

# Announcements

## ALPHA: WHAT ABOUT THE CHURCH?

Alpha is a series of informal and relaxed sessions exploring the Christian faith. Many have come to know Christ through Alpha. Invite your pre-believing loved ones or friends!

**Date:** 27 Jun (Wed)

**Time:** 7.00pm - 9.30pm

**Venue:** YMCA Orchard 1 Orchard Road (238824)

**Register at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com>**

For enquiries, email [alpha@cefc.org.sg](mailto:alpha@cefc.org.sg)

## PARENTING TRAINING

**Parenting with Faith** is for parents with kids below 12 years old.

Dates: Eight sessions from 7 July to 25 Aug.

Time: 2pm – 4pm

Venue: ACKCentre

Fee: \$100 / couple

**Parenting with Love** is for married couples preparing for their first child.

Dates: 30 Jun and 7 July (Saturdays)

Time: 12pm – 5pm

Venue: BPJ Centre

Fee: \$50 /couple

*Register at the Information Counter today!*

## LIFE CROSSROADS FORUM

Are you at life's crossroads (midlife career switch, retrenchment or retirement)? Are you struggling to move forward? Encouragers-in-Covenant brings you Life Crossroads Forum. Covenanters (any age) are invited to come and hear fellow Covenanters share their journeys. Register today as seats are limited!

**Date:** 14 Jul (Sat)

**Time:** 8.30am – 12pm (breakfast will be served from 7.30am to 8.30am)

**Venue:** ACKCentre, #10-03

To register, email [encouragersadmin@cefc.org.sg](mailto:encouragersadmin@cefc.org.sg) and indicate your name and contact number.

## UNIVERSITY BEFRIENDER PROGRAMME

Looking for an opportunity to B.L.E.S.S.? Hundreds of international students come to Singapore to study each year. Show God's love by simply making a home away from home for them — extend your hospitality, introduce them to Singapore, and invite them for meals.

**Find out more at the booth at the foyer today! Sign up at <http://cefc.ch/UniBefriender201819>**

Registration ends on 1 Jul.

For more information, email [missions@cefc.org.sg](mailto:missions@cefc.org.sg)



## 40-DAY PRAYER (1 JUL – 9 AUG)

Pray and Repent is the spiritual burden for our upcoming 40-day prayer season. Let's get ready to move further and deeper into repentance this coming 40-day prayer season!

- LoveSingapore 40-Day Prayer devotionals will be available from next Sun, 1 Jul onwards
- LoveSingapore Solemn Assembly (1-7 Jul, 8pm) will be held at BPJ Centre
- Overnight Prayer (8 Aug, 10.30pm to 9 Aug 6am) – more details will be released soon

## PASTORS' INSTALLATION

Come and join the celebration as we witness Jeremy Koh and Sandra Chi of the Covenant EFC Staff Team installed as pastors, and Dr Stacey Tay installed as a lay pastor. A pastor is a salaried staff of the church while a non-salaried lay pastor serves firstly in the marketplace, and secondly in the church in a pastoral capacity.

**Date:** 15 Jul (Sun)

**Time:** 2:30pm – 5pm

**Venue:** WDL Centre, Main Sanctuary

**For catering purposes, please RSVP by 5 Jul at the respective links:**

Jeremy Koh – <http://cefc.ch/jk>

Sandra Chi – <http://cefc.ch/sc>

Dr Stacey Tay – <http://cefc.ch/st>

Come and bless them and share their joy!



... for a Vibrant & Healthy Next Generation

... for Godly Families and Generations

... for a Growing IDMC Movement in Singapore

... to Impact Our Society & Culture

... for a Growing Global IDMC Movement

**ACKCentre**

2 Kallang Avenue,

CT Hub #10-26, Singapore 339407

**ONE CHURCH MULTIPLE CENTRES**

**BPJ Centre:**

Sun 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30pm

**WDL Centre:**

Sun 8.30am & 10.30am

**East Centre:**

Sun 9am & 11am

**T** (65) 6892 6811

**E** [mail@cefc.org.sg](mailto:mail@cefc.org.sg)

**W** [www.cefc.org.sg](http://www.cefc.org.sg)

**FB** [www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch](http://www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch)

*CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch*

**WOODLANDS, 24 JUN 2018**

SERVICE LEADER: PS SHARON FONG • WORSHIP LEADER: BENJAMIN AND SHARON TAN

## Being Relevant Without Losing Our Fundamentals

PAUL SHI, THE NEXT GENERATION

**R**ick Warren in his Tedx Talk “How to Stay Relevant” opened by asking, “How do organisations become irrelevant?” He went on to say, “An organization becomes irrelevant when the speed of change around the organization is faster than the speed of change inside the organization.”

