

## » PRAYER &amp; PRAISE

Workplace is where discipleship meets enormous challenges. But this is also where God's Kingdom strikes back! We will keep watch over our marketplace ministers and our homemakers. Come hear from Jacelyn Teo, a working mum in senior management who partners with her husband to nurture four children at home. Be inspired by her journey of following God in these two arenas of life.

**Date:** 28 Oct (Fri) **Time:** 8 pm  
**Venue:** WDL Centre

## » 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](mailto:fic@cefc.org.sg)

## » 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 (this 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](mailto:fic@cefc.org.sg)

## » CHURCH STAFF RECRUITMENT

We are looking for the following to join the Staff Team:

- Centre Administration cum Mobilisation for Covenant East Centre
- Executive (Missions)
- Executive (Conferences/Events)

For job requirements, visit [www.cefc.org.sg/index.php/about-us/recruitment](http://www.cefc.org.sg/index.php/about-us/recruitment)

If interested, please email your resume to [hr@cefc.org.sg](mailto:hr@cefc.org.sg) by 30 Oct.

## » COVENANT EAST

Covenant East will hold its first service on 6 Nov! Use the invite card to invite your pre-believing and unchurched family, friends and colleagues who live in the East. More invite cards are available at the Information Counter.

To thank God for His faithfulness and to get yourself familiar with the service and location, join our *Thanksgiving and Orientation Service*.

**Date:** 22 Oct (this Sat)  
**Time:** 9.30am Prayer, 10am Service  
**Venue:** UE Convention Centre, 4 Changi Business Park Ave 1, S486016

## » MOVIE SCREENING FOR SEEKERS

Seekers Ministry is organising an outreach event with the screening of the acclaimed movie "The Ultimate Gift". Invite your family and friends who are seeking answers in life!

**Date:** 12 Nov (Sat)  
**Time:** 5.30pm-8.30pm  
**Venue:** ACKCentre Performing Studio  
Dinner and short discussion follow after the movie.

Entry is free but registration is required due to limited seating capacity. Register at [tinyurl.com/seekersmoviescreening](http://tinyurl.com/seekersmoviescreening)

## » BREAKTHROUGH WEEKEND (BTW)

The last day of registration is on 30 Oct. Come with your CG mates to intentionally be away with the Lord for an extended time. Register at [voyager.cefc.org.sg](http://voyager.cefc.org.sg)

**Men's BTW and Women's BTW**  
Dates: 2-4 Dec Fee: \$290/pax\*  
For enquiries, email [menbtw@cefc.org.sg](mailto:menbtw@cefc.org.sg) or [womenbtw@cefc.org.sg](mailto:womenbtw@cefc.org.sg)

**Marriage BTW**  
Dates: 25-27 Nov Fee: \$620/pax\*  
For enquiries, email [marriagebtw@cefc.org.sg](mailto:marriagebtw@cefc.org.sg)  
\*Rates do not include optional transportation.

BUKIT PANJANG 16 OCT 2016

SERVICE LEADER PS ADRIAN CHAN // WORSHIP LEADER CHUA SUE ERN



## Start Dating Your Children

BY: NELSON ONG, FAMILIES-IN-COVENANT

Recently, some parents shared about what they prepared for their kids after PSLE — one father is bringing his daughter to Darwin, a mother is bringing her daughter to Taiwan, and another one is having a staycation with his son — all for the purpose of strengthening bonds with their growing kids. Yes, way before their PSLE results are out! This is a milestone in their life and a celebration of their hard work. It is also a good preparation for the new chapter in their life as teenagers — a rite of passage.

I didn't do anything with my son after his PSLE. By the time I learned about one-to-one parent-child outing, he was already in Secondary 1. So I played catch-up. Having no idea what I should do, I took the plunge during his term one school holiday by taking him to Malacca on my motorcycle. We checked into a hotel for two nights. What did we do? Nothing serious. We roamed the streets, climbed the historic St Paul's Hill, visited markets, ate delicious food, watched movies, and had an artist draw a caricature of us on a motorcycle.

One other memorable thing we did was slotting in coins and playing games at the arcade. I lost big time to my son! During those three days, we talked about anything under the sun except school work, as advised by the experts.

