

Announcements

VOCATION, MINISTRY AND WORK 1

IDMC Institute is hosting a module by Biblical Graduate School of Theology on Vocation, Work and Ministry. Learn about the theology of work and discover what God is doing in the world, what He is calling us to do and how we, as working people, can serve Him in church and in the marketplace. Register today for the first of a two-part module!

Dates: 16, 23, 30 Jul and 6, 13, 27 Aug (Mondays)

Time: 7.15pm – 10.00pm

Venue: ACKCentre, Live Recording Studio (#10-10)

Fee: \$225 (Credit), \$90 (Audit) Covenanters are entitled to 20% discount on credit courses only. To register, email registration@bgs.edu.sg

LIFE CROSSROADS FORUM

Are you at life's crossroads (midlife career switch, retrenchment or retirement) and struggling to move forward? 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 and indicate your name and contact number.

JUL 2018 DJ COLLECTION

The Devotional Journal (DJ) for Jul 2018 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.

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>

UNIVERSITY BEFRIENDER PROGRAMME

B.L.E.S.S. the international students who come to Singapore to study each year. Show God's love by extending 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 today.

For more information, email missions@cefc.org.sg



DISCOVERY WEEKEND

Discovery Weekend is a full-day workshop for courting couples to discover how to build a strong foundation in their relationship based on honest interaction, biblical principles and purity.

Date: 21 Jul (Sat) **Time:** 8.30am – 5pm

Venue: ACKCentre, Performing Arts Studio (#10-03)

Register at the Information Counter. For enquiries, email fic@cefc.org.sg

SERVE IN NEW LIFE

Partner with us to invest in the lives of children. Be a volunteer-mentor!

Kids Champ Club. A character-building programme to inculcate values such as trustworthiness and respect in P1 to P4 students.

Dates: 14 Jul – 15 Dec (fortnightly, Saturdays)

Time: 2pm – 6pm (includes pre and post-briefing)

Venue: BPJ Centre, Chapel

Training: 4 Jul, 7.30pm–9.00 pm at Fajar Youth Hub

Steady Readers. Programme for K2 to P4 students to improve their literacy skills and instil a love of reading.

Dates: 23 Jul – 15 Nov (weekly, Mon/Wed for BPJ, Tue/Thu for WDL)

Time: 8.00pm – 9.30pm

Training: 7, 8, 14 or 15 Jul (choose one day only), 1pm – 5pm at Fajar Youth Hub

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

Register at the Information Counter today!

COVENANT EFC 40TH ANNIVERSARY Disciple Now!

... 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

W www.cefc.org.sg

FB www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch

WOODLANDS, 1 JUL 2018

SERVICE LEADER: TIMOTHY YEO • WORSHIP LEADER: TOH MING XUAN

Building for The Next Generation (1): The Future Unseen

REV TAN KAY KIONG AND REV TONY YEO, SENIOR PASTORS

Today is our annual The Next Generation (TNG) Sunday and the theme is "The Future Unseen"!

Today, we remind ourselves that unless we disciple the young now, we will not see any vibrant and healthy next generation in the future, much less a vibrant and healthy next generation leadership.

On 21 Mar 2016, the article "Youth in Singapore Shunning Religion" was published in *The Straits Times* stating: "The trend of non-religious affiliation is in tandem with an increasingly educated populace, some of whom might move away from religion if it does not connect with their lives and needs."

This is a rising challenge for the Church – to engage the hearts of the children, youths and young adults. In this Information Age wherein we are overloaded with knowledge and in an era where the young thinks with their feelings, the next generation needs to experience the reality of God so that they not only know Him, but also love, serve and follow Him wholeheartedly. Parents will have to prioritise this sacred and challenging task of discipling them at home, and the Church will have to mobilise other mentors to come alongside and maximize the platforms we have to let the Holy Spirit change their hearts.

This is indeed an unseen future! It is not just accomplished by better platforms, but committed mentors who will sacrifice their

time to impart their lives and imprint God's Word in the hearts of the next generation. Many of us are where we are today because someone took time to journey with us.