I thought this was a simple yet profound insight. I was reminded of Youth For Christ's slogan “Anchored to the Rock, Geared to the Times.” This captures the essence of holding fast to the fundamentals of the faith, whilst being open-handed when it comes to methodology, in order to stay connected to the times.

Recently we have started our CYAN Gatherings. One of the core principles that guides what we do and how we do it, is to be culturally relevant. Essentially, this means that if we want to see growth amongst our younger generation, our strategy needs to change. Our desire to stay culturally relevant guided our decision in choosing the location (Bugis+ in Joyden Hall). It impacts

how we design the look and feel of every PowerPoint slide, as well as every Instagram post. It frames the major topics that we cover in each CYAN Gathering, and directs how we welcome and connect. But at the heart of it all, the life-giving message of Jesus cannot and will not change.

It requires wisdom and discernment to know how to remain culturally relevant, without losing any of the essentials of who we are and our fundamentals. At times, we are afraid of becoming culturally relevant, thinking that if we do so, we will lose our fundamentals. However, understanding and implementing new ideas, and trying new methods do not mean that we lose our fundamentals. Nevertheless, staying true to the fundamentals requires both innovation and maturity.

Let's pray that the Lord gives us wisdom in knowing how to be a church that is relevant to our times, without ever losing sight of our intentional discipling mandate.

# Sermon Outline

## Growing Pains

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 6:1-7 • SERMON: PS IVAN HO

### Introduction

A. We can't just remain the same; we must \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.1-4).

B. We can't just change; we must remain the \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.5-7).

### Conclusion

**NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:**

1 JUL - SARAH CHAN (BPJ), PS MATTHEW LO (WDL), AND PS SHARON FONG (EAST)

# Last Week's Sermon Summary

## Being a Father

SCRIPTURE: 1 THESSALONIANS 2:10-12 • SERMON: BISHOP EMERITUS ROBERT SOLOMON

### Introduction

How we are fathered influences how we father our children. But earthly fathers are not perfect, and often we repeat the scripts of imperfect (and damaging) fathering down the generations. But God is also our Father and the best earthly fathers are those who experience being fathered by Him.

What does it mean to be fathered by God? We know that we receive His perfect love, experience His faithful presence, and enjoy His wise guidance. We can learn many things about fathering from God.

In 1 Thessalonians 2:10-12, Paul describes his ministry as one of spiritual fathering. This is an important aspect of fathering in the family. It involves:

#### 1. Being Good Models (v.10)

In his use of the three adverbs that are translated as “holy, righteous, and blameless” Paul paints the key aspects of this spiritual modelling. Fathering involves having a godly inner disposition that fears, honours, and pleases God, behaviour that is upright and honest, and a good reputation. A godly father is able to say, “Look at Jesus, but look also at me for you will find Jesus in my life.”

#### 2. Being Good Motivators (vv.11-12)

The ministry of fathering is described by three verbs in verse 12 – encouraging, comforting, and urging. Together they paint a picture of a caring and encouraging father. Those who are losing their courage need encouragement, those who are wounded need comforting, and those who are doing well need to be urged to persevere. We live in a highly stressful and demanding world. Our families are often affected deeply, with our children and other family members becoming disheartened and hurt. A good father will seek to minister accordingly, finding time to listen and encourage, and cheer family members to remain strong and faithful.

### The Goal of Spiritual Fathering

The goal of fathers who understand their ministry of example and encouragement is to help their family members to “live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory” (v.12). How happy a father is to see his children walking as children of God. This is the goal of fathering.

### Conclusion

God does not give us a task without also giving us His abundant grace. If you are a father, let God father you so that in your fathering, you can reproduce something of the fathering you are receiving from Him. In that way, you will be a great blessing to your family. God is never too busy or aloof to neglect fathering us. We must learn deeply from Him. Also, let us encourage our fathers by appreciating them and praying for them. May God bless all our fathers!

A dad is a mender of toys,  
A leader of boys.  
He's a changer of fuses,  
A healer of bruises.  
He's a mover of couches,  
A soother of ouches.  
He's a pounder of nails,  
A teller of tales.  
He's a dryer of dishes,  
A fulfiller of wishes.  
Bless him, O Lord. (Jo Ann Heidebreder)