

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW LIFE WORKSHOP

Find out more about New Life and how you can be a blessing to the community! Join the New Life Workshop on Tue, 30 May, from 7.30pm to 9.00pm at ACKCentre (Live Recording Studio and Training Rooms 1 to 4). Light refreshments will be served from 6.30pm to 7.30pm. RSVP by sending an email to volunteer@newlife.org.sg or sms to 9716 7154.

BRASS PLAYERS FOR WORSHIP MINISTRY

Worship Ministry is recruiting brass players for the upcoming IDMC conference and Anniversary Sunday services in September. Instruments required are trumpet, saxophone, trombone and flute. Auditions will be held in June. Rehearsals will begin in July until August. Players should have their own instrument. If interested, email Adrian Lim at cefcbrass@gmail.com

PARENTS' APPRECIATION NIGHT IN HOKKIEN

Invite your parents to the Parents' Appreciation Night in Hokkien. Reverend Oh Beng Kee will share a special message and Darren Lim will share his life testimony on Sat, 27 May, 7pm to 9pm (buffet dinner starts at 5.45pm on a first-come, first-served basis) at WDL Centre Main Sanctuary. Admission is free.

SERVE IN NEW LIFE

Steady Readers June Camp

We need 20 volunteers to facilitate games and activities for children on 21 Jun, Wed, 9am to 5pm at BPJ Centre.

Kids Champ Club

Serve in a character-based mentoring programme for 7 to 10-year-olds from Jun to Dec, every Sat, 2pm to 6pm (includes pre- and post-programme briefing). To volunteer or enquire, contact Jason Lee at 9716 7154 or email volunteer@newlife.org.sg

ALPHA: WHY AND HOW DO I PRAY?

Introduce Jesus to your family and friends at Alpha this Wed, 24 May, from 7.00pm to 9.30pm at YMCA at Orchard. Registration is free, but pre-registration is required at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com> For enquiries, email alpha@cefc.org.sg

KIDZBLAST OUTREACH

KIDZBLAST is an outreach programme for kids. Invite your pre-believing friends aged 7 to 12 years old to have fun and hear the Gospel. It will be held on Sunday, 18 and 25 Jun, from 2pm to 6pm at BPJ Centre, Grace Sanctuary. Flyers are available at the Information Counter. Register on 21, 28 May or 4 June at KIDZBLAST booth at the foyer.

We need help in ushering and in the game stations. If you would like to serve with us, drop by our booth at the foyer on the registration dates above.

COVENANT EFC

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

ONE CHURCH MULTIPLE CENTRES:

BPJ Centre: 8.30am, 10.30am & 12.30pm ■ WDL Centre: 8.30am & 10.30am ■ East Centre: 10.00am (Pre-service prayer: 9.30am)

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, 21 MAY 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS KATHERINE CHAN ■ WORSHIP LEADER: CHUA SUE ERN

Love the Community for Christ!

ELDER JOHNNY TAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW LIFE COMMUNITY SERVICES

In 2000, when Covenant EFC stepped into Bukit Panjang, New Life Community Services (NLCS) was birthed with the sole objective of loving and serving the community as Christ would. Over the last 16 years, God has allowed NLCS to build bridges with the community wherever Covenant EFC is located. Even in the East Centre, God has opened a door for community work with South East Community Development Council commencing in January 2018!

In 2016 alone, the Lord blessed NLCS with tremendous growth:

NLCS opened the third Child Care Centre and third Youth Hub in Junction 10 in April and August 2016 respectively. The infant care service also started in Woodlands Child Care in August. The Steady Readers' intake was 225 children, which is 48 kids more than in 2015. The Student Care Centre in Bukit Panjang underwent the first cyclical maintenance after five years of operations.

New work in Reformation Training Center started in May, partnering with Focus on the Family and

The New Charis Mission. Project Love gave over \$17K in financial assistance. The Fajar Youth Hub commenced renovation after 11 years.

The Lord blessed us with \$2.6M in donations, including \$280K raised during the Charity Golf event. There were 498 Covenanters who served in Children's Fest. A total of 848 Covenanters stepped forward to serve in NLCS programmes and events!

Year 2017 presents new challenges as Singapore's economy faces headwinds, the government consolidating the social sector and diverting resources to the aged, while NLCS continues to grow towards the East.

Nevertheless, God is faithful! We are reminded of the Word that God has given NLCS in Isaiah 58:12 "Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings."

In Him and together with you as our partners, donors and servers, we will continue to serve and love the community for Christ!

SERMON OUTLINE

Will You Colour Their Lives?

SCRIPTURE: ZECHARIAH 8:23 ■ SERMON: PS EDMUND WONG

Introduction

What it takes for us to colour people's lives:

A. Be That Change by the Grace of God

"...In those days ten men from the nations of every tongue shall take hold of the robe of a Jew, ..."

B. Be Their Companions in Their Search for God

"...saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'"

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:
28 MAY – REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (BPJ & WDL) AND REV TAN KAY KIONG (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

Do Not Fear

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 21:8-21 ■ SERMON: PS VALERIE CHAN

Introduction

Story of power struggle between Sarah and Hagar over their sons, Isaac and Ishmael. Hagar encountered God for the first time in the wilderness and recognised Him as "El Roi", the God who sees. Focus of today's message is on Hagar's second time in the wilderness after being driven out by Sarah. When you are in your wilderness, do not fear because:

A. God Hears Your Prayer (v.17)

1. FEAR = False Evidence Appearing Real
2. God heard beyond Hagar's cries to her son's cries — this is the kind of God we have: He listens to our cry individually.
3. Principle: If God can hear the cries made out of desperation, how much more will He hear our prayer? Illustration: How God answered my prayer over my son one meltdown at a time.
4. The greatest gift to give to your children is your prayers for them. Example on how to pray Colossians 1:9-10 over your children.
5. Quote: "In the past, we lose our children when they leave home but today we are losing our children in our own homes!"

B. God Has a Plan for You (v.18)

1. The angel of God told Hagar to: a) Arise b) Lift up the lad and hold him by the hand.
2. God wanted Hagar to see that she has a part to contribute to Ishmael's survival and future.
3. He opened Hagar's eyes and she saw a well of water. Let's not become so embedded in our grief or circumstances that we miss the resources God provided.
4. Illustration: How God opened my eyes to read 2 Corinthians 12:7 in The Message Bible to see that my son is His plan for me, as a gift of handicap, so that I can learn to depend on God's grace again and again.

C. God Is Present with You (vv.20-21)

1. God was with the lad ...
 - a. When Ishmael was a lad and was growing up, God was present with him.
 - b. When he lived in the wilderness, God was present with him even though the wilderness is not the best place to live in
 - c. When he became an expert with the bow and arrow, God was present with him.
 - d. When his mother chose a wife for him, God was present with him.
 - e. When he had children, God was present with him.
2. Living in the wilderness may not be the normal path but God chose the wilderness to multiply Ishmael's descendants till they were too many to count (Gen 16:10).
3. Ishmael lost his identity as Abraham's son and his security in living in Abraham's house, but God gave him a new identity as a bow man and security in living in the wilderness.
4. Ishmael had a future in God!

Conclusion

Often, we cannot see beyond the present but God can! Often, we cannot control the future but God can! So **do not fear!**