

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REVIVAL PRAYER MEETINGS

Come and be blessed by four nights of extended worship and prayer during the Passion Week, before our Good Friday outreach. As God revives us, He will empower us to proclaim the Gospel boldly and live lives of Personal Revival, Divine Appointment and Active Obedience that glorify Him!

Dates: 10-13 Apr (Mon-Thu)

Time: 8pm –10pm **Venue:** BPJ Centre

Speaker: Ps Paul Jeyachandran (Senior Pastor of Life Church Castle Hill in Sydney, Australia)

BREAKTHROUGH WEEKENDS

Next Sunday is the last day of early bird registration for CG members. Come and set aside extended time with God and journey together with your CG-mates. Sign up today!

Marriage BTW on 2 – 4 Jun

Early Bird Rate: \$620 per couple

Men's BTW on 2 – 4 Jun

Early Bird Rate: \$295 (twin) / \$440 (single)

Women's BTW on 26 – 28 May

Early Bird Rate: \$295 (twin) / \$440 (single)

SERVE IN NEW LIFE

P.A.N.D.A. Champs is a character-based mentoring programme for 7 to 10-year-olds. We need more than 10 volunteers to mentor these children.

Schedule: 6 – 22 Jun, every Tue and/or Thu, 9am – 1pm at Bukit Panjang

Training will be provided on 27 May, 2pm – 4pm at BPJ Centre Patience Room.

To sign up or enquire, contact Cai Aiwei (6760 0533; caiaiwei@newlife.org.sg) or Lewis Woo (9634 9457; lewiswoo@newlife.org.sg)

THE ALPHA COURSE

The Alpha Course will be held every Wed from 19 Apr to 17 Jun. This is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith. Many have been saved through Alpha and you can be part of this amazing experience by inviting a pre-believer or by signing up to serve!

Serve as a facilitator, intercessor or in administration. Facilitators' training will be held on 30 Mar and 6 Apr. Register at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com> or email alpha@cefc.org.sg for enquiries.

DOMESTIC HELPERS' APPRECIATION TEA

Let's share God's gift of love to our domestic helpers through the Domestic Helpers' Appreciation Tea. Here are ways to bless them: **Sponsor them, serve them during the event, send them a message of encouragement at giftstofloveathb@gmail.com or at the booth.**

Date: 9 Apr (Sun) Time: 2pm – 5pm

Venue: Furama RiverFront Hotel

Speakers: Rev Tan Kay Kiong and Ps Sharon Fong

Ticket Price: \$30/pax; \$300/table
Visit the booth at the foyer to bless them!

LOVESINGAPORE BLOOD DONATION DRIVE

LoveSingapore is holding its second blood donation drive in collaboration with the Singapore Red Cross on Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday (14-16 Apr). Giving blood saves lives and a practical way to show we care. We are blessed to be a blessing to others! For more details, please go to <https://redcross.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

WOODLANDS CENTRE, 26 MARCH 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS SHARON FONG ■ WORSHIP LEADER: PS FABIAN GHUI

Vision 2028

Facilitating the Five Faith Exploits

ELDER LIU HOCK CHOY, DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS

Over the past weeks, the Senior Pastor's Office (SPO) wrote about the broad strokes of the *Five Faith Exploits*. These are the exploits which God graciously placed in our hearts as we sought His guidance on how to flesh out *Vision 2028* in last year's SPO Listening Retreat.

However, the faith exploits may become just nice words, concepts and diagrams on paper that amount to nothing, unless we arise in faith to help facilitate and support them. We read in Ezra 1 that when God stirred the spirits of the Jews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple, they responded in faith and obedience to make the arduous journey away from the comfort and familiarity of Babylon to the devastated ruins of Jerusalem. Similarly, Covenant EFC must also respond to the God-given trumpet call of *Vision 2028* and the *Five Faith Exploits*.

We need to step up to serve at the point of our calling and gifting (1 Pet 4:10). There will be many opportunities to serve, so do look out for our church-wide *Step-Up Sundays*, ministry recruitment announcements, and our church bulletin and website.

Mobilisation is not just about opportunities to serve. Over the past two years, our *Covenant Mobilisation* team has been defining a process by which we hope to better help Covenanters successfully find their place of service in the church, ensure they are equipped to serve well and that they are managed and cared for as they serve.

We also need wisdom from God for appropriate organisational structures, processes, competencies, infrastructure, facilities and technology. The Covenant EFC app, for instance, is one such initiative. Through the app, we are now able to provide information, resources and social media engagements to facilitate daily discipleship, breaking down traditional barriers of time and geography. Recently, a Board committee was set up pooling together leaders and property-related expertise which will be crucial for addressing the needs of our current and future worship centres.

Exciting days lie ahead as we ask the Lord to work out the *Five Faith Exploits* through us. May we step forward in faith to put our hands to the plough, while trusting Him to fully provide all that we need.

SERMON OUTLINE

Laying a Strong Foundation

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 3:7-13 ■ SERMON: PS IVAN HO

Introduction

Two Non-Negotiables:

A. We Give Our Best Work to God (vv.7-9)

B. We Give Our Best Worship to God (vv.10-13)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:
2 APR – PS LEE DA WIN (BPJ), PAUL SHI (WDL) AND PS BARNEY LAU (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

A FRESH START WITH GOD

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 3:1-6 ■ SERMON: REV EDMUND CHAN

Introduction

1. A brief overview of Israel's history – From Abram to the Exile
2. Ezra chapter 3 is all about a fresh start with God!
3. Start Afresh – Conversion, Restoration and Re-Dedication

Three Vital Principles as seen in Ezra 3:1-6

A. STARTING AFRESH WITH A DEEP SENSE OF CALLING

“...*the people gathered as one man to Jerusalem*” (v.1)

1. Where and what we gather for is important!
2. The purpose of unity is the unity of PURPOSE
3. Illustration. Church Unity Seminar postponed – Disunited Board!
4. Satan's Scheme: Division and Disunity
5. Application. Unite with a deep sense of CALLING

B. STARTING AFRESH WITH A BOLD SENSE OF FAITH

“...*fear was on them...*” (v.3)

1. Our call to obey God must trump over our fears.
2. Their answer lies not in a Army but upon an Altar.
3. Notice HOW they built the Altar: “as it is written” (v.2)
4. Notice WHEN they built the Altar: “the seventh month” (v.1)
 - a. Rosh Hashannah – New Year! A Fresh Start!
 - b. Tishri (festive month) – 10th day of Tishri is Yom Kippur!
 - c. Feast of Tabernacles – The Deliverance and Provision of God!
5. Application. Do Not Fear – God will Deliver and Provide!

C. STARTING AFRESH WITH A CLEAR SENSE OF PRIORITY

“... *the foundation of the temple of the LORD was not yet laid...*” (v.6)

1. A rebuke? No. An indicative statement of Priority!
2. “First day” (v.6) – First things first!
3. Principle. Worship precedes Work (not ‘substitutes work’)
4. Focus. Getting Right With God!! The Altar
5. The sacrifices on the Altar points us to JESUS and the Cross.
6. It's not repentance that makes the cross possible (vice versa!)
7. G.K. Chesterton: “The Cross cannot be defeated. For it is defeat.”

Conclusion. A Fresh Start! Back to the CROSS!!