

Announcements

SP/CO DIALOGUE ON VISION 2028 DOMESTIC AGENDA AND FUNDRAISING

Come dialogue with our SPs/COs on the Vision 2028 domestic agenda and fundraising, and why these are so crucial and imperative towards building for the next generation.

BPJ Centre: TODAY, 29 Jul, 2:30pm–4.30pm at BPJ Chapel

WDL Centre: TODAY, 29 Jul, 1pm-3pm at WDL Main Sanctuary

GROWING OUR CULTURAL INTELLIGENCE IN HOME MISSIONS

EQ? IQ? What's CQ? It's a measure of Cultural Intelligence! Come and experience what it means to be culturally intelligent when you are reaching out to your foreign friends.

Date: 31 Jul (Tue)

Time: 7:30pm – 9:30pm

Venue: ACKCentre

This workshop is brought to you by the Home Missions Team. Come and find out



how to be part of this team! Admission is free. Sign up at <http://cefc.ch/MWorkshop18>

BAPTISM AND MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

Baptism Class is on Sun, 5 Aug, 1.00pm to 3.30pm at BPJ Centre.

Membership Class is on Sat, 11 Aug, 9am to 4pm at ACKCentre.

Register at the Information Counter.

OVERNIGHT PRAYER

Get ready to climax our 40-day prayer season with overnight prayer! We will hear senior civil servants share about our nation so that we can pray for our government. We will learn about societal issues which are happening so that we can repent on behalf of the land. We will do a prayer walk in the community and bring blessing over it. Let's pray and repent together for our nation!

Date and Time: 8 Aug, 11pm to 9 Aug, 6am

Venues: BPJ Centre, WDL Centre, ACKCentre (for Covenant East)

Bring a powerbank for your phone to last the night.

BEFRIENDING OLDER FAMILY MEMBERS

Would you like to improve relationships with older adults in the family, neighbourhood or workplace? Join this workshop and learn how to have a pleasant conversation to build better rapport, and have meaningful dialogues to help older adults deal with their frustrations and concerns.

Date: 18 Aug (Sat)

Time: 8.30am – 5.00pm

Venue: ACKCentre

Sign up at Voyager.

Slots are limited! Registration ends on 12 Aug.

AUG 2018 DJ COLLECTION

The Devotional Journal (DJ) for Aug 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.



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

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EAST, 29 JUL 2018

SERVICE LEADER: ELDER JOHNNY TAN • WORSHIP LEADER: DAVID CHONG

Vision 2028 : Faith Exploit 5
Disciple Now for a Growing Global
Intentional Disciplemaking Church (IDMC) Movement (2)

ELDER JOHNNY TAN, DIRECTOR, MISSIONS

I find it interesting that in the past seven days, God seemed to point back to past events which somehow give relevance to what has been happening these days. Lucy sent me pictures of Covenant EFC's (ECF at that time) first missions trip. What caught my attention is that in this first missions trip, the whole church was involved — a total of 40 adults and children! In 2017, 405 Covenanters took part in 32 short-term missions trips. It is not quite the whole church but it is still more than the 148 Covenanters who participated in 2016. Thank you, church, for stepping forward to win the world for Christ!

Rev Dr Colin Smith shared an extract from the sermon "Propitiation" preached by James Denny in April 1911 during the annual meeting of Baptist Missions Society: "The motives to missions work can never be found in a command as such. We read the command of Jesus in the Gospel, 'Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature,' and we know by experience that for the multitudes it does not constitute a motive at all. They are quite well aware of it, but they quite easily ignore it. It only acts as a motive in those who have themselves been won by Christ, who realise what an unspeakable gift God

has given us in his Son."

One domestic helper from the Indonesian Fellowship understood this motive. Ekawati accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and Lord during her stay in Singapore. She has just enrolled in YWAM's Discipleship Training School in Bali with the objective to bring the Gospel to her hometown. Indeed from Home Missions, God will bring forth more disciplemakers! Her actions inspired another domestic helper who will do likewise next year!

Pastor Siang Hon, by divine appointment, met a Bangladeshi migrant worker. God allowed them to relate well to each other despite some difficulties in communication. They communicate over WhatsApps and through this, Pastor Siang Hon got to meet the Bangladeshi worker's friends. The Gospel was shared in their conversations. So far there is no rejection on the part of the Bangladeshi worker. He is even open to read the Bible. We pray that one day, he too will accept Christ as his personal saviour and be a disciplemaker in Bangladesh.

Each one of us has a role in missions. Do pray and ask the Lord which of the four roles (Goer, Welcomer, Sender, Mobiliser) you can participate in.

Sermon Outline

Chosen Instruments

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 9:1-15 • SERMON: REV COLIN SMITH

Chosen Instruments Are:

A. Compelled by the Glory of Christ

B. Humbled by the Mercy of Christ

C. Submitted to the Lordship of Christ

D. Engaged in the Mission of Christ

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

5 AUG – REV TAN KAY KIONG (BPJ), REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (WDL) AND REV BARNEY LAU (EAST)

Last Week's Sermon Summary

Running with the Gospel

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 8:26-40 • SERMON: REV COLIN SMITH

Introduction

Acts tells us the story of how the Gospel spread from Jerusalem through Judea to Samaria and to the ends of the earth (1:8). It also tells us how the Gospel came to Africa through the conversion of a man from Ethiopia.

God took the initiative by sending Philip to a desert place. Earlier, Philip had preached to crowds in the city (vv.5, 6). But his greatest work was his ministry to one man whom he met in a desert. Never underestimate what God can do when you are in a desert place.

God also took the initiative in the life of the Ethiopian. He was the Queen's treasurer, the chief financial officer of an entire nation. He had adopted Judaism and had come to Jerusalem to worship. In all likelihood, the visit did not go well. The man was a eunuch, and an ancient law given to Israel would have excluded him from the temple courts (Deut 23:1).

On the journey home, he was reading a copy of the prophecy of Isaiah, but he could not understand it. At that point God brought Philip across his path. God works by bringing people who know Him across the path of people who need to know Him.

Philip proclaimed the Gospel to the Ethiopian. He began with the Scripture that the man was reading from Isaiah 53 and told him the good news about Jesus. This meant telling the man who Jesus is, what He accomplished in His atoning death on the cross, how He rose from the grave, and is now gathering people from every tribe and nation for Himself, offering grace, mercy and new life to all who will come to Him in faith and repentance — including the eunuch (see Isa 56:3).

Philip must have also told him about baptism because when they reached an oasis in the desert, the man asked if he could be baptised. Baptism is more than a testimony in which we confess our faith to God and to others. It is a gift in which God speaks to us about the effects of the Gospel in our lives washing us clean, raising us from death to life, and bringing us to belong to the Father, the Son and the Spirit and hence to the family of God.

God still works in the same way today. Lives will be changed and communities will be reached as God takes the initiative and we proclaim the Gospel.