

Announcements

MEMBERSHIP AFFIRMATION

We will be conducting our bi-annual membership affirmation starting next Sunday! All Covenant EFC members are required to affirm your membership to remain as a constitutional member.

This year, members can choose the mode of notification for the Notice of AGM to be sent either via email or postal mail. Please add a profile photo and update your personal particulars after your affirmation by 28 Feb to receive the appropriate information and letters for our upcoming AGM. For those who missed affirming your membership 2 years ago, please fill out and submit a reinstatement application form from the Information booth.

Visit the booth at the foyer or go to www.cefc.org.sg and click "My Account" from next Sunday. If you need assistance with your Voyager account, you can email sgl.admin@cefc.org.sg

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

If you are curious about Christianity or have been visiting the church but have not accepted the faith, join us at Christianity Explored! This is an informal platform to explore Christianity and discuss spiritual questions.

Date and Time: Six Sundays from 14 Jan to 25 Feb (except 18 Feb) at 1pm

Venues: WDL Centre (Love Rm), BPJ Centre (Hope 4)
Sign up for the sessions at <http://cefc.ch/christianity-explored>

DISCOVERY WEEKEND

Courting couples, would you like to further develop your relationship for God's glory? Choose one Saturday (8.30am-5pm) from this year's Discovery Weekend dates: **27 Jan, 21 Apr, 21 Jul and 20 Oct.** Register at the Information Counter.

COVENANT POLO SHIRT

New stocks of the Covenant EFC turquoise polo shirt are available from 14 Jan (BPJ) and 21 Jan (WDL) at \$15 each.

COMMUNITY BLESSINGS

Homework Corners

We are looking for volunteers to help children from low income families in their school work once a week.
Locations: 632A Senja Centre (Tues to Thurs)
Time - 7.30pm to 9pm; Choa Chu Kang Community Club (Thurs) Time - 8pm to 9.15pm

Community Storybuilders

We are looking for volunteers or CGs to help in existing community platforms that connect families via storytelling and craft sessions from 8pm to 9pm monthly.
Locations: Blk 552 WDL - 1st Friday; BPJ Chapel - 1st Friday; Blk 785 Yew Tee - 2nd Friday; BPJ Chapel - 3rd Friday; Block 589 WDL - 3rd Friday

Email vincent.chia@cefc.org.sg to enquire or sign up.

PARENTING TRAINING

Parenting with Faith. For parents with kids below 12 years old. **Dates:** Eight sessions from 27 Jan to 14 Apr.
Time: 2pm - 4pm **Venue:** ACKCentre
Fee: \$100 / couple
Register at the Information Counter today!

STM TRIPS

All CG members, plan your STM trips for 2018 now!
Mongolia - Provinces outside Ulanbaatar / March (10-14 days) Focus - To teach basic Biblical disciplines.
Team size: 4 to 6 people only

Mongolia - Ulanbaatar / March or April (10-14 days) Focus - Campus outreach to conduct English lessons. Team size: 6 to 12 people (18 to 35 years)

Nepal / 23 Mar to 5 Apr (8-10 days)
Focus - Teachers' training and Children's program

Thailand - Chiang Mai / 23 Apr to 5 May (6-7 days)
Focus - Youth / children's camp (Spiritual development)

Closing date for registration is 4 Feb 2018
Requirement & Commitment - Trippers MUST be members of a CG and attending CG regularly, be committed to STM training and team meetings.
Email missions@cefc.org.sg for more info or to indicate your interest.



... for a Vibrant & Healthy Next Generation

... for Godly Families and Generations

... for a Growing IDMC Movement in Singapore

... to Impact Our Society & Culture

... for a Growing Global IDMC Movement

ACKCentre
2 Kallang Avenue,
CT Hub #10-26, Singapore 339407

ONE CHURCH
MULTIPLE CENTRES
BPJ Centre:
Sun 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.30pm

WDL Centre:
Sun 8.30am & 10.30am

East Centre:
Sun 9am & 11am

T (65) 6892 6811
E mail@cefc.org.sg
W www.cefc.org.sg

FB www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch

EAST CENTRE, 7 JANUARY 2018
SERVICE LEADER: PS BARNEY LAU • WORSHIP LEADER: SIMON & LILIAN SEOW

We Are Church: Pray and Repent!

REV TAN KAY KIONG AND REV TONY YEO, SENIOR PASTORS

As we lead Covenant EFC toward Vision 2028 when our church celebrates her 50th Jubilee Anniversary, God has given us **Acts 20:28** as our spiritual anchor: *"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood."* So we as church leaders and members are to **pay careful attention** to our heart condition and to our triune God. During the Senior Pastor's Office (SPO) Listening Retreat on 8 to 15 July 2017 at the mountain with God, we were grateful for His divine guidance and prompting through a plurality of godly leadership. This is the spiritual burden God impressed upon us for 2018: **WE ARE CHURCH: PRAY AND REPENT!**

We are CHURCH
We believe that God has called us together to be *One Church with Multiple Centres* and pursue the *A.D.I.D. of A Certain Kind* within each local centre through small groups. We will enhance the small group strategy so that we can make disciples who make disciples. We were led to preach on the book of Acts for 2018 and rediscover what the Church is all about.

