

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE OUTREACH SERVICES

Christmas is just around the corner! Invite your friends and loved ones to our Christmas Eve Outreach Services. This is the perfect time to celebrate and share God's greatest gift through a musical performance and a special message.

Date: 24 Dec (Sun)

Time: 8.30am and 10.30am

Speaker: Rev Chris Chia

SERVE IN NEW LIFE

Be a Steady Readers Volunteer Mentor! Help children overcome challenges in reading and instil a love for books in them.

Dates: Weekly from Jan to May 2018

Time: 8pm – 9.30pm

Training sessions will be held on 6, 7, 13 and 14 Jan (choose one training session only) from 1pm to 5pm at Fajar Youth Hub.

To sign up or enquire, contact Jason Lee at 9635 1135, Lewis Woo at 9634 9457, or email volunteer@newlife.org.sg

CHURCH STAFF RECRUITMENT

We are looking to fill the role of **Executive (Integrated Equipping)**. Applicants should either be a church or CG member, with a heart to answer God's call in their lives in furthering Covenant EFC's mission. For more information, visit <http://www.cefc.org.sg/index.php/about-us/recruitment> Email your resumes to hr@cefc.org.sg by 17 Dec.

MANDARIN SERVICE CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Due to the overwhelming response these past Sundays, all the tickets have been redeemed. Today's collection at the foyer is **only** for community pre-believers. For further enquiry, email chris.pang@cefc.org.sg

C.Y.A.N. CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Christmas is just around the corner! Covenant Young Adult Network (C.Y.A.N.) will be having a Christmas gathering. Come for a time of fun, food and friendship!

Register at <https://engage.cefc.org.sg>

Date: 16 Dec (Sat)

Time: 7pm – 9pm (dinner will be served)

Venue: 5 Little Monkeys Cafe, Pico Creative Centre, 20 Kallang Ave, #11-00

Fee: \$15 per person

COVENANT EAST SERVICE ON 10 DEC

Covenant East will be holding **next Sunday's service** in the Grand Ballroom at Hilton Hotel Singapore (Level 3, 581 Orchard Road, Singapore 238883), as Park Avenue Convention Centre is not available for our use. Service timing will still be 10am (pre-service prayer at 9.30am).

DEC DJ COLLECTION

Hard copies of our Devotional Journal (DJ) for Dec are available at the Information Counter at Level 1 while stocks last.

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, 3 DEC 2017

SERVICE LEADER: SANDRA CHI ■ WORSHIP LEADER: CHUA SUE ERN

Generations for His Kingdom!

SARAH CHAN, THE NEXT GENERATION (TNG)

The ONE80 Graduation Luncheon last Saturday was permeated with youthful energy — youths thrilled to meet their friends, parents catching up from across our three worship centres, and leaders exchanging testimonies of God's goodness — a picture of God's inter-generational Church!

ONE80 is an annual discipleship programme for youths aged 13 to 15 years old. The theme was *Look — Look Up* in pursuit of knowing God, *Look Within* to build an identity in Him, and *Look Out* to fulfil their purposes in His Kingdom. We had 94 youths in the span of four weeks with one awesome God!

It is often said that it takes a village to raise a child. At the graduation, we witnessed a village celebrating the discipleship milestone of 94 youths who pursued the Lord, and gathered to celebrate the God who fulfils and exceeds His promises. "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." — Jeremiah 29:13 They sought Him and found Him!

In the midst of the fun camp, the time of worship and daily hour of silence and solitude are the highlights of ONE80. Why? Because this is when the youths experienced a God who speaks through His Word, as well as

the opportunity for them to express their adoration through intimate times of worship — 94 voices felt like a thousand voices reverberating with praise!

During the final night of ONE80 Breakthrough, the youths prayed for their adult leaders and the Lord spoke through them, moving us to tears. It was a humbling moment of realisation that the youths were not just being disciplined, but were also ministers and disciplemakers! That night, 23 youths answered His call to full-time ministry. The rest worshipped with a burning passion when they were challenged to be His missionaries wherever they will be sent. It was the sound of a generation hungry to pursue Him with all their hearts! Last Friday, they were sent on a Faith Journey — a day of PDA, seeking and obeying Him. The Lord gave them visions which came to pass. They prayed for and blessed strangers they met on Orchard Road, elderly living at MacPherson, students in universities, homeless around the Esplanade, and many more!

As we desire to equip these saints for His work tomorrow, they are also the Church of today in a world that desperately needs it. Let's build His Kingdom today. Whom have we last disciplined?

SERMON OUTLINE

Covenant Community

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 10:5-15 ■ SERMON: PS KATHERINE CHAN

Introduction

A. Covenant to Act Together

B. Covenant to Act Together Over Time

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:
10 DEC – PS ANDY LEW (BPJ), PS SHARON FONG (WDL) AND PS IVAN HO (EAST)

LAST WEEK'S SERMON SUMMARY

How Will You Respond?

SCRIPTURE: EZRA 10:1-4 ■ SERMON: REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI

Introduction

Ezra responded to the people's sin with weeping and confession. This act, done by their spiritual leader, stirred the people to a response. Their response is something we can also learn to do.

A. Acknowledge Your Sin Against God (vv.1-2a)

The people acknowledged their sin in four ways:

1. They wept bitterly as well. There is a place for tears/emotions. More often than not, we weep for things that do not really matter (e.g. dropping a new iPhone). Perhaps we have been desensitised by the growing tolerance to sin around us?
2. They agreed with God's Word that they had sinned (rather than deny it).
3. They took personal responsibility of their sins, rather than blaming others (use of personal pronoun).
4. They were specific about their area of sin – they named and confessed it.

B. Affirm Your Hope in God (v.2b)

1. God did not act instantaneously when the people sinned. Why was there a delay? We cannot be fully sure. But it may well be that God was hoping for the people to realise their sin and repent (as in this situation).
2. We have hope for renewal because of what Jesus has done for us on the Cross of Calvary. There is no sin too dark that God cannot forgive and cleanse for a new start.
3. There is also a national dimension to this hope (at that time, for Israel). Likewise, our nation really needs a fresh touch of God's Spirit over us (e.g. John Sung revival in 1935, Billy Graham rally in 1978). We need to cry out to God once again for that hope over our nation!

C. Align Your Life with God (vv.3-4)

1. The people took action to make restitution. They understood that it was not merely something to do. They spoke of making a covenant with God.
2. A covenant is different from a contract — it is more than something to be done, it is primarily a person to love. Likewise as Christians we read the Bible, pray, serve, tithe, etc. not as an end in itself to get something done, but to know God and live our lives with Him. Christianity is about living in covenant relationship with God!

Conclusion

A tale of two trees: A 270-year-old Tembusu tree that fell over in Botanical gardens in Feb 2017 (which looked well on the outside but was rotting on the inside) vs action taken to remove a 100-year-old Tembusu tree that was in danger of falling (in Nov 2017.) How would we respond to God? May we take action before the rot kills us and others too!