

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

Invite your friends and loved ones to our Good Friday evangelistic services this Fri so they can hear about God's love through a multi-sensory presentation and special guest speakers.

**Date:** 14 Apr (this Fri)

**Time:** 9am and 11am

**Venue:** BPJ, WDL and East Centres

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

Light refreshments will be served for your guests after the service.

### EASTER SERVICES AND FAMILY LUNCH

We will have guest speakers at our Easter Sunday services on 16 Apr and Easter Family Lunch at the foyer after each service! 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.

### CG CURRICULUM

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

### THANK YOU, NEW LIFE SERVERS!

To the more than 600 servers who partnered with New Life to impact almost 4,000 children and their families, we say a big "Thank You!". Children's Fest would not have been possible without your unwavering support. All glory to God!

### REVIVAL PRAYER MEETINGS

Come and be blessed by four nights of extended worship and prayer starting tomorrow until Thu!

**Dates:** 10-13 Apr (Mon-Thu)

**Time:** 8pm -10pm **Venue:** BPJ Centre

**Speaker:** Ps Paul Jeyachandran

### THE ALPHA COURSE

The Alpha Course will be held every Wed from 19 Apr to 17 Jun. 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](mailto:alpha@cefc.org.sg) for enquiries.

### BREAKTHROUGH WEEKENDS

Come and set aside extended time with God and journey together with your CG-mates. Sign up today at [www.cefc.org.sg](http://www.cefc.org.sg) by clicking "My Account". Next Sun is the last day of registration.

**Marriage BTW on 2 - 4 Jun**

\$750 per couple

**Men's BTW on 2 - 4 Jun**

\$350 (twin) / \$510 (single)

**Women's BTW on 26 - 28 May**

\$350 (twin) / \$510 (single)

### DISCOVERY WEEKEND

Discovery Weekend is a one-day session for courting couples to see where they are and where God is in their relationship, that they may grow to honour Him in all they do as His disciples. Sign up at the Information Counter on Sundays!

**Date:** 22 Apr (Sat)

**Time:** 8.45am - 5.00pm

**Venue:** BPJ Centre Chapel (Level 3)

For enquiries, please email [fic@cefc.org.sg](mailto:fic@cefc.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](mailto:mail@cefc.org.sg) ■ Website: [www.cefc.org.sg](http://www.cefc.org.sg)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch](http://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, 9 APR 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PAUL SHI ■ WORSHIP LEADER: LOW WEI SHING AND MAVIS LOW

### Making Space for the Fire

REV TONY YEO AND REV TAN KAY KIONG, SENIOR PASTORS

**A**nd when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness. – Acts 4:31

Something is happening to our church.

We have been asking God to bring a new wave of worship and prayer, which would lead to more souls being saved. Since this year started, those on the platform and at the pews have been in tears. God is stirring our hearts, as He did to Cyrus and the remnant in (Ezra 1). A new move of God has begun!

The rebuilding of God's house begins with rebuilding the altar (Ezra 3). The coming revival prayer meetings is about making space at the altar, so that God will keep stirring our hearts till we become a bonfire for Jesus.

"What makes a fire burn is space between the logs — a

breathing space.

Too much of a good thing, too many logs packed in too tightly can douse the flames almost as surely as a pail of water would. So building fires requires attention to the spaces in between, as much as to the wood." (Excerpt from *Fire* by Judy Brown)

God wants to revive us totally so that we would preach the Gospel boldly in these last days. We have a golden opportunity through our coming Good Friday Gospel presentation for our friends and loved ones to hear something that would change their eternal destiny!

We urge you to make space this Passion Week and be present on all nights. See you this week at the Revival Prayer Meetings (10-13 Apr, 8 pm at BPJ Centre), and bring your friends to the Good Friday evangelistic services (9am and 11am at BPJ, WDL and East Centres).

More, Lord!

## SERMON OUTLINE

### Facing Opposition II

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 4:6-23 ■ SERMON: REV TAN KAY KIONG

#### Introduction

##### A. When falsely accused (Ezra 4:6-16)

“They lodged an accusation against the people” (v6)

##### B. When forced to stop (Ezra 4:17-23)

“Stop work...Compelled them by force to stop... Came to a standstill...(v21,23,24)

#### Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

16 APR – DR ROLAND CHIA (BPJ & WDL) AND BISHOP EMERITUS ROBERT SOLOMON (EAST)

## LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

### Facing Oppositions

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 4:1-5 ■ SERMON: PS LEE DA WIN

#### Introduction

When the Kingdom of God advances, the Enemy retaliates. In Ezra 2 and 3, we saw how God was moving in the hearts of the returnees. It really shouldn't surprise us, therefore, that in Ezra 4, opposition occurs! Similarly, when God is at work in our lives, opposition is to be expected! How are we to respond when faced with opposition?

##### A. Stay Away from the Deceivers (vv.1-3)

1. The “people of the land” were the descendants of Israelites (left behind after the king of Assyria conquered Israel in 722 BC and deported the majority of the population to Assyria) who had intermarried with other pagan peoples whom the king had then resettled into the land (cf. 2 Kin 17:23–24).
2. They employed deception. They sought — by telling a half-truth (2 Kin 17:27-33) — to deceive the returnees to think that they had a lot in common:
  - a. Common goal: “Let us build with you.”
  - b. Common God: “For we worship your God as you do”
  - c. Common godliness: “We have been sacrificing to him ever since ....”
3. Israel's response: Stay away!
4. Our real enemy is the devil (1 Pet 5:8-9; Jn 8:44)! He seeks to deceive us, and thwart God's work in our lives.
5. Our ability to recognise deception is a direct function of our grasp of truth — the Word of God.

##### B. Stand Firm Through the Discouragement (vv.4-5)

1. The second strategy that the enemies employed was discouragement by instilling fear and causing frustration (v.4).
2. Israel's response: Stand firm.
  - a. Implied from text, as the opposition continued “all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia” (about 20 years).
3. Our ability to overcome discouragement is a direct function of our ability to remember what God has done in the past — the faithfulness of God (Psa 143:5, Psa 105:4-5).

#### Conclusion

Our adversary is not a human enemy (Eph 6:12). How can we stay away from / stand firm against an Enemy so powerful as this? How can we have victory? We can't. But Christ can. He already has! Jesus won the victory at the Cross. Let's come to the Cross to claim our victory over the Enemy, because of what Christ has done. Because of Jesus' eternal victory over sin and death, and the Enemy himself. It is He who enables us to stay away from the Enemy and to stand firm through times of discouragement.