

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVE AT KIDZBLAST

Reach out to the next generation at KidzBlast, an outreach programme for 7 to 12-year-olds.

Dates: 19 and 26 Nov (Sundays)

Time: 1.30pm – 6.00pm

Venue: BPJ and WDL Centres

To serve, sign up at <http://cefc.ch/KidzBlast2017-Volunteer>



To invite pre-believing kids, flyers for the event are available at the Information Counter.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

Sign up at the Information Counter.

Date: 4 Nov (Sat)

Time: 9am to 4pm

Venue: ACKCentre

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

Session 6 “Faith (Fact or Feeling)” is happening today at Joy 1 Room.

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 more information, please go to our church website and click on “Registrations & Signups”.

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 at the Information Counter.

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, 22 OCT 2017

SERVICE LEADER: PS VALERIE CHANG / PS ANDY LEW ■ WORSHIP LEADER: DAVID CHONG

What Has the Protestant Reformation Got to Do with Me?

PS LEE DA WIN, SMALL GROUP INFRASTRUCTURE

2017 marks 500 years since Martin Luther, an Augustinian monk and theology professor, published his 95 theses against the Catholic Church. This launched the Protestant Reformation that divided the Western church and totally transformed the practice of faith by millions of people thenceforth till today.

In Covenant EFC, we will commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation next Sunday. If you have no clue what the Reformation is, or how it is even relevant today, here's a quick summary, from five Latin phrases that defined the biblical pleas of Protestants:

Sola scriptura (“Scripture alone”) emphasises the Bible, not the Pope or sacred tradition, as the sole source of authority for Christians. This also fueled the translation and teaching of the Bible from Latin into common languages of the day.

Sola fide (“faith alone”) emphasises salvation as a free gift to all who accept it by faith. No amount of indulgences (donating money) or

good works buys God's favour. *Sola gratia* (“grace alone”) emphasises that we are saved by God's grace. Salvation comes from what God has done rather than what we do.

Solo Christo (“Christ alone”) emphasises that Jesus is the only One – not any human spiritual leader – who offers us access to God.

Soli Deo gloria (“to the glory of God alone”) emphasises that our goal in life is to glorify God alone, not to conform to human tradition or standards so as to please men.

Each of the five solas was a strong corrective response to the faulty practices and beliefs of the Roman Catholic Church of that time. But they are also a positive biblical declaration. They call us to focus on Scripture, accept salvation by grace through faith in Christ and by no other means, and to live for God's glory. And this is how, in a nutshell, the Reformation from 500 years ago has changed the course of Christian history and remains etched in the practice of our living faith today.

SERMON OUTLINE

How Will Your Journey End?

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 8:31-36 ■ SERMON: PAUL SHI

Introduction

A. Will you arrive where you HOPE for? (vv.31-32)

B. Will you be able to ACCOUNT for your life? (vv.33-34)

C. Will there be THANKSGIVING? (vv.35-36)

Conclusion

How will your journey end?

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

29 OCT – BISHOP EMERITUS ROBERT SOLOMON (BPJ, WDL AND EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

A Sacred Trust

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 8:24-30 ■ SERMON: REV TONY YEO

Introduction

Overview of Ezra, and Ezra 8.

Discipleship of a sacred trust marked by accountability and consecration:

A. We Are Accountable to God for Our Lives (vv.25-27, 29)

“weighed ... weigh ... watch and keep”

Two pictures of what accountability looks like:

1. Responsible – “and I weighed out to them” (vv.25, 26, 29)
 - a. Responsible for the incredible weight of leadership. The weight of silver and gold amounts to over S\$207M. Ezra weighed these offerings before the journey and when they arrived in the destination.
 - b. Responsible to people – a sacred trust given to Ezra by the king. He appointed Priests and Levites to the sacred tasks of managing and transporting the holy offerings (vv.25, 29).
 - c. Responsible to God – “... donated for the house of our God” (v.25), “... freewill offering to the Lord” (v.28). Ultimately, he is responsible to God.
2. Reliable – “Then I set apart twelve of the leading priests” (v.24), “Guard them carefully ...” (v.29)
 - a. “Guard” – keep watch, protect, vigilant, pay close attention, diligent, disciplined, careful and conscientious in his work, duties, roles and calling.
 - b. Ezra carefully and diligently appointed the right people, weighed the items at the right time, guarded the right things, kept the right mission.
3. Application: A sacred trust of the Gospel and gifts (time, treasure and talents).

B. We Must Be Consecrated to God in our Lives (vv.24, 28, 30)

“... set apart ... You as well as these articles are consecrated to the LORD ...”

To be consecrated to God in our lives means:

1. Be faithful – Priests/Levites were “set apart” (v.24), i.e. separated from the rest of remnants for a specific purpose and calling to be “holy to the LORD” (v.28).
2. Be distinct – “You are holy ... the utensils are holy ...” (v.28), i.e. belong to the sacred, and distinguished from the profane (Lev 10:10, Eze 22:26).
3. Believers in the Old Testament were made holy by observing the Law of God; believers in New Testament are made holy by the blood of Jesus on the cross! Jesus is our means of consecration. He has made it possible for us to be faithful and distinct.
4. Application: work, family, church, marriage, sexual purity

Conclusion

All of life is a sacred trust — the world we live in, our relationships, time, talents, treasures, children, the call to serve, etc. Our one Life is a sacred trust given by the Lord. Let's use it to pass the Gospel on!