

» IDT & SFF SIGN-UP

We don't try to be disciples, we *train* to be disciples. Invest in your spiritual growth today! Join our Intentional Discipleship Training (IDT) or Spiritual Friends & Foundations (SFF) commencing on Jan 2017.

Be grounded with an understanding of God's redemptive plan and an experiential knowledge of a Spirit-filled life within a small group, with an emphasis on inner life transformation through personal discipline and a growing love for God's Word.

Application Period: 1 Oct–13 Nov 2016

Download the application form at www.cefc.org.sg or get it at the Information Counter.

For enquiries, email idtadmin@cefc.org.sg

» PARENTING TRAINING

If you are planning or expecting your first child, Parenting with Love is for you.

Dates: 5 and 12 Nov (Saturdays)

Time: 12pm - 5pm **Venue:** BPJ Centre

Fee: \$50/couple

Sign up at the Information Counter on Sundays or email fic@cefc.org.sg

» SERVE IN NEW LIFE

Do you have the heart to mentor children? Serve with us! We need at least 10 Volunteer Mentors for P.A.N.D.A Champs — a character-based mentoring programme for 7 to 10-year-olds.

Dates: 22 Nov–15 Dec every Tue and/or Thu

Time: 9am – 1pm **Venue:** BPJ Centre

Training will be provided on 27 Oct, 7.30pm–9pm at BPJ Centre, Patience Room.

To register or enquire, contact Cai Aiwei (97167154; caiaiwei@newlife.org.sg) or Lewis Woo (96349457; lewiswoo@newlife.org.sg).

» STEP UP WELCOME TEA

If you have stepped up to serve, you're warmly invited to a special Welcome Tea where our Senior Pastors will share their heartbeat. You also get to meet your ministry representatives there. Look out for more details in the email sent to you. You can still sign up online at step-up.cefcapps.com anytime.

Date: 9 Oct (next Sun)

Venue and Time:

WDL Centre at 1pm–2pm

BPJ Centre Sanctuary at 2:30-3:30pm

» DISCOVERY WEEKEND

Courting couples, find out where you are in your relationship and learn how to grow together, as you honour God in all you do.

Date: 22 Oct (Sat)

Time: 8.45am–5pm (lunch and breaks included)

Venue: BPJ Centre

Sign up at the Information Counter.

For enquiries, email fic@cefc.org.sg

» BREAKTHROUGH WEEKEND (BTW)

Today is the last day of the early bird registration. Come with your CGmates. Register at voyager.cefc.org.sg Do not be discouraged if you are in the wait list. We will do our best to make sure you get a chance to attend.

Men's BTW and Women's BTW on 2–4 Dec

Early Bird Rate: \$260*/pax

For enquiries, email menbtw@cefc.org.sg or

womenbtw@cefc.org.sg

Marriage BTW on 25–27 Nov

Early Bird Rate: \$540*/couple

For enquiries, email marriagebtw@cefc.org.sg

**Rates do not include the optional transportation.*

WOODLANDS 2 OCT 2016

SERVICE LEADER REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI // WORSHIP LEADER JONATHAN CHI



Nine Hours

BY: REV TAN KAY KIONG AND REV TONY YEO, SENIOR PASTORS

This past week, Diana and I (Ps Kay Kiong) were at the hospital with another couple as they waited for the scan results to confirm if he has cancer. The day before, he was on a business trip when he suddenly felt a pain at the side of his abdomen. The next morning, thinking it might just be kidney stones, he went to the A&E for a check. After a scan, he was told that there was a mass in the kidney that would most likely be cancer. That shocked him. The doctor ordered another scan to confirm. They waited from 7 am till about 4 pm.

Can you imagine the agony? Yes, they prayed, trusted, and hoped in God. The final result — it was an unusual congestion growth in the kidney that looked like cancer. What a relief! But what a life changing moment, too!

A nine-hour wait can forever change your life!

This reminded us of James 4:13–14, “Now listen, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.’ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.”

Brothers and sisters, we are a called and chosen people. We are a people of praise and purpose. As we gear up towards the future, what is in your survival pack? Let us suggest three essential items:

God's Care: Without a strong foundation that is built upon the Lord, what will you stand on when trials hit? Everything else will be shifting sand except the Lord. All that we have amassed and accumulated, all that we have gained and experienced, will it prepare us for those moments of crisis? If we have not learned to trust in God's care, then what will we stand on?

