

# Announcements

## COVENANT EAST SERVICE NEXT SUN

Next Sun, 19 Aug, Covenant East will hold its Sunday Service at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel (Grand Ballroom, Level 4, 392 Havelock Rd, Singapore 169663), as Park Avenue Convention Centre is not available for our use. There will only be one service at 10am as the ballroom is able to accommodate a larger-sized congregation. Sunbeam and WEB services will be held at various function rooms within the hotel.

## COMMUNITY BLESSINGS

### Cooking Demo and Food Sampling

Would you like to learn how to make Fried Mee Siam and Miso Clam Soup? Bring a pre-believing friend along and connect!

**Date:** 15 Aug (this Wed)

**Time:** 7.30pm – 9pm

**Venue:** WDL Centre foyer

**Fee:** \$5 (pay on that day)

To enquire on how to sign up, SMS Vincent Chia at 9842 8275.

## SOCCER OUTREACH

Is it challenging to invite pre-believing friends and loved ones to church? What about playing soccer together? Covenant EFC is starting a soccer outreach group and inviting Covenanters who are passionate about souls and soccer to join us! **We are having a briefing, prayer and kick-around session on Sun, 9 Sep.** Please email [CefcSoccerOutreach@gmail.com](mailto:CefcSoccerOutreach@gmail.com) with your name and contact number to register your interest.

## IDMC 2018 NAME TAG COLLECTION

Calling all Covenanters who have registered for IDMC 2018! Beat the queue by collecting your name tags **next Sun, 19 Aug 10am to 1pm** at BPJ and WDL Centres. **Have your ticket QR code or ticket number ready to expedite your collection.**

## COVENANT EFC'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Come and celebrate as ONE church!

**Date:** 2 Sep (Sun)

**Time:** 9.30am-12.15pm (Security check is required. Please come early at 9.15am.)

**Venue:** Singapore EXPO Hall 1

- Children will join the main service and will receive a 40th Anniversary Fun Pack! First come, first served. (No children's programme)
- Stand a chance to win prizes in our selfie contest. More details soon!
- 40th Anniversary limited edition early bird gift for the first 1,000 adults.
- Giving of firstfruits offering towards Vision 2028!

## BEFRIENDING OLDER FAMILY MEMBERS

Join this workshop and learn how to improve your relationships with older adults.

**Date:** 18 Aug (this Sat)

**Time:** 8.30am – 5.00pm

**Venue:** ACKCentre

Sign up at [engage.cefc.org.sg](http://engage.cefc.org.sg) using your Voyager login. Slots are limited! **Today is the last day of registration.**



... 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)

**EAST, 12 AUG 2018**

SERVICE LEADER: PS JEREMY KOH • WORSHIP LEADER: SIMON AND LILLIAN SEOW

## A Future Worth Reaching!

REV TAN KAY KIONG AND REV TONY YEO, SENIOR PASTORS

For an entire week every year, the Senior Pastor's Office "ascend" to Kinabalu Park to intentionally and prayerfully discern the Lord's ongoing spiritual burden and directives for Covenant EFC in the light of her Mission. This is then shared with Covenant EFC's Board and Staff for their collective prayers, discernment and resonance.

Vision 2028 & Beyond, which consists of Five Faith Exploits, is the outcome of such leadership plurality and process since 2012. It serves as a 50th anniversary milestone in our Intentional Disciplemaking Church (IDMC) mission to strengthen every foundation and champion an IDMC movement.

Covenant EFC is called to **grow a Global and Local Movement of IDMC churches.** The ministries of the IDMC Global Alliance (GA) led by Leadership Mentor Rev Edmund Chan, Covenant EFC's Missions in Asia, and the IDMC SG Chapter serve this purpose. Together, these represent our modest initiative and contribution to "return the Church to its disciplemaking roots".

Covenant EFC seeks to be a microcosm of the larger IDMC movement. She must answer God's call to be "salt and light" that **impacts culture and society.** For that to happen, "authentic discipleshap and intentional disciplemaking (ADID)" must exist in godly families and generations "to

reproduce disciples of *A Certain Kind*" – the Christ-mastered kind! Without **godly families and generations**, there will not be any **vibrant and healthy next generation leadership** by 2028 and beyond. Without a thriving local ADID movement in the family and Church, there cannot be an proactive contribution to accomplish the Great Commission "to win the world for Christ".

The plan to acquire a church-home for our third worship and outreach centre in the East is a direct result of Vision 2028 & Beyond. And if the Lord wills, we seek to plant our fourth centre further West in 2021. Bukit Panjang and Woodlands centres will also undergo her capacity enlargement and lease renewal in due course as an integral part of Vision 2028 & Beyond.

