

ANNOUNCEMENTS

39TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Let's celebrate our One Life as a church at Covenant EFC's 39th birthday with a special combined adult's service. **Our celebration programme will start at 9:30am on Sun, 3 Sep at Singapore EXPO Hall 1.** There will be a children's service for 3 to 10-year olds. See you there!

JAPANESE MINISTRY

If you have a heart for Japanese and can speak their language, we invite you to join Home Missions in praying, reaching out and discipling them. To find out more, come on *one* of these dates:

23 Aug, 7.30pm – 9.30pm at ACKCentre
27 Aug 2.30pm – 4.30pm at BPJ Centre
Register at <http://cefc.cb/japministry2017>

CHRISTMAS PLAY RECRUITMENT

We are starting to prepare for our Christmas play and we are looking for Covenanters to serve with us. If you have the relevant training, we would love to have you! If not, we can train you if have a willing heart! We are looking for *actors, recruitment officer, casting officer, stage hands, props/costume designer and finance manager.* Email fabian.ghui@cefc.org.sg if you are interested.

NATIONAL DAY PRAYER

Come join us for an evening of passionate worship and fervent intercession for our nation and her leaders on the eve of Singapore's 52nd National Day. Our invited guest Mr Richard Magnus, retired Senior District Judge and Member of the Public Service Commission, will grace the occasion and share his spiritual heartbeat for the nation.

Date: 8 Aug (this Tue) **Time:** 8pm – 10pm
Venue: WDL Centre

Please note that there will be no Children's Programme that evening.

BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Baptism Class on Sun, 10 Sep at BPJ Centre from 2.30pm to 5.00pm.

Membership Class on Sat, 16 Sep at ACKCentre from 9am to 4pm.

Register at the Information Counter.

NEW LIFE CHARITY GOLF

If you have the passion for golf and for supporting a good cause, join the New Life Charity Golf on 14 September! Flights are still available. We also need sponsorship for this fundraising event, in cash or in kind. For more details, contact Debbie Wee at fundraising@newlife.org.sg or 6892 7249.

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, 6 AUG 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS IWAN HO ■ WORSHIP LEADER: PS LIM KENG YEOW

Praying for Our Nation

PS EDMUND WONG ON BEHALF OF THE SENIOR PASTORS
REV TONY YEO AND REV TAN KAY KIONG

A *rise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you. – Isaiah 60:1-2*

How has your keeping time with God in prayer this season been? Since 1 Jul, we have been praying for Singapore through various ways: Personal – at 10 am/pm daily, using the Love Singapore 40-day booklet
Family – Sunday evenings via our Devotional Journal
CG – at CG meetings
Church – during Sunday services

I am convicted by every entry in the LoveSingapore 40-day booklet. There's so much to pray for Singapore! And I wish I was more consistent in doing so with my wife Sue Ern (Confession: often we have not much energy left at the end of the day!)

We are living in the end times when both light and darkness are increasing in our land.

The darkness is obvious — be it the threat of terrorism and cyber infiltration, the rise of divorces and pushing of marriage boundaries, or the pervasive moral greyness in our sexuality and ethics. But so is the light! Since Jubilee Day Of Prayer in 2015, we are seeing God's hand upon Singapore. God has been mentioned in governmental speeches. There is a righteousness that safeguards and directs our national policies. I believe it is because the Church is (still) praying!

This coming National Day Prayer (this Tue, 8 Aug, 8 pm at WDL Centre), we have the honour of former Senior District Judge Mr Richard Magnus sharing with us the landscape of our nation. We will also pray for the four strategic aspects of national life — security, economy, family and morality.

Let's finish this season well by joining together in prayer for our nation again, for the God of heaven will make us prosper (Neh 2:20)!

SERMON OUTLINE

A Life Dedicated

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 6:16-18 ■ SERMON: PS EDMUND WONG

Introduction

A. A Life Marked by _____ (v.16)

B. A Worship Seen in _____ (v.17)

C. A Way Set in _____ (v.18)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:
13 AUG – PAUL SHI (BPJ), REV TONY YEO (WDL) AND REV TAN KAY KIONG (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

Unity in Downward Mobility

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 2:3-11 ■ SERMON: DR LAVAL YAU

Introduction

Paul was addressing the church in Philippi about the need to work together to accomplish the goal: “Christ is preached” (Phil 1:18c) “to the glory and praise of God” (Phil 1:11c).

A. WAKE-UP CALL (vv. 3-5)

Verses 3 to 5 – These verses rebuke us and shake us out of complacency. We like to think that we are good, until we are confronted by our own sinfulness. Examine yourself: selfish ambition, vain conceit, pride (lack of humility), one-upmanship (better than others), self-centredness (my interests before others).

Paul is not asking us not to look after our interests, but do we have enough time and space for others? It is all about attitude. Attitude frames, imprisons and moulds everyone into a stubborn pattern of behaviour. How do we extricate ourselves out of it? Working with the poor gives confirmatory insights. “It is not enough merely to provide the poor with material assistance. They have to be sufficiently empowered to change their perception of themselves as helpless and ineffectual in an uncaring world.” – Aung San Suu Kyi

B. WALK THE TALK (vv. 6-8)

Verse 6 “Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped”. Jesus is God but we are made in the image of God (Gen 1:27). He is equal to God but we are co-heirs with Christ (Rom 8:17). As children of God, we are highly exalted spiritually, and materially as well in Singapore. Do we bask in this high position? Jesus did not see His high position that way. The title of “Son of God” is rightly His but He was prepared to lay it down. Are you wanting and willing to follow His example?

Verse 7 “but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.” Jesus gave up everything. Not only human but servant – that’s as low as you can get. Our human nature calls us to high places (Jas 2:1-4): we only want to serve as we have extra time left; we only share when it is convenient, etc.

Verse 8 “And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross.” Jesus played the role to a tee. He continued down the humility path. It calls for death – death to self. He calls us to do likewise (Matt 16:14, Mk 8:34, Lk 9:23).

C. WANDERING EYES (vv. 9-11)

Verse 9 – Three words of high position: exalted, highest, above. “Therefore” comes before “exaltation” because going low is a pre-requisite. The way up is down. But only a few want to start small, be humble and work their way up. It takes too long but Jesus waited 30 years to start His ministry. More than ever, let’s follow what He did — go against the flow.

Verse 10 – The reign and dominion of Jesus will be complete. He will be King over all areas of life that we know. We are looking forward to that. Keep your Eyes on the Prize (Heb 12:2).

Verse 11 – It is all about Jesus. We will be overwhelmed as we bow down. Serving the poor is a means of catching a glimpse of that final glory of God.

Conclusion

If Jesus left His throne above to come to earth, why do we expect to do less? (Matt 10:24) We cannot pay lip service to God’s mandate — we either go or send. Until we are prepared to go down, God will not lift us up (1 Pet 5:6). It is a downward mobility for a life of eternity.