Interestingly, after that trip, our relationship took a turn. My son periodically asked about our next trip together, just the two of us. We did a few more trips including one to Himalayas before his NS enlistment. I thoroughly enjoyed it, but I was wondering if he did enjoy the "torture". Surprisingly, he suggested that we should return to Nepal another time to do the Everest Base Camp Trek!

School holidays are around the corner. Parents, amidst your many plans, may I suggest you include a parent-child outing with your kids? Keep doing it and be surprised that your kids really enjoy the time spent alone with you. Start dating your children!

*Impress them on your children. Talk to them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. – Deuteronomy 6:7, NIV*



## VISION

AUTHENTIC  
DISCIPLESHIP  
& INTENTIONAL  
DISCIPLEMAKING  
OF A CERTAIN KIND

## VALUES

GRACE  
GROWTH  
GODLINESS

## COVENANT EFC

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch](http://www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch)

# SERMON OUTLINE



## Discipleship in the Family

Scripture: EPHESIANS 6:1–4 Sermon: PS BARNEY LAU

### Introduction

#### A. Children, Honour Your Parents (vv.1–3)

#### B. Parents, Disciple Your Children (v.4)

### Conclusion

Next Week's Sermon Speakers:

23 Oct REV TAN KAY KIONG (BPJ) and REV TONY YEO (WDL)

# LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY



## Experience the Mystery of Marriage

Scripture: EPHESIANS 5:31–33 // Sermon: PS EDMUND WONG

### Introduction

Conflicts and differences are common in marriage. But if not managed well, we can lose not just our oneness in marriage, but the marriage itself. There were more divorces and annulments in Singapore last year — about 21 per day!

#### To Experience Oneness in Marriage, We Must:

##### A. Understand God's Design for Marriage (vv.31–32)

1. God intended for oneness in at least three dimensions:
  - a. Body – verse 31 is a quote from Genesis 2:24. Eve was joined to Adam because she was taken from Adam. A couple has to experience physical separation from parents and cleave (literally, superglue) to each other in order to be a real physical unit. Though we don't leave our parents in the lurch!
  - b. Soul – our emotional ties with our parents are redefined, as our love and loyalty shifts to our spouse. 'I-ness' is changed to 'We-ness', which gives staying power in the midst of marriage difficulties (cf. Nine Tasks for Couples by Judith Wallenstein in *The Good Marriage*)
  - c. Spirit – Adam and Eve were created primarily as spiritual beings, but the physical appetites took centre stage after the Fall. Verse 30 — our spiritual oneness is actually a reflection of the oneness between Jews and Gentiles though physically different (Eph 2:11–22)!
2. The first marriage God had in mind was not Adam and Eve, but Jesus and the Church. Just as blood had to be spilled for Eve to be formed out of Adam, blood had to be spilled by Jesus the Second Adam, in order for the Church, His bride, to be formed! And this is the marriage we look forward to in all its fullness when Jesus returns.
3. That's why God did not intend divorce, sex outside of marriage, or homosexual unions. They violate the oneness in at least one of the three dimensions, and are inaccurate pictures of Jesus!
4. Illus: Journal of Family Psychology – couples who place great importance in their faith are less likely to commit adultery. Cultivating our spiritual oneness positively enhances our emotional and physical oneness.
5. Two practices advocated: praying together, being spiritually open and honest with each other

##### B. Embrace Our Roles in Marriage (v.33)

1. Women then were regarded as property and second-class citizens, considered less moral and intelligent, and were not counted in as part of quorum in synagogues. “We have courtesans for our pleasure, concubines for daily cohabitation, and wives for the purpose of having children legitimately and of having a faithful guardian for our household affairs.” (Demosthenes)
2. “You” is emphatic, i.e. every single man without exception. Because God wants to transform our marriage by how we view women and thus treat them! They are made with equal dignity and worth as partners in the Kingdom.
3. Three Greek words known then for love: eros (couples), storge (family), philia (friends). But agape is out of this world and impossible unless God is in the picture!
4. “In order that...” – when a man loves his wife like this, it will be easier for his wife to submit and respect him.
5. Two practical suggestions for love and respect: Put away our gadgets during mealtimes and before bedtimes, and give your spouse your full presence and attention. Always speak well of your spouse in public, though mindful of his faults and weaknesses.

### Conclusion

“I'll be with you for the long haul, no matter what. You're still you. And I love you.” – Dana to Christopher Reeve). This is our God, who will not let His Church go no matter what!