

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Do you have a passion for singing? Use your voice to serve God's Kingdom.

Covenant Choir

Serve at BPJ and WDL Centres.
Visit the booth at the foyer today or email cv.chorale@gmail.com

PARENTING TRAINING

Parenting with Hope. For parents of teens

Dates: 4 and 25 March, 1 and 8 April (Sat)

Time: 2pm – 4pm

Venue: ACKCentre, Live Recording Studio

Fee: \$90 / couple

Register at the Information Counter today!

STM TRIPS

CG members, join these STM trips and B.L.E.S.S. the nations!

Hanoi, Vietnam on 3-11 Jun. Build bridges into local community through English camp for 12 to 18-year-olds.

Yunnan on 28 Oct –5 Nov and 5-12 Nov (two trips) Village Doctor Training

Mongolia 7-10 days in April and Oct/Nov (two trips). Connect, network and train Mongolian medical professionals (both believers and pre-believers).

To register or enquire, email ailli.tay@cefc.org.sg

BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP

Baptism Class on 26 Feb, Sun, 2.30pm – 5.00pm at BPJ Centre.

Membership Class on 4 Mar, Sat, 9am – 4pm at ACKCentre.

Sign up at the Information Counter.

SERVE IN CHILDREN'S FEST

Children's Fest 2017: Friends in Unity!

We need more than 500 volunteers to partner with us in blessing the children in the community on 2 Apr, Sun:

- Booth facilitators for the game stations and other booths
- Welcomers and helping hands
- Trained nurses or doctors

You may serve on Shift 1 (7.30am – 10.30am) or Shift 2 (10.15am – 1.15pm). Serving for both shifts is encouraged.

If you're serving together with your CG, sign up through SGI. If you do not have a CG, call us at 6892 7191 or email c.f@newlife.org.sg

SERVE IN NEW LIFE

Student Care

Mentor the kids by interacting and building relationships with them through character lessons and activities.

Date: Once a week, every Friday (minimum of 3 months; 1 term)

Time: 3.45pm – 4.45pm

Location: New Life Student Care (BPJ)

Steady Readers

Facilitate group discussions and chaperone children during their March Enrichment Workshop.

Date: 13 or 15 Mar (BPJ), 14 Mar (WDL)

Time: 9am – 12:30pm

To volunteer or enquire, call Aiwei at 6760 0533 or email volunteer@newlife.org.sg

COVENANT EFC

ACKCentre: 2 Kallang Avenue, CT Hub #10-26, Singapore 339407

ONE CHURCH MULTIPLE CENTRES:

BPJ Centre: 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30am ■ WDL Centre: 8.30am & 10.30am ■ East Centre: 10.00am

Tel: (65) 6892 6811 ■ Email: mail@cefc.org.sg ■ Website: www.cefc.org.sg

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch

VISION

AUTHENTIC
DISCIPLESHIP
& INTENTIONAL
DISCIPLEMAKING
OF A CERTAIN KIND

VISIBLE VALUES

- Grace
- Growth
- Godliness



UNDERLYING VALUES

- Truth
- Community
- Stewardship
- Balance
- Brokenness

COVENANT EFC

BUKIT PANJANG CENTRE, 12 FEBRUARY 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS LEE DA WIN ■ WORSHIP LEADER: ALLISON LIM

Rebuilding the Substructures of Our Lives

PS LEE DA WIN, SGI COORDINATOR

“We tend to ignore what cannot be seen. We gravitate toward the visible and the spectacular.

We judge and pride ourselves upon our influence and accomplishments. Though gratifying, this outward superstructure is however not where our primary energies should be expended.

It is in the substructure, the unseen foundation, that our true strength lies. Without a deep and secure substructure, the structures cannot hold. And the superstructures cannot rise to great heights without peril.

Who we are, what we do when no one sees, form the substructure of our life. A life of worship, lived before God in the fear of Him and held together by humility, wisdom and perseverance, constitutes a foundation that will withstand immense stress and strain. The continued maintenance and growth of this substructure, firmly anchored in God through the practice of the spiritual disciplines, is the work of a lifetime.