We Are Church: PRAY!
I (Rev Tan Kay Kiong) received a very distinct picture of Moses praying in the mountain with his hands supported by Aaron and Hur. As I read the account in Exodus 17, the burden was clear:

1. We Are Under Attack (Exo 17:8)
Many of us are living defeated lives — stained by sin and the affairs of this world. The devil has launched his arsenal of attacks against every possible arena of our lives.

2. We Must Fight with the Weapons of God (Exo 17:9b)

The staff in Moses' hand was the staff of God. This once ordinary staff used to goad sheep in the desert had become God's weapon to fight spiritual battles. We must put on God's spiritual armour so that we can stand against the schemes of the devil.

3. We Must Fight with the Weapons of God and Hold Up Our Hands (Exo 17:11a)

Joshua and his troops were fighting with all their might against the enemies, but the secret to their victory was Moses' hands raised to God in desperate intercession. Aaron and Hur helped Moses keep his hands up. We must hold up our hands in intercession for spiritual victory in our lives.

We Are Church: Pray and REPENT!

There is no true prayer without **REPENTANCE**. John the Baptist's cry in Luke 3:8 was "Bring forth fruits in keeping with repentance." God spoke to me (Rev Tony Yeo) through the book of Joel:

1. Repent **Humbly**. Put on **sackcloth, wail** before the altar, declare a **holy fast** and call a **sacred assembly** (Joel 1:13-14).

2. Repent **Wholeheartedly**. Rend your **heart** and not your garments (Joel 2:12-13). Return to God with all our hearts for He is gracious and compassionate!

3. Repent **Urgently** in the light of the Day of the Lord and His coming judgement (Joel 3:3-14).

May His Spirit guide and direct your prayers such that God will be pleased to answer them and display His power and glory in you and in our church, for the advance of God's Kingdom and His righteousness in Singapore and beyond.

Sermon Outline

We Are Church

SCRIPTURE: EXODUS 17:8-13; JOEL 1-3 • SERMON: REV TAN KAY KIONG

Introduction

We are Church!

A. We Are Church: Pray! (Exo 17:8-13)

B. We Are Church: Pray and REPENT! (Joel 1-3)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

14 JAN - PS ANDY LEW (BPJ), REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (WDL) AND PS BARNEY LAU (EAST)

Last Week's Sermon Summary

Life, Lordship and Legacy

SCRIPTURE: PSALM 51 • SERMON: PS BARNEY LAU

Introduction:

King David was Israel's greatest king, even in modern day Israel's national psyche. But, the Bible also documents some of his deepest flaws and greatest failures as a king and father. Read half the Psalms and you will know his most private and primal cries to his God. Yet, he is the only man called *"a man after [God's] heart"* and privileged to grace the Messiah's title as Son of David.

A. An Imperfect but Authentic Life Before God (vv.1-6, 16-17)

- **An Imperfect Life:** David was a scheming adulterer and murderer of loyal friend and general (2 Sam 11-12), Israel's calamity due to David's willful disobedience (2 Sam 24), a passive father despite the atrocities of his children (Amnon's rape of half-sister Tamar, Absalom murdering half-brother Amnon [2 Sam 13], Absalom's coup d'etat [2 Sam 15-16], Adonijah's coup d'etat [1 Kin 1]).
- **An Authentic Heart:** Yet, 75 of 150 Psalms were attributed to David, with many expressing deep heartfelt human emotions from the circumstances of an imperfect man, expressing a heart desperate for and devoted to God alone.
- **Not a Perfect but an Authentic Life:** Of gratefulness, contriteness and brokenness – of repentance and obedience before God.

B. An Intentional Preference for the Lordship of God (vv.7-15)

- **A Preference for God's Word:** David had every opportunity to kill Saul in Engedi's cave and Ziph's wilderness (1 Sam 24, 26), but didn't do so because it was not approved by God. Numbers 15:38-39 tells us the significance of the kanaph and why David felt so guilty for cutting off the edge/corner [Heb kanaph] of Saul's robe (1 Sam 24:4-5).
- **A Preference for God's Will:** David was the rightful king, yet chose not to fight Absalom to avoid bloodshed and destruction. He chose not to take the ark of God (God's presence) which belongs in Jerusalem — God's presence/favour cannot be manipulated (2 Sam 15:25-26). He was cognizant of his checkered past and sins.
- **If God is not Lord of all, then He is not Lord at all:** David was no Absalom to Saul, and he was no Saul to Absalom. For David, God was His Lord!

C. A Covenantal and Delightful Legacy to God (vv.18-19)

- **A Delightful Legacy:** David is the only man to earn the title "a man after [God's] own heart" (1 Sam 13:14; Acts 13:22), listed in the Hebrew 11's Hall of Faith, listed in the genealogy of Matthew 1 and Luke 3, most mentioned name in the Bible after Jesus, and privileged to grace the title of the Messiah, Son of David.
- **A Covenantal Legacy:** Beyond the legacy of David's name is the legacy of God's covenant with David (2 Sam 7:12-16) establishing the eternal Kingdom of God! We are the beneficiaries of this covenantal legacy! Through Jesus Christ, we have been grafted into the heritage of David and Israel (Rom 11:17).
- **A Legacy that Delights God:** The question is not whether our legacy is good or bad, but if it delights and glorifies the Lord!

Conclusion:

One life to live, one Lord to serve, for one legacy to delight the Lord!

"But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!" - Joshua 24:15^{NASB}