christmas Eve Outreach Services. This is the perfect time to celebrate and share God's greatest gift through a musical performance and a special message.

Date: 24 Dec (Sun)

Time: 8.30am, 10.30am and 12.30pm

Speaker: Paul Shi

SERVE IN NEW LIFE

Be a Steady Readers Volunteer Mentor! Help children overcome challenges in reading and instil a love for books in them.

Dates: Weekly from Jan to May 2018

Time: 8pm – 9.30pm

Training sessions will be held on 6, 7, 13 and 14 Jan (choose one training session only) from 1pm to 5pm at Fajar Youth Hub.

To sign up or enquire, contact Jason Lee at 9635 1135, Lewis Woo at 9634 9457, or email volunteer@newlife.org.sg

CHURCH STAFF RECRUITMENT

We are looking to fill the role of **Executive (Integrated Equipping)**. 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 17 Dec.

MANDARIN SERVICE CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Due to the overwhelming response these past Sundays, all the tickets have been redeemed. Today's collection at the foyer is **only** for community pre-believers. For further enquiry, email 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

COVENANT EAST SERVICE ON 10 DEC

Covenant East will be holding **next Sunday's 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).

DEC DJ COLLECTION

Hard copies of our Devotional Journal (DJ) for Dec are available at the Information Counter at Level 1 while stocks last.

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, 3 DEC 2017

SERVICE LEADER: REV WILLIAM WONG ■ WORSHIP LEADER: KAREN PHUAH

Generations for His Kingdom!

SARAH CHAN, THE NEXT GENERATION (TNG)

The ONE80 Graduation Luncheon last Saturday was permeated with youthful energy — youths thrilled to meet their friends, parents catching up from across our three worship centres, and leaders exchanging testimonies of God's goodness — a picture of God's inter-generational Church!

ONE80 is an annual discipleship programme for youths aged 13 to 15 years old. The theme was *Look — Look Up* in pursuit of knowing God, *Look Within* to build an identity in Him, and *Look Out* to fulfil their purposes in His Kingdom. We had 94 youths in the span of four weeks with one awesome God!

It is often said that it takes a village to raise a child. At the graduation, we witnessed a village celebrating the discipleship milestone of 94 youths who pursued the Lord, and gathered to celebrate the God who fulfils and exceeds His promises. "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." — Jeremiah 29:13 They sought Him and found Him!

In the midst of the fun camp, the time of worship and daily hour of silence and solitude are the highlights of ONE80. Why? Because this is when the youths experienced a God who speaks through His Word, as well as

the opportunity for them to express their adoration through intimate times of worship — 94 voices felt like a thousand voices reverberating with praise!

During the final night of ONE80 Breakthrough, the youths prayed for their adult leaders and the Lord spoke through them, moving us to tears. It was a humbling moment of realisation that the youths were not just being disciplined, but were also ministers and disciplemakers! That night, 23 youths answered His call to full-time ministry. The rest worshipped with a burning passion when they were challenged to be His missionaries wherever they will be sent. It was the sound of a generation hungry to pursue Him with all their hearts! Last Friday, they were sent on a Faith Journey — a day of PDA, seeking and obeying Him. The Lord gave them visions which came to pass. They prayed for and blessed strangers they met on Orchard Road, elderly living at MacPherson, students in universities, homeless around the Esplanade, and many more!

As we desire to equip these saints for His work tomorrow, they are also the Church of today in a world that desperately needs it. Let's build His Kingdom today. Whom have we last disciplined?

SERMON OUTLINE

Covenant Community

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 10:5-15 ■ SERMON: PS BARNEY LAU

Introduction

A. Covenant to Act Together

B. Covenant to Act Together Over Time

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

10 DEC – PS ANDY LEW (BPJ), PS SHARON FONG (WDL) AND PS IVAN HO (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

How Will You Respond?

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 10:1-4 ■ SERMON: PAUL SHI

Introduction

The Moravian movement started with Count Ludwig Von Zinzendorf. He was moved by Domenico's Feti's painting *Ecce Homo* (Behold the Man), and the couplet which said "All this I have done for thee, what has thou done for me?" Zinzendorf wasn't just gripped in his heart, these words had now conquered his soul. This movement started what was known as the longest prayer meeting in the world, which lasted for 100 years.

How responsive are we? In Ezra 10:1-4, the centre point of a chiasmic structure from chapters 9 to 10, we see that the Israelites responded to God in confession and repentance for their sins.

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

1. Ezra's mark of godliness is how deeply he loved and cared for the spiritual condition of God's people.
2. He prayed (interceded, arbitrated, mediated), confessed (a deep acknowledgement of their sins before God), wept (lamented, wailed as if a loved one has died), and fell prostrated before God.
3. Similar patterns of a deep care and love for God's people are reflected in Nehemiah 1:4-6, Apostle Paul in Romans 9, and others who sighed, groaned and were in anguish over God's people.
4. The people of God then came together and confessed and wept over their own sins. Men, women and children wept bitterly. They confessed their sins to God.
5. We know that we start to sense the weight of God's presence when we start to sense the weight of our sin.
6. How seriously do we take our sin?

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

1. Shecaniah says "but even now"/ "but even in spite of this", which speaks of hope that is still to come.
2. There's a similar pattern in Romans 3:21 where Paul speaks about "but now" which marks a turning point.
3. There is no such thing as finality in the Kingdom of God, primarily because our God is a covenant-keeping God. Our God is a God who remembers His Covenant with His people.

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

1. The people of God took action regarding their repentance. After they have responded to God in confession and affirmed their hope in Him, they then intentionally took action. They wanted to put away their foreign wives and their children.
2. This is similar to Zacchaeus who was met by Jesus, wanted to give half his possessions to the poor and pay back four times the amount to anyone he had cheated.
3. Our intentional restitution is a key mark of our sincere repentance.

Application Questions

1. How serious do we take our sin?
2. In what ways do we need to affirm our hope in God?
3. Are there intentional steps we can take to align our lives with God?