

Announcements

NURTURE MASTERCLASS

This training aims to equip CGs in nurturing seekers and new believers in the foundation of their faith, and for those who are keen to know how to multiply spiritually by helping others become disciples of Jesus. Highly recommended for CGL, ACGL and CG members who share this vision of nurturing seekers and new believers.

WDL Centre 28 Oct, 1-3pm at Joy Room (Level 4)

East Centre 28 Oct, 1-3pm at The Pod 1, Capri Hotel & Suites

BPJ Centre 4 Nov, 1-3pm at Grace Sanctuary
Register at <http://cefc.ch/nurture-masterclass>

IDMC INSTITUTE MODULE

Vocation: Discerning God's Calling for Your Life

Speaker: Rev Dr Tan Soo-Inn

Date: 20 Oct (Sat)

Time: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: WDL Centre, Peace and Patience Room (Level 4)

Course Fee: \$10 (pay on 20 Oct)

For more information and to register, visit <http://cefc.ch/idmcivocinfo> by 16 Oct. For enquiries, email registrar@idmci.edu.sg or call 6911 1768.

DISCOVERY WEEKEND

This 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: 20 Oct (Sat)

Time: 8.30am – 5.30pm

Venue: ACKCentre #10-10

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

BAPTISM AND MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

Baptism Class will be held on Sun, 4 Nov, 1.00pm to 3.30pm at WDL Centre.

Membership Class will be held on Sat, 10 Nov, 9am to 4pm ACKCentre.

Register at the Information Counter.

PARENTING TRAINING

Parenting with Love is for couples who are planning or expecting their first baby.

Date: 3 and 10 Nov (Saturdays)

Time: 12pm - 5pm **Venue:** BPJ Centre
Register at the Information Counter.

ENCOURAGERS-IN-COVENANT SPIRITUAL RETREAT

Encouragers-in-Covenant is organising "It's Never Too Late", a spiritual retreat for Covenanters aged 50 and above.

Date: 15 – 17 Nov (Thu - Sat)

Venue: Forest City Phoenix Hotel, Johor

Speaker: Rev David Wong

Register at Voyager. For enquiries, email encouragersadmin@cefc.org.sg

BREAKTHROUGH WEEKENDS

Have you signed up for the Breakthrough Weekends yet? **Next Sun, 21 Oct is the last day of registration.** Sign up at <https://voyager.cefc.org.sg> If you do not have an account yet, click "Request New Account".

CHURCH STAFF RECRUITMENT

Executive (Buildings and Facilities)

This role is responsible for the upkeep and management of our church buildings and facilities. He/She will be involved in planning and organising the maintenance work of buildings services and systems, including the supervision of contractors and vendors. He/She will also look into the logistics setup and support to ensure the smooth running of events at the centres. It will also include overseeing of minor building upgrading projects and operation of CCTV and door access systems.

Requirements:

- Diploma/degree in Engineering or Building Services
- Possess good relational and people skills
- Maturity in perspective and posture
- Strong multi-tasking ability

Applicants should either be a church or CG member. Interested candidates, please email your resume to hr@cefc.org.sg



... 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

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WOODLANDS, 14 OCT 2018

SERVICE LEADER: PS SHARON FONG • WORSHIP LEADER: ALLISON LIM

Deepening in the Word

PS IVAN HO, PASTORAL STAFF (DISTRICT MENTOR, INTEGRATED EQUIPPING)

We are now in the final quarter of this year. Let's take some time to do a personal review. How has the year been for me? What are the key lessons God has been teaching me? How have I grown in my knowledge of God's Word and submission to the Lordship of Christ? Let us renew three commitments to grow in God's Word:

Bible Reading and Journaling.

There will be blessedness, fruitfulness, advancement and success for the man or woman of God who delights in God's Word and daily meditates on it for life application (Psa 1:1-3; Psa 119:12-16; Josh 1:8). Before it becomes habitual, daily Bible reading and reflection is a very difficult discipline, especially in our chronically busy lives overflowing with many tasks and distractions every day. Yet there is no short-cut for spiritual growth and ministry effectiveness. Trinity Theological College professor Dr Simon Chan advocates combining Scripture meditation with journaling "to further enhance our knowledge of self in the light of God's Word".

Scripture Memorisation.

This spiritual discipline was prominent in early Christian monastic practice and later in Protestant devotional habit, but is increasingly neglected in evangelical circles today. Scripture

memorisation aids meditation at any time, and is important for the Christian's success, purity and freedom in life (Jn 15:7; Psa 119:9-11; Jn 8:31-32). Dr Simon Chan points out that the memorisation of key Scripture verses in the light of the whole Bible helps to assimilate believers into the Christian story and to develop their theological competence.

