

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. 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

WOODLANDS CENTRE, 17 SEP 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS SHARON FONG ■ WORSHIP LEADER: ALLISON LIM

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 KIRK TAN

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 TAN KAY KIONG

Introduction

What we count, we will celebrate. And what we celebrate, we will become! In life we count and celebrate a lot of things. The students count the days to their exam and celebrate in their holidays. An adult count their possible promotion and bonus and when it comes, they celebrate. As a church, we count our attendance and tithings, and we celebrate the discipleship journey of everyone. But not everything is worthy of counting and celebrating. Ezra 7:28-29 illustrates this principle above. It shows us what we will become when we count and celebrate the hand of God in our life. Two distinct traits happen:

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

1. “Praise be to the Lord, the God of our Fathers...”: Ezra counted and celebrated the faithful hand of God. He will never leave nor forsake us. “God's pursuit of you is always greater than your ability to wander from Him.” – Jarrid Wilson
2. “Who has put it into the King's heart...”: Ezra counted and celebrated the sovereign hand of God. From King Cyrus in chapter 1, King Darius in chapter 6, to King Artaxerxes in chapter 7, God uses the most powerful to advance His purpose.
3. “Extended his good favor to me...”: Ezra counted and celebrated God's good favour to him. Sometimes we think God only cares for the big things and forget the small things in our life. No, he cares for **you**.

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

1. “The hand of the Lord” is found three times in Ezra 7:6,9,28. Another two times in chapter 8:8,18. Two more times in Nehemiah 2:8,18. It emphasises the sovereignty of God that orchestrates everything and the bountiful blessings of God to all of His servants. See further in Isaiah 65:2, Psalm 139:5, Psalm 92:4. God's hand is always open to us! Illustration: Little boy who said, “Daddy, you have to hold on to my hands now for I can't hold on to you much longer.”
2. Once we know God's hand is upon us, we will take courage and act. I am sure it wasn't easy for Ezra to do what he did. It took time and learning to act on it

Conclusion

What we count, we will celebrate — that's Praising God.

What we celebrate, we will become — that's rising in Courage to Act.