As we look towards Vision 2028, we see not just the internal needs of the young within the Church, but also the Church's impact to the young in the community and beyond. It has been proven that it's easier for the 4 to 14-year-olds to come to know Jesus; it gets harder as they grow beyond this age group.

God has now given us three church centres in our respective communities. We are thankful for the work that New Life has done. We must also poise the Church for greater outreach work in the community. They must go hand in hand. There has to be authentic discipleship (AD) and intentional discipling (ID) of *A Certain Kind* so as to bring about an Intentional Disciple Making Church (IDMC) movement in Singapore and beyond.

I can never forget the day I saw a visually impaired 11-year-old boy entering BPJ with his father. He loves to attend the WEB service. I was so proud of our leaders and young people who quickly reached out to him. That's what IDMC is all about. That's what the Gospel is all about. That's what we must continue to do faithfully in our three worship centres — to follow Jesus (AD) and reproduce followers of Jesus (ID)!

Sermon Outline

A Future Unseen

SCRIPTURE: TOPICAL (THE LIFE OF JOSEPH) • SERMON: PS MATTHEW 10

Introduction

A. See as God Sees

B. Do as God Says

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

8 JUL - PS LEE DA-WIN (BPJ), REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (WDL), AND REV BARNEY LAU (EAST)

Last Week's Sermon Summary

Growing Pains

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

Introduction

As a church grows, the needs also grow and problems arise. The first century church in Jerusalem experienced rapid growth (Acts 2-6) and social problems arose. Wisdom and spiritual maturity were required to resolve this crisis. Acts 6:1-7 teaches us two key lessons on how we should respond to growing pains:

A. We Can't Just Remain the Same; We Must Change (vv.1-4)

1. Immediate context: Acts 5:42 precedes 6:1. Every day the apostles were teaching and preaching the Gospel, plus distributing food to the widows. All this time, the number of disciples was increasing, and administrative gaps were inevitable.
2. The Hellenists complained against the Hebrews that the Hellenistic widows were neglected. Hellenistic Jews were returnees from the Jewish Diaspora who had adopted Greek language and culture. Hebraic Jews were natives of Palestine who spoke primarily Aramaic. Mosaic Law protects the widows. Most likely, there was inadvertent neglect due to the rapid church growth and inadequate structure and processes to meet the growing needs.
3. First Key Principle: The church's organisational structure and administrative processes must change in order to cater to the needs of a growing congregation and to keep on growing.
4. Learning from the apostles' response: (a) Defend not themselves; (b) Dialogue with stakeholders; (c) Devise suitable plan; (d) Delegate with wisdom; (e) Devote to priorities. Spiritual leadership priorities: Devote to prayer and to the ministry of the Word (v.4).
5. Each member has an integral part to play (1 Cor 12:12-21). All Christian ministries and services are spiritual activities; there is no sacred-secular divide. Everything is done for God, in obedience to His call.

B. We Can't Just Change; We Must Remain the Same (vv.5-7)

1. The chosen seven are most likely all Hellenists. All fulfilled God's criteria for church administrative service (v.3): good reputation, full of the Spirit, full of wisdom. Do you fulfil the three criteria? If not, why? What's hindering your spiritual growth? It's time for us to **pray and repent!** Solemn Assembly on 1-7 July. The Church in Singapore is entering into a season of prayer and repentance over the next six months as we move towards the Celebration of Hope on 17-19 May 2019. Lord, send a revival!
2. When the church is a healthy, growing, witnessing Christian community, we will see the Gospel advance, a continued church growth, breakthroughs in evangelism and authentic discipleship (v.7)!
3. Second Key Principle: The fundamental principles and the core mission of the church must remain the same. Our identity and mission don't change. We are God's people called to proclaim His greatness to our communities, our nation and the world, to preach the Gospel and make disciples of all the nations!
4. Closing story: John Sung and the 1931 revival in Nanchang, China. He preached on sin. People came under deep conviction of the Spirit, confessed and repented of sins. Many were converted.

Conclusion

As the church grows, there will be growing pains, but keeping the Word of God is primary and central in the life of the Church! Keep the Gospel uncompromised and undiluted in the ministry of the Church!