Truth Application.

Mere knowledge of the truth does not change a person's life. Life change occurs when we apply the truth. As James 1:22-25 reminds us, if we only hear God's Word and do not practise it, we deceive ourselves and very quickly forget what it says. However, if we persevere to apply God's Word in our lives, we will be blessed!

Daily Bible reading, devotional journaling, Scripture memorisation and truth application are important personal disciplines by which we train our members when they go through **Intentional Discipleship**

Training (IDT) and Spiritual Friends and Foundations (SFF).

I encourage Covenanters to seize the opportunity to make 2019 a year of growing in God's Word by applying for **SFF** (for Christians less than two years in the faith) or **IDT** (for Christians two years or more in the faith) before all the spaces are taken!

Sermon Outline

THREE GREAT GOALS OF SUCCESSFUL CHRISTIANS

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 18:1-23 • SERMON: REV EDMUND CHAN

Introduction

1. Four Inadequate Ways to Define Success

2. Three Great Goals of Successful Christians That We Can Infer from Acts 18:1-23

A. SINGLE-MINDEDNESS (The Power of Focus)

“When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word” (v.5)

B. WHOLEHEARTEDNESS (The Power of Faithfulness)

“At Cenchreae he had cut his hair, for he was under a vow.” (v.18b)

C. GODLINESS (The Power of Fortitude)

“But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal.” (v.12)

Conclusion. The Story of Donald Stratton: “Am I Worth Dying For?”

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKER:

21 OCT – REV TONY YEO (BPJ), REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (WDL) AND REV TAN KAY KIONG (EAST)

Last Week's Sermon Summary

Seeking the Welfare of the City

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 17:1-34 • SERMON: PS SHARON FONG

A. Being a Messenger of the Word (vv.1-15)

Verses 1 to 4 – The whole idea of reasoning, explaining, proving the Scriptures would be what we call apologetics. Its aim is not just Bible study or discussion of religious ideas, but also that we may persuade others to believe in Jesus Christ. No wonder, we see in verse 4 how some were persuaded, and joined Paul and Silas. To seek for the welfare of our city, we must be a persuasive messenger of the Word. There are good apologetics Youtube videos and books from which we can learn to become a more persuasive messenger of God's truth. We must answer their questions, respond to their objections and demonstrate the validity of our claims. The transformation in our lives can be highly persuasive too. We all can testify that our God is alive and present in each moment of our lives, and He hears our prayers. We can be a persuasive messenger of God's Word when we share our testimonies and stories with others.

Verses 10 to 12 – We can also be persuasive messengers when we give people a safe space to explore Christianity and the Scriptures with us. There are people in our midst who are open and noble like the Jews in Berea. That's why we are leading all CGs to conduct four weeks of Alpha @ Home in November. All you need to do is pray, invite and host with good food. We must seize this opportunity and be persuasive messengers as a CG. Let's step out with courage.

B. Bringing a Message to the World (vv.16-34)

In verses 16 to 21, Paul saw that the city of Athens was full of idols, and he was provoked (ESV) and distressed (NIV). Athens was a spiritual city because it was said that there were as many as 70 idols. So what did Paul do when he was provoked? Did he walk away? In verse 4, it was stated that “so” Paul walked into Athens that day and started preaching and reasoning with them. Paul walked straight into Athens and reasoned with them for the welfare of the city. Though it was a place with spiritual strongholds, Paul went in for the welfare of Athens. This city also had philosophical strongholds, such as Epicurean and Stoic mindset. Despite this, he went straight to the synagogues to reason with them. Why is it that Paul didn't shy away from the strongholds? We believe he saw Athens through the eyes and heart of God and that's why he was grieved, distressed and provoked.

To bring the message to the world, firstly we need to see as God sees. We must be engaged with our friends and see them not with physical eyes, but with spiritual eyes. When we pray for a friend, God will give us spiritual eyes to see them through His eyes and heart. Only then can we have a burning desire to bring the message to Singapore. But this is not enough. We must also find the common ground and bridge the message to them.

In verses 22 to 25, Paul masterfully found the common ground and bridged God's Word to the Athenians. Paul established the “unknown god” as the common ground. He did not condemn their religious beliefs and used the common ground as a starting point to share the message of truth. Likewise, there is a gap in people's lives – a gap between them and God. There is a gap between their worldview and our biblical worldview. We need to see them as God sees. We need to spend time with friends, eat with them, listen to them so that we may understand where the gap is. After knowing where the gap is, we need to find a common ground and use it to bridge God's Word.