

» COMMUNITY BLESSINGS

Here's an opportunity to B.L.E.S.S. the kids in the community. As we aim to help more kids, we need more tutors for the primary level at the following locations once a week:

- Wednesdays, 7pm–9pm at Block 237, Choa Chu Kang
- Thursdays, 7.30pm–9pm at Block 632A, Senja Road (BPJ)

To sign up or enquire, email vincent.chia@cefc.org.sg

» SERVE IN COVENANT CHOIR

Do you have a passion for singing? Do you yearn to use your voice for the Kingdom of God? The Covenant Choir is looking for new members to join their family! Visit the booth at the foyer today to find out more, or email cv.chorale@gmail.com

» CYAN BREAKTHROUGH WEEKEND

Often, we feel we are not good enough. Our inadequacies and self-labels can stand contrary to the way God sees us. Join CYAN Breakthrough Weekend and see how God truly sees us.

Dates: 9–12 Sep (12 Sep is a public holiday)

Venue: Pulau Desaru Resort

Registration Fee: \$400/student; \$500/adult (Student rate applies to those in NS)

Sign up through Voyager at voyager.cefc.org.sg
For enquiries, email cyanbtw@cefc.org.sg

» CYAN FELLOWSHIP

Come and hear about building relationships from Lisa Anderson, the author of “The Dating Manifesto” and director of Young Adults at Focus on the Family.

Date: 20 Aug (Sat) **Time:** 6.45pm–9.00pm

Venue: 2 Kallang Ave, CT Hub, #10-14, 339407

This is a ticketed event. Please register online at tinyurl.com/cyanrelationships

» PARENTING WORKSHOP

We believe discipleship begins at home and encourage parents to embark on this parenting journey with us!

Parenting with Hope

For parents with kids in tweens and teens

Dates: 6, 13, 20 and 27 Aug (Saturdays)

Time: 3pm–5pm

Venue: BPJ Centre, Faith Hall

Fee: \$90 per couple

Register at the Information Counter.

» TNG BAPTISM TALK

For WEB and MOMENTUM youths who wish to be baptised, and parents who wish to encourage their 11 to 18-year-old children to be baptised. Questions about youth baptism will be answered through interactive discussions and presentations.

Date: 13 Aug (Sat) **Time:** 3.30pm–5.30pm

Venue: WDL Centre, Level 4, Peace/Patience Rooms

Includes afternoon tea reception

To sign up, email tng.momentum@cefc.org.sg

Youth Baptism Service is on Sat, 24 Sep. Prior to baptism, candidates are required to apply with parental consent, attend baptism class and interview.

» NEW LIFE CHARITY GOLF 2016

New Life is holding its Charity Golf where you can play in order to give. Register today!

Date: 15 Sep (Thu)

Venue: Tanah Merah Country Club (Tampines)

Time: 1pm (golf playoff); 7pm (appreciation dinner)

Guest of Honour: Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs and MP for Holland-Bukit Timah GRC

To sign up or enquire, contact Debbie Wee at debbiewee@newlife.org.sg or 68927249 by 14 Aug.

» BAPTISM CLASS

Sign up at the Information Counter.

Date: 7 Aug (Sun) **Time:** 2.30pm–5.00pm

Venue: BPJ Centre

BUKIT PANJANG 31 JUL 2016

SERVICE LEADER PS VALERIE CHAN // WORSHIP LEADER KAREN PHUAH



A Journey of “Remove and Replace”

BY: PS ADRIAN CHAN, DIRECTOR, INTEGRATED EQUIPPING

Looking back at the decade since I joined Covenant EFC as a member, I thank God for how He has graciously touched my life and family. Ten years ago, I was working as a director in an education institution, and concurrently holding four directorial appointments. Spending 16 hours daily at the workplace was common for me. I was an absentee husband and father, and sadly blind to it.

Then my wife wisely suggested that I take a break to join the Men's Breakthrough Weekend retreat with new Covenant Group (CG) friends. I went despite some initial hesitation. I can still recall that at the retreat, I felt convicted in my spirit to make a decisive action to have dinner with my family at least three times a week. Coming home for dinner on a weekday may not mean much for many families, but for mine, that's a huge change! Little did I know that the Breakthrough Weekend precipitated a journey of “remove and replace” in me. When God breaks in, and we break with, we experience breakthroughs! Through many more Breakthrough Weekends I attended, God did more “removing” work in my life.