Built upon the substructure are the structures – the supporting beams and columns – which fit together to form the framework around which the facade and usable floor area are built. These

structures are the areas that we need to guard in our personal life. Time with family. Time with kindred-spirit friends. Time in the community of God's people.

The superstructure represents the outward accomplishments of our life and ministry. It is built by competence and skill. It is established by working excellently, as unto the Lord, in obedience and faithfulness. It is worthy only when the substructure is solid and the surface structures are set in place – for it is upon these that the strength, beauty and permanence of the superstructure depend.”

– *Mentoring Paradigms* (pp. 24-25) by Rev Edmund Chan

Today we begin our year-long exposition of the books of Ezra and Haggai. We have themed this series “Rebuilding the Foundations” because of the prominent call, through Israel's leaders, for God's people to rebuild the Temple and, more importantly, to rebuild their lives. For the rebuilding of the Temple's superstructure to be completed, God's people needed to rebuild the substructures of their lives. May we respond to God's Word that calls us to the necessary rebuilding of the substructures of our lives!

SERMON OUTLINE

Rebuilding the Foundation

SCRIPTURE: OVERVIEW OF EZRA AND HAGGAI ■ SERMON: REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI

Introduction

Three Things We Must Do in Rebuilding Our Foundations

A. We Must Return to the Worship Of God (Ezra 1-6)

B. We Must Realign to the Way of God (Haggai 1-2)

C. We Must Restore the Word of God (Ezra 7-10)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

19 FEB – PS EDMUND WONG (BPJ), PS IVAN HO (WDL), AND PS BARNEY LAU (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

Brokenness Centred on the Way of God

SCRIPTURE: PSALM 51:17; ISAIAH 57:15 ■ SERMON: PS KIRK TAN

A. What Is Brokenness?

To the world, brokenness often means being worthless and hopeless. What is brokenness that is our core value? It is not just about our fallenness, woundedness, tragedies, emotional experiences, confessions or self-flagellation. A key verse on which our core value of brokenness is anchored is Psalm 51:17 “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken spirit and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.” Brokenness is being so deeply convicted by God and grieved about my sinful heart in the light of His Holiness, that I make a conscious choice to earnestly repent, desperately seek to reconcile with Him on any terms and to live in total surrender to His will. Brokenness is a heart plea of “Save me, Lord” given my inherent sinfulness, a heart prayer of “Change me, Lord” in my earnest repentance and a heart posture of “Yes, Lord” in my total surrender. David in his heart cries to God did not just seek forgiveness but sought a new heart and spirit from God that he might pursue God’s will of holiness and witness for His glory.

B. Why Do We Value Brokenness?

1. God values our brokenness (Psa 51:16,17).

In his brokenness, David saw that it was more valuable to God than any sacrifice he could ever offer to Him! The God we worship is not impressed with how rich, respectable, successful or smart we are. He looks to those with broken spirit and a contrite heart. We see this clearly in the parable of the Pharisee and tax collector in Luke 18 where Jesus surprisingly honours the brokenness of the tax collector and condemns the self-righteousness of the Pharisee.

2. God revives us in our brokenness (Isa 57:15).

Here God is drawn to those who are broken and commits to revive them! Brokenness centred on the way of God is a way of God because it is the way *to* God.

C. How then Do We Walk in Brokenness?

Are you a proud or broken person? Below is very brief summary of a comparison between a proud person and broken person done by Nancy Leigh Demos (full version at http://www.christiancounselingservicesinc.org/AM_I_A_PROUD_OR_A_BROKEN_PERSON.pdf)

- Proud people are critical, fault-finding, self-sufficient, self-righteous, self-promoting, easily wounded, think they have a lot to contribute to God’s work and ministry, keep others at arm’s length, self-protective in covering up their sins, deal with generalities when confessing their sins, wait for others to initiate reconciliation or to seek forgiveness, and don’t think they need revival.
- Broken people are compassionate, forgiving, others-dependent, serving others, helping others succeed, recognising their spiritual bankruptcy and poverty, risking loving others, confessing specific sins, first to initiate reconciliation or seek forgiveness, always seeking a fresh encounter with God.

D. The Call

May we cry out to God as David did: “Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a steadfast spirit within me”. A cry of brokenness that God does not despise, but instead would work through and revive for His glory !