

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOOD FRIDAY OUTREACH SERVICES

Invite your friends and loved ones to our Good Friday evangelistic services. This is a great opportunity for them to hear about God's love through a multi-sensory presentation and special guest speakers.

Date: 14 Apr **Time:** 9am and 11am

Venue: BPJ, WDL and East Centres

Speakers:

Mr Glenn Lim (BPJ Centre)

Rev Paul Jeyachandran (WDL Centre)

Prof Freddy Boey (East Centre)

The offering collected on this day will be donated to Prison Fellowship Singapore.

Light refreshments will be served for your guests after the service. See you there!

EASTER SERVICES AND FAMILY LUNCH

We will have guest speakers on our Easter services on 16 Apr. Dr Roland Chia will speak at BPJ and WDL Centres. Bishop Emeritus Robert Solomon will be the speaker at East Centre.

Join our Easter Family Lunch at the foyer after each service and let's have a good time of fellowship as a church family.

Please note that pick up and drop off at BPJ Centre is not allowed on this day.

COLLECTION OF CG CURRICULUM

CGs or representatives may collect the CG Curriculum Member's Workbook (IDMF "Being Human") from the booth near the Information Counter today and next Sun. Soft copy can be downloaded at <http://cefc.ch/IDMFBeingHumanMembers>

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)

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! Register at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com> or email alpha@cefc.org.sg for enquiries.

BREAKTHROUGH WEEKENDS

Today 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 at www.cefc.org.sg by clicking "My Account".

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)

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

EAST CENTRE, 2 APR 2017

SERVICE LEADER: DAVID CHONG ■ WORSHIP LEADER: SIMON AND LILLIAN SEOW

Moving Ahead Towards Vision 2028

ELDER LOUIS TAN, CHAIRMAN, CHURCH BOARD

Covenant EFC's 39th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 26 March 2017. In reviewing 2016, we are grateful to God for growing Covenant EFC from an average worship attendance of 5,502 in 2015 to 6,177, for 432 conversions, and for abundantly supplying \$15.2 million from tithes and offerings.

We would like to thank all members of the Church Board and its committees for their dedicated service. The majority of our elected Elders have served between 9 to 15 years on the Church Board and some of them will take a break this year in view of work, ministry and family commitments. We thank Elder Hui Weng Tat, Ps Sebastian Quek and Elder Benjamin Mow for their invaluable contributions to the Church Board over the past decade as they step down. We are also grateful that they will continue to serve in the Council of Elders as elected Elders of Covenant EFC. We also thank Deaconess Tang Lay Hoon for her service as Treasurer as she steps down from the Board. At the same

time, we welcome Deacon Nelson Tan onto the Board.

As we move towards *Vision 2028* with multiple worship centres in Singapore, we need to plan ahead for adequate infrastructure to support our growth. As such, the Church Board has convened a Property Committee led by Deacon Amos Leong whose members include Senior Pastor's Office (SPO) members, and lay members with expertise in properties and buildings.

The spiritual anchor for 2016 was Acts 20:28: "Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the Church of God, which he obtained with his own blood." As church leaders, we are committed to care for ourselves and for the church of God. As we move ahead towards 2028, we will continue to renew the board leadership with younger members. We also urge all Covenanters to step up to serve according to your gifts and passion so that together we may care for and build His Church, and extend His Kingdom in Singapore and beyond!

SERMON OUTLINE

Facing Oppositions

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 4:1-5 ■ SERMON: PS BARNEY LAU

Introduction

A. Stay Away from the Deceivers

B. Stand Firm Through the Discouragement

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

9 APR – REV TAN KAY KIONG (BPJ), REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (WDL) AND REV TONY YEO (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

Laying a Strong Foundation

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 3:7-13 ■ SERMON: REV TONY YEO

Introduction

The collapse of World Trade Center in the 9/11 attacks – 3,000 people died but they soon rebuilt it with World Trade Center 9/11 Memorial and four new office towers.

Two non-negotiables in laying a strong foundation for our life and Church:

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

The pattern of building this temple was based on Solomon's Temple (1 Kin 5; 2 Chron 2).

1. Preparing the Work with the Best
 - a. Financial resources (v.7a) – Though they were small in number and relatively poor, they gave money.
 - b. Human resources (v.7b) – They set high standards of workmanship. They chose competent and skilled masons and carpenters.
 - c. Goods and services (v.7c) – “gave ... food, drink, and oil ...” in the barter system
 - d. Wood as building materials (v.7d) – The wood is of high quality, has a pleasant scent and resistant to rotting and insects.
 - e. Timing (v.8a) – They started at an ideal time — the beginning of dry season.
2. Starting the Work (v.8a) – They “began the work” in spite of their limitations and inexperience.
3. Supervising the Work (v.8b) – They “supervised the work” in spite of their youthfulness (20 years old and above). Previously the entry age for Levites was 25 to 30 years old. At this time, it was down to 20 years old because of scarcity of resources — only 74 Levites returned.
4. Supervising the Workmen (v.9) – not just making workmen work like slaves, but nurturing, mentoring, and encouraging them to realise their fullest potential.

Though their size was too small, resources too scarce, time too short, supervisors too few, money too little and strength too limited, **they started with the right and strong foundation — they gave their best work to God!**

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

1. Engaging in Worship (vv.10-11)
 - a. “according to the directions of David King of Israel” as seen 1 Chronicles 16:4-6
 - b. with our hands (v.10), our mouths and voices (v.11a), our emotions (v.11b), with Psalm 100:5 (v.11a) – Jeremiah 33:11 had prophesied this would be sung again after Jerusalem was destroyed. God was enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
2. Experiencing Worship
 - a. Giving our best worship is not just giving our earnest worship, but our utmost worship.
 - b. Giving our best worship to God by not living in the past but in the present, and by hoping for the future. Older people wept when they compared the former Temple to the present temple. We need to learn from the past, live in the present and believe God for the future.
 - c. God was glorified and “the sound was heard far away” (Ezr 3:13). The worship to God made an impact on the whole community and vicinity.

Conclusion

Illustration: A cross-shaped metal beam found amid the rubble of the World Trade. The cross made it possible for returnees to overcome every challenge to give the best work and best worship to God.