

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING OF MULTITUDES

Calling all Zone Mentors, CG Leaders, Assistant CG Leaders and Ministry Leaders! Join the Senior Pastor's Office Team as they share the spiritual burdens and plans for 2018 at the Gathering of Multitudes (GOM).

Date: 1 Oct (Sun) **Time:** 2:30pm – 5:00pm

Venue: BPJ Centre Main Sanctuary

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS TRIPS

CG members, go for Short-term Missions (STM) trip and bless the nations!

Surabaya on 23-27 Nov Outreach to a slum community by teaching English, and ministry to believers in CGs.

Jakarta on 8-13 Dec (updated dates) Inspire teachers and volunteers in their outreach to an M community by teaching English.

Myanmar on 16-20 Dec Support local church in their Christmas outreach.

Trippers must be attending CG regularly. For more information, email ailli.tay@cefc.org.sg

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Session 1 "How do you know God exists?" starts today at 1pm at Joy 1. See you there!

CHRISTMAS PLAY RECRUITMENT

This year's Christmas will see another original musical written by our very own Covenanters! We are looking for cast, musicians, crew, committee members and more. Join the fun team and sign up now at <http://cefc.ch/ChristmasRecruit> or email chchchristmas@gmail.com

MID-AUTUMN OUTREACH

Invite your Hokkien and Mandarin-speaking parents, relatives and friends so they can hear about God's love at the following Mid-Autumn Outreach Services. Admission is free. Buffet starts at 6pm on a first-come, first-served basis.

Hokkien

Artiste Peter Yu will share his testimony and Rev Oh Beng Khee will be the speaker on Sat, 7 Oct, 7pm to 9pm at BPJ Centre. For enquiries, email faith.chen@cefc.org.sg

Mandarin

Artiste Desmond Sim will share his testimony. Skit and songs will be presented by ORTV on Sat, 30 Sep, 7pm to 9pm at WDL Centre, Main Sanctuary. For enquiries, email chris.pang@cefc.org.sg

TNG BAPTISM

Shout out to all WEBs and MOMENTUMs! TNG Christmas outreach and baptism for 11 to 18-year-olds is happening on 23 Dec, 2pm to 4pm at BPJ Centre Main Sanctuary. Come and join us!

Registration for baptism begins on 23 Sep at <http://cefc.ch/TNGBaptism17> Important dates are also available at the link. Email tng.momentum@cefc.org.sg for enquiries.

TWO TO TANGO

Two to Tango is an outreach event for Covenanters to invite pre-believing couples who are married or about to get married.

Dates: 4 Oct - 1 Nov (five Wed nights)

Find out more and sign up at cefc.ch/twototango2017 To serve, go to cefc.ch/22tango-reg2017

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

BUKIT PANJANG CENTRE, 17 SEP 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS LEE DA WIN ■ WORSHIP LEADER: PS FABIAN GHUI

Step Up!

ELDER LIU HOCK CHOY, DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS

Around this time last year, our leaders and ministries in unison gave a trumpet call for Covenanters to consider where we are in the light of our stewardship of the spiritual gifts which God assigned to each of us, and as the Lord leads, step up to serve at the point of our calling and gifting. Roles available for recruitment were published, with the intent of matching available roles with Covenanters who meet the role criteria and required commitment. From this, a total of 317 role applications were received from 282 individuals via the Step-Up web site which was custom-built to facilitate the application for roles and to enable ministry leaders to track and update the status of each role application. The software application allows us as a church (and our ministries) are doing in terms of bringing our servers through the Server Resourcing Life Cycle phases of Screening and Selection, Induction, Training, and Placement. As the system is online every day, we have therefore been able to receive role applications through the year and provide a ready-made tool to help in ministry-specific recruitments such as the TNG's Ministry Talk in

July. Hence, from Sep 2016 till today, the total number of role applications has steadily risen to 455 received from 394 individual Covenanters.

Today is once again Step-Up Sunday. In the bulletin insert, you will find a listing of 80 important roles across 17 ministries for your careful consideration. An exciting change this year is that for the first time, New Life Community Services (NLCS) is also participating and Covenanters will be able to sign up to serve the community as well! In addition to server roles, Covenanters can also step up to join a CG, as well as sign up for baptism and membership. Ministry leaders and servers will be at the booths to attend to any queries you may have, so do make use of the opportunity!

We aspire to build Step-Up Sunday into a regular feature in the life and rhythm of the church, so that we continually and intentionally remind ourselves to serve one another, as well as serve alongside one another towards the mission of returning the Church to its discipling roots through authentic discipleship and intentional discipling. Are you ready? Let's Step Up!

SERMON OUTLINE

Serving God Together

SCRIPTURE: ZECHARIAH 8:9 ■ SERMON: PS LIM KENG YEOW

Introduction

“Thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘Let your hands be strong, you who are listening in these days to these words from the mouth of the prophets, those who spoke in the day that the foundation of the house of the LORD of hosts was laid, to the end that the temple might be built.’ – Zechariah 8:9 (NASB)

A. Why We Serve

B. How We Serve

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:
24 SEP – PS SHARON FONG (BPJ), PAUL SHI (WDL) AND PS BARNEY LAU (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

Praise and Courage When We See!

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 7:27-28 ■ SERMON: REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI

Introduction

Ezra 7:27-28 can be dismissed easily as an unnecessary add-on to the introduction of Ezra. But in it, we see the heart of a certain kind of servant of the Lord — one that is able to see — and thus full of praise and filled with courage!

A. Call to Praise When We See God's Hand (vv.27-28a)

1. These are the first recorded words of Ezra in the book and it begins with praise! Why was Ezra able to praise the Lord? Because he was able to see that the blessings he received from King Artaxerxes (Ezr 7:11-26) were actually from the hand of a greater King!
2. Our ability to see is not primarily physical. Just as the eyes do not really “see” in that they do not interpret the visual signals: it is our visual cortex that makes sense of the images. Thus it is really our mind that “sees”.
3. In that sense, our perspective determines our perception, or we see things according to how we think. Thus what we feed our minds is of great importance. Whatever we feed our minds will fill them and thus determines what we “see”.
4. Ezra was able to see the hand of God because he had “set his heart”, he was intentional — to study, to do and to pass on the Law of the Lord (Ezr 7:10). Thus he was able to recognise God's hand and praise the Lord! Are our minds governed by the Lord's Word?

B. Courage to Act Because We Know God's Hand (v.28b)

1. When we think of leaders in the Bible, usually Ezra's name does not come up. Yet he was certainly a leader, though not the kind we would usually consider. This gives us hope because he grew in faith in trusting God (i.e. he took courage).
2. Ezra's faith/courage grew because he saw God's hand. This brings us back to the starting point where it is so vital that we are able to “see” God.
3. True faith/courage acts. Ezra took courage and led people to return with him. James reminds us that “faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead” (Jas 2:17-18). When we see as God sees, we will do as God says.
4. Yet we are reminded that genuine faith/courage must be mature faith, not naïve, presumptuous, nor indulgent faith. Ezra's understanding that God is faithful to act in His own timing for His own glory, and that He blesses us to be a blessing — that is the kind of mature courage and faith God calls forth from us.

Conclusion

God is raising forth mature sons and daughters who are able to see. We are able to see when our minds are governed by His Word. When we see, our lives will be full of praise and filled with courage!