Removal and replacement went hand-in-hand. I soon started to replace my old ways with a new-found rhythm of life gained through several Covenant EFC discipleship platforms such as

personal devotion, CG, Intentional Discipleship Training (IDT) and serving in the men's ministry as a lay person. I was not trying to cram more activities into my life. Rather, as I grew spiritually, broke from workaholic tendencies, and struck a balance in personal growth, family, work and service, I found myself refocused, rested and having meaningful results.

Today, by God's grace, He has taken me a little further along in the journey of “remove and replace”. And as I continue my journey, I have found a list of 10 obstacles to be removed (described in Rev Edmund Chan's book *Growing Deep in God*, pp. 101–107) to be most helpful for regular self-examination. These obstacles include:

- Unyielded life
- Unsound theology
- Unconfessed sins
- Untutored spirit
- Uncrossed bridges
- Unfounded fears
- Undefined priorities
- Unresolved guilt
- Unwholesome relationships
- Unrighteous motives

Jesus has promised us an abundant life as we follow Him, abide in Him and live a Spirit-empowered life. We are called to put off our old ways. We must also make every effort to put on the things that make for godliness and rest in the Lord (Eph 4:22–24).



VISION

AUTHENTIC
DISCIPLESHIP
& INTENTIONAL
DISCIPLEMAKING
OF A CERTAIN KIND

VALUES

GRACE
GROWTH
GODLINESS

SERMON OUTLINE



The Battle Rages On

Scripture: **EPHESIANS 4:17–24** Sermon: **REV TAN KAY KIONG**

Introduction

Review of Ephesians

Two Things to Pay Attention to as the Battle Rages On:

A. Watch Out for the OLD SELF (vv.17–19)

... you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do ...

B. Work On the NEW SELF (vv.20–24)

... be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self ...

Conclusion

Next Week's Sermon Speaker:
7 Aug **REV TAN KAY KIONG** (BPJ) and **PS EDMUND WONG** (WDL)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY



Unlikely Lives in Remarkable Service of God's Mission

Scripture: **ACTS 8:26–40** // Sermon: **DR CRAIG OTT**

Introduction

We all know the names of great saints such as Augustine, Martin Luther, and D.L. Moody, but we don't know the names of the people who influenced their lives. Unknown does not mean unimportant! You may feel unworthy or unable to serve God. But God desires to touch and use even the most unlikely people, broken people, marginalised people to advance His purposes in remarkable ways (1 Cor 12:22–24).

Four Features of the Ethiopian Eunuch Important to Our Question of How God Can Use the Marginalised and Broken:

1. He is nameless.
2. He is an African.
3. He is a Jew or God-fearer.
4. He is a eunuch – eunuchs were excluded from the Old Testament assembly of the people of God (Deut 23:1). They were among the most ridiculed and marginalised people in the ancient world.

Two Remarkable Demonstrations of God's Grace in the Life of the Ethiopian Eunuch:

1. He demonstrates that God accepts the marginalised and wounded. This is a fulfillment of Isaiah 56:3-8, that tells how God will receive those who were rejected and marginalised as His people. No matter who you are, God's grace in Jesus Christ reaches out to accept you (Mt 11:28, Jn 6:37).
2. He demonstrates how God can wonderfully use the marginalised and wounded. The eunuch becomes the first missionary to Africa, indeed perhaps the very first missionary to the Gentiles in the Early Church! God's grace not only accepts, but also employs in His service in remarkable ways.

Five Ways How the Ethiopian Eunuch Moved from the Place of Marginality to This Place of Significant Service:

1. He was committed to worship God, in spite of his limitations – he would have been rejected when he traveled to Jerusalem to worship.
2. He was a student of the Word of God, in spite of his lack of understanding – he was reading the scroll of Isaiah as he traveled home.
3. He was teachable by a man of God, in spite of his high position – he received the teaching of Philip.
4. He received the grace of God and became a follower of Jesus – he was baptised.
5. He was willing to become a messenger of God – he returned to his homeland as God's missionary telling others of the grace of God in Christ.

Conclusion

No matter how broken, marginalised or unworthy you may feel, don't underestimate how God might desire to use you as an agent of His mission in the world. Just follow the five ways of the Ethiopian eunuch to discover how God might use you in His mission to the world.