Self-Care: When we sought God on the future of the church, it's amazing that He showed us Acts 20:28 “Pay attention to Yourself...” Spiritually, Mentally, Emotionally, Physically, God wants us to take care of ourselves. Only then can we take care of others and do the work he has given to us. That is why we are doing this Whole Life Inventory in the church so that we can know where we are holistically and then plot our way to greater health in God. I urge all who consider Covenant EFC as your spiritual home to do it today. (<https://www.wholelife.sg/inventory>) (access code: ceffc)

Other-Care: At the end of our life, few things will satisfy us. But I know one of those things will be the spiritual care of others. This is where we pour our love and life into other precious lives so that they might follow in the pathways of God.

One day, some of us may wait nine hours to know our destiny. But perhaps that is not necessary. Because today, someone else's nine hours can help alter our destiny.



VISION

AUTHENTIC
DISCIPLESHIP
& INTENTIONAL
DISCIPLEMAKING
OF A CERTAIN KIND

VALUES

GRACE
GROWTH
GODLINESS

SERMON OUTLINE



HUSBANDS, LOVE YOUR WIVES

Scripture: **EPHESIANS 5:25-30** Sermon: **REV EDMUND CHAN**

Introduction

True or False –

“The Bible teaches that wives should love their husbands, and that husbands should submit to their wives?”

“Husbands LOVE Your Wives”: Three Important Considerations -

A. Is Your Love **WORD-Taught** or **WORLD-Taught**?

“Just as Christ also loved the church...” (v.25)

B. Is Your Love **SACRIFICIAL** or **SELFISH**?

“...and gave Himself up for her” (vv.25, 29)

C. Is Your Love **FAITHFUL** or **FALSE**?

“...but nourishes and cherishes it...” (v.29)

Conclusion. “What can I do to make your day better?”

Next Week’s Sermon Speakers:

9 Oct **PS EDMUND WONG** (BPJ) and **REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI** (WDL)

LAST WEEK’S SERMON SUMMARY



Beauty of Submission

Scripture: **EPHESIANS 5:21-24** // Sermon: **PS SHARON FONG**

Two Reasons Why Your Submission Is Beautiful in the Eyes of God:

A. Your Submission Honours Christ (v.21)

1. In verse 21, Paul is not asking wives to submit out of fear nor based on culture but to submit so as to honour Christ.
2. However, submission often seems inefficient and ineffective, especially when some wives are more capable than husbands. Since some wives are more gifted, it looks more efficient for them to lead because they produce better results.
3. Submission must not be perceived through the lenses of efficiency and effectiveness.
4. Submission is the efficacious way defined by Ps Edmund Chan as, “doing the right thing, at the right time, in the right way, with the right motive and producing the right results”.
5. So when is the right time to submit to your husband? The right time to submit is *not* when he has changed his bad habits or earned your respect. The right time to submit starts on your wedding day, while he is still a “work in progress”.
6. As you honour your wedding vow and submit even when he is still a “work in progress,” your submission honours Christ and it’s beautiful in the eyes of God.

B. Your Submission Reflects Christ (vv.22-24)

1. Verse 22 in original Greek does not have the verb “submit”. The participle, “submitting” in verse 21 is carried over to verse 22. That means verse 22 is influenced by verse 21. Importantly, verse 21 has to be read in the context of verses 18 to 20, which has a theological theme of “being filled with the Spirit”. Verses 18 to 22 are grammatically and theologically linked. That means, “to be filled with Spirit” is by submitting to one another.
2. When you submit, the Holy Spirit comes in and starts to complete the work which God has begun in both of you. Can you see the power of submission?
3. Submission may not seem efficient nor effective at first glance but totally efficacious.
4. For verses 23 to 24, Paul is saying that the husband-wife relationship is closely related to the Christ-church relationship.
5. You submit to your husband not because he has earned your respect. You submit because you respect God who appointed your husband as a leader. Essentially, your submission ultimately reflects the Lordship of Christ in your life.
6. Your submission to your husband eventually points others to Christ. As a result, your submission will reflect Christ in your community and home.

Conclusion

Marriage is never meant to be complete on this side of eternity. Perhaps, marriage is meant to be “broken together” because we are all “work in progress.” When you submit, the Spirit comes in to mend the broken pieces and create a masterpiece out of your brokenness. He turns ashes to something beautiful. No wonder, submission is so beautiful in the eyes of God.

WDL Centre