

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OVERSEAS STEADY READERS

Impact young lives among the urban poor in the nations, and give them hope for a better future. No prior knowledge of Phonics is necessary. Training will be provided. Find out more at the **Introductory Talk today, 2:30pm at BPJ Centre Grace Sanctuary.**

BREAKTHROUGH WEEKENDS

Registration for Breakthrough Weekends is still ongoing at regular rates. Register online through Voyager.

C.Y.A.N. "SAVE THE DATE"

A panel of speakers will share from their experiences and answer questions relating to men-and-women relationships from the perspectives of a single, courting couple and married couple

Date: 21 Oct (Sat)

Time: 7pm - 9pm

Venue: 5 Little Monkeys Café
20 Kallang Avenue

Light refreshments will be provided. Seats are limited. Entry is strictly by registration. Register at <http://cefc.ch/cyanrship>

EMPOWERING GOD'S MEN

Calling all men! Register at <https://mmn-egm.eventbrite.com> by tomorrow, 9 Oct to hear Rev Dr Tan Soo Inn speak at our last session.

IDT AND SFF SIGN-UP

Intentional Discipleship Training (IDT)

Are you seeking to grow in Christian maturity and in becoming an authentic disciple and intentional disciplemaker? Apply today for the 2018 intake.

Spiritual Friends and Foundations (SFF)

If you are younger in the Christian faith, learn the basics of discipleship lifestyle at SFF.

Apply online through Voyager. Application ends on 31 Oct. For enquiries, email idtadmin@cefc.org.sg

DISCOVERY WEEKEND (DWE)

DWE is a one-day session for courting couples to see where they are and where God is in their relationship. This will be held on **Sat, 14 Oct, 8.45am – 5pm (lunch and breaks included) at BPJ Centre Chapel (Level 3)**. Sign-up at the Information Counter on Sundays. Email fic@cefc.org.sg for enquiries.

PARENTING WITH LOVE

For newly married couples and those who are planning for their first baby.

Dates: 4 and 11 Nov (Saturdays)

Time: 12pm – 5pm

Venue: WDL Centre

Cost: \$50 per couple

Sign up today at the Information Counter!

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Session 4 "Who is Jesus?" is happening today at 1pm at the Interview Room.

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, 8 OCT 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS KATHERINE CHAN ■ WORSHIP LEADER: PS FABIAN GHUI

Outreach Flywheel for Jesus

PS SHARON FONG, OUTREACH MINISTRY AND DISTRICT MENTOR

In Jim Collin's book, *Good to Great*, he introduced the flywheel effect: "A flywheel is a massive metal disk mounted horizontally on an axle. Now imagine that your task is to get the flywheel rotating on the axle as fast and long as possible. Pushing with great effort, you get the flywheel to inch forward, moving almost imperceptibly at first. You keep pushing and, after two or three hours of persistent effort, you get the flywheel to complete one entire turn. You keep pushing and at some point, there is a breakthrough and a great momentum!"

This year, we want to celebrate the Outreach Flywheel that is turning forward with greater momentum. We thank God for how it is "pushed" at different points:

Individual. I am hearing more and more stories of Covenanters B.L.E.S.S-ing their FRANS (friends, relatives, associates, neighbors and strangers). One Covenanter shared the Gospel with her driving instructor on several occasions. It was amazing to hear how she gave thanks to God for failing her

driving test so that she could reach out to her instructor again.

Covenant Group (CG). I am seeing more and more CGs serving the community together. I praise God for the Zone Mentors who are leading their zones consisting of three CGs to visit homes around WDL Centre in order to find out their practical needs. They visited these homes again to present a gift and have a meal with them, at the same time inviting them for the Christmas Service. Such intentionality!

Church. Recently, I visited the Mandarin Mid-Autumn Outreach Service on 30 Sep, with artiste Desmond Shen sharing his heartwarming testimony. I was encouraged to see so many Covenanters bringing their loved ones and friends. I am also blessed to see many Covenanters inviting their pre-believing friends to attend Two to Tango. Not to forget too the many Covenanters serving in this event.

Let's continue to push this Outreach Flywheel for Jesus, not by our own strength but by the power of the Holy Spirit!

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

SERMON OUTLINE

Prayer for the Journey

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 8:21-23 ■ SERMON: PS EDMUND WONG

Introduction

Why prayer is critical for our spiritual journey:

A. It Establishes Our Priorities in Life (v.21)

“Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava ...”

B. It Expresses Our Dependence on God (v.22)

“... The hand of our God is for good on all who seek him ...”

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

15 OCT – REV TONY YEO (BPJ), PS SHARON FONG (WDL) AND PS BARNEY LAU (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

A Few Good Men

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 8:15-20 ■ SERMON: REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI

Introduction

About 5,000 Jews were setting out for an exciting journey back to Jerusalem to bring about spiritual reformation. To their horror, Ezra discovered that the Levites were missing from the group. God used a few good men to bring forth His few good men. What kind of people is God looking for to do His Kingdom work?

A. God Looks for GIFTED Leaders (vv.16-17)

1. When Ezra “checked” he discovered the missing people group and got hold of nine leaders and two wise men to go get the Levites. Together with Ezra, God used these 12 men to “solve” the problem of the missing Levites.
2. Leaders make a difference in any organisation, be it a nation or a large company, much more so in the Kingdom of God. The leadership qualities demonstrated here include:
 - a. Ezra “checked”. The Hebrew word means one who observes, who sees. It has to do with the idea of paying attention. Above all, leaders must first pay attention to God!
 - b. Ezra “summoned”. Leaders must also take decisive action once an issue has surfaced. Here Ezra summoned others to assist him in the matter.
 - c. Ezra sent these men who obeyed him. True leaders are men under authority. These 11 understood that and went as they were sent (Heb 13:17).
 - d. Ezra acknowledged God. True leaders attribute success to others. Certainly for believers, we acknowledge that it is God who helped us and made things possible.

B. God Looks for WILLING Teachers (vv.18-19)

1. The Levites did not just have a role in the Temple (e.g. musicians, gatekeepers etc.) They had a vital teaching function as well (2 Chron 17:7; Neh 8:7, 9).
2. For each wave of returnees, the percentage of Levites was consistently low (341 out of 60,000 and 38 out of 5,000). We are not told why this was so. Perhaps it was more comfortable to remain in Babylon than to move out for new adventures? In any case, only 38 of them were willing to go back. And God used these 38 together with Ezra to bring about spiritual reformation.

C. God Looks for HUMBLE Servants (v.20)

1. To our surprise, 220 Temple servants were willing to make the journey back to Jerusalem. These were a group of people established by King David to assist the Levites. If the Levites were servants to the priests, the Temple servants would be servants to the servants of the priests.
2. Temple servants were not slaves. In that sense they don't need to go back with anyone. Yet interestingly they chose to go back. Considering that they were not the ones who got the “limelight” of the reformation work, their willingness to go back demonstrates their humility.
3. We are grateful for such men and women in Covenant EFC who serve so faithfully and so namelessly, not needing the limelight. They are truly God's humble servants!

Conclusion

God invites us all to participate in His journey to bring about reformation. Let's all play our part!