

» CHRISTMAS DAY OUTREACH SERVICE

Christmas Day is just round the corner! Invite your pre-believing family and friends to hear the Gospel in a fun and relaxed setting on **Sun, 25 Dec**. We will have a short original musical, written and produced in-house, that will bring across some of the unmet expectations, unfulfilled dreams and lonely feelings that the Christmas season may surface.

BPJ Centre

8.30am & 10.30am

Speaker: Ps Andy Lew

Please note that driving into BPJ Centre will not be allowed due to Christmas Family Lunch.

WDL Centre

8.30am & 10.30am

Speaker: Dr Andrew Goh

East Centre

9am & 11am

Speaker: Glenn Lim

We will have our **Christmas Family Lunch** on the same day *after each service at the foyer*. Let's bond as a church family over good food and fellowship!

» BAPTISM CLASS

Register at the Information Counter today.

Date: 11 Dec (next Sun)

Time: 1.00pm–3.30pm

Venue: WDL Centre

» INDONESIAN & FILIPINO CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Indonesian Fellowship Christmas Outreach

Theme: Endless Love

Date & Time: 11 Dec (next Sun), 2pm–5pm

Venue: ACKCentre

Filipino Fellowship Christmas Outreach

Theme: Scandal of Grace

Date and Time: 11 Dec, (next Sun) 2.30pm–7pm

Venue: BPJ Centre, Grace Sanctuary

» MOMENTUM'S NEW TIMING

Starting 7 Jan 2017, Momentum service's **new timing is 3.30pm–6.30pm** on Saturdays at WDL Centre Main Sanctuary. Ps Barney Lau will be preaching to the youths at next year's first service. For enquiries, email tng.momentum@cefc.org.sg

» NEW MANDARIN SERVICE IN BPJ

Praise God for the growth of our Mandarin and Cantonese ministries! The Grace Sanctuary where we have been holding our BPJ Mandarin and Cantonese services is full on Sundays. After much prayer and consultation, the **BPJ Mandarin and Cantonese ministries will merge to form the New Mandarin Service starting 1 Jan 2017**.

New Timing: 3.30pm–5.00pm

New Venue: BPJ Centre Main Sanctuary (Level 2)

For enquiries, email chris.pang@cefc.org.sg
WDL Mandarin Service will be held as usual every Sunday, 2pm at WDL Centre.

WOODLANDS CENTRE 4 DEC 2016

SERVICE LEADER REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI // WORSHIP LEADER MAVIS & LOW WEI SHING



The Heartbeat of Christmas

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

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

– Luke 2:10-11 (ESV)

It's Christmas time again!

The modern world looks at Christmas and fills it with clutter, noise and busyness. The clutter can blind us from seeing the truth. The noise can keep us from hearing the truth. And the pace can keep us from finding the truth.

God's gift came in such a simple, quiet manner, and in such a lowly place. The crowds and busyness were at the inn in Bethlehem, not at the stable where Christ was born. Who would expect something important to happen there? At the manger there were no flashing lights to get the crowd's attention, no signages to attract the shoppers and no bands to stir up the passersby's excitement. But on a peaceful hillside out of town, the heavens opened. A few humble shepherds with hearts ready to listen heard the most remarkable message ever been spoken.

We believe God hasn't changed.

Today He is still drawing us back

to the quiet waters of salvation, to the lowly place of worship, to the peace of His presence, to the simplicity of the Cross, to the beauty of His face and to the best gift Love could ever give — God's only begotten Son.

In this season of giving we are reminded that our true gift is the gift of God's grace. This is not the sort of gift to hide in the closet like an ill-fitting sweater, nor put on a shelf and dust off from time to time. We live in a world that longs to hear a word of grace and to know a God who is Immanuel, God-with-us. The gift of God's grace is meant to be passed on!

Christmas is our time to celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ and remember His infinite love for the world. That's what our Christmas musical "Happily Ever After" on 25 December is going to be about. Start praying and inviting your friends, family, relatives, colleagues that they may hear, believe and receive the gift of Christ this Christmas.

May this coming Christmas lead us to a fresh grasp and a deep appreciation of God's amazing gift to the world — He broke into human history to offer us the gift of salvation.



VISION

AUTHENTIC
DISCIPLESHIP
& INTENTIONAL
DISCIPLEMAKING
OF A CERTAIN KIND

VALUES

GRACE
GROWTH
GODLINESS

SERMON OUTLINE



The Helmet of Salvation

Scripture: **Ephesians 6:17a** Sermon: **REV EDMUND CHAN**

Introduction

1. Tiger Woods: Equipment is important to the game!
2. God's Equipment: The Armour of God! (Eph 6:11)
3. Focus. The "Helmet of Salvation": Two Critical Needs -

A. BEING PROTECTED FROM FALSE TEACHINGS OR FALSE HOPE

1. The Importance and Need for Helmets
2. Meaning of the "Helmet of Salvation"
3. Twelve Lies Americans Believe (LifeWay Research)

B. BEING ANCHORED IN THE TRUTH AND HOPE OF THE GOSPEL

1. Thinking About THINKING!
2. Don't Assume!
3. Developing the Christian Mind!
4. Living Out the Gospel!

Conclusion. The Power of the GOSPEL of CHRIST!

Next Week's Sermon Speakers:

11 Dec **PS ANDY LEW** (BPJ), **PS LEE DA WIN** (WDL) and **PAUL SHI** (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY



Taking Enemy Fire

Scripture: **EPHESIANS 6:16** // Sermon: **PAUL SHI**

Introduction

Spiritual warfare is real and something we need to meet with urgency.

Story of my former pastor sitting on a plane next to a Satanist priest who was going to pray against those who were serving in the Nicki Cruz rally.

Context:

1. The What of Spiritual warfare: Paul wants us to be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might.
2. The How of Spiritual warfare: Paul tells us to be clothed with the armour of God.
3. The Why of Spiritual warfare: Because there are schemes and methods of darkness dedicated for our destruction.

A. Take Up the Shield of Faith (v.16a)

Paul uses "in addition to all", as well as an active voice to emphasise the importance of taking up the shield of faith. Historically the shield that Paul was referring to is known as a *thureos*, which is shaped like a door. It was used for both protection and advancement.

Shield of Faith

1. One of the first "I AM" statements in the Bible is found in Genesis 15:1. God reveals Himself as "I AM your shield" to Abraham.
2. Taking up the shield of faith means to place our trust in God. Trusting in God's
 - a. Character: His nature
 - b. Promises: What He has said
 - c. Works: His track record in our lives

B. Put Out the Darts of Fire (v.16b)

1. The flaming darts of the enemy refer to the host of spiritual attacks the enemy uses against us. Illustration of the Bow and Arrow
2. What's more dangerous isn't so much the obvious spiritual attacks, but the insidious and subtle ones. Key examples: Division – unrealistic expectations leads to disappointment, which leads to offence, which leads to gossip; Self-reliance – subtle shift of trust from God to self.
3. We take up the shield of faith by knowing that
 - a. God knows
 - b. God sees
 - c. God hears
 - d. God will ultimately vindicate

Conclusion

The shield of faith is **able** to extinguish **all** the flaming darts of the enemy. Our faith in God leads to restedness for today and hope for tomorrow.