Any statement of the future is a statement of faith. If that statement is **of** God and that faith is **in** God, **then** that future is a future worth reaching for!

Vision 2028 & Beyond is the statement of the future. It is a future worth pursuing and reaching because the leadership believes it is of God. Unless God is in it and we see with eyes of faith, it is a mission impossible. God who gave us Isaiah 60:22 as a promise back in 1987 will continue to unfold His work in this generation.

Join us in this faith venture of a future worth pursuing and reaching for!

# Sermon Outline

## Enlarging Our Borders

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 11:19-30 • SERMON: PS ANN CHAN

### Introduction

1. The church does not exist for itself!
2. Three important Concerns we are to focus on (Acts 11:19-30)

### A. FIRST CONCERN: THE MISSION OF GOD (vv.19-21)

1. The Mission: What is the Mission of God?
2. The Threats: What is the real challenge?

### B. SECOND CONCERN: THE MAN OF GOD (vv.22-26)

1. The Stature: What kind of man does God use?
2. The Assignment: What is his real work?

### C. THIRD CONCERN: THE MOVE OF GOD (vv.27-30)

1. From Jerusalem: Why the shift of focus?
2. To Antioch: What is the significance?
3. To the Rest of the World: How is this possible?

### Conclusion

“Spirit Touch Your Church!”

#### NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

19 AUG - REV TAN KAY KIONG (BPJ), REV TONY YEO (WDL) AND REV BARNEY LAU (EAST)

# Last Week's Sermon Summary

## Breaking Barriers

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 9:32-11:18 • SERMON: REV BARNEY LAU

### Introduction

1. God initiated all the necessary pieces of the puzzle for Acts 1:8 to become a reality, an unfolding reality we Asian Gentiles are still experiencing and living in today!
2. God-initiated Momentum: Pentecost led to exponential growth (2:41,47) and radical Christian community life in the Jerusalem church (4:32); Stephen's martyrdom led to the Gospel diaspora throughout Judea, Samaria, Galilee and Syria (8:1); 1st Ethiopian Gentile convert brought the Gospel to Africa (8:38-39); Saul's unexpected conversion push back persecution of church (9:31).
3. God-initiated Mindset Change: Saul's conversion was strategic for the Gentile world (9:15); Peter's mindset change was essential for the Church (11:18)!
4. Momentum plus Mindset Change = Breaking Barriers!
5. God initiated Peter's conversion (mindset change) from a predominantly Jewish Christianity to an all-embracing **Christianity**, through three key movements:

### A. The Place Matters

1. God's breaking of Peter's mindset barriers began geographically and culturally.
2. Peter travelled from religious Jewish Jerusalem, epicentre of Christianity:
  - a. To commercial Jewish Lydda (48km West), situated at the important Egyptian-Syrian via Maris intersection with the Joppa-Jerusalem trade route
  - b. To cosmopolitan Jewish and Gentile seaport trading town of Joppa (61km West)
  - c. To political and commercial Gentile Caesarea, the Roman Judean provincial capital
3. The place represented Peter's religious and cultural barriers to Gospel advance! The Gospel is not geographically or culturally bound!

### B. The People Matters

1. God's breaking of Peter's mindset barriers progressed socially and culturally.
2. Peter's travels were clearly outreach and pastoral in nature (9:32) and it was in Lydda that he healed Aeneas, paralyzed and bedridden for eight years. The last documented healing by Peter was the lame beggar at the temple (3:1-10).
3. Peter's raising of Hellenistic Jew Tabitha from the dead was reminiscent of Jesus' raising of Jairus's daughter. Peter was there with Jesus. There was a similarity of Aramaic spoken by Jesus (Talitha koum ["Little girl, get up"], Mk 5:41) and Peter (Tabitha get up, 9:40), and a similarity of Peter's actions and that of Jesus, except Peter knelt to pray before the miracle — these similarities were not lost on Peter.
4. Peter stayed with Simon, whose profession was considered so unclean that his shop is located away from the Jewish town by the sea (10:6).
5. Peter's puzzling vision, followed by the conversion and startling Spirit-filling of Gentile ruling-class Roman Cornelius and party, broke Peter's Jewish worldviews.
6. The people represented Peter's religious and cultural prejudices to be broken! The Gospel is for all people of all social classes from all places!

### C. The Heart Matters

1. God's breaking of Peter's mindset barriers concluded spiritually and emotionally.
2. Peter's conversion was completed when he declared God convicted him that no man is unclean (10:28), that God is impartial (10:34), that no one be refused baptism (10:47), and that he dared not stand in God's way (11:17).
3. The breaking of barriers is **not out there**, but **in here** — in our hearts!