

Announcements

MEMBERSHIP AFFIRMATION

Our biennial membership affirmation is ongoing! All Covenant EFC constitutional members are required to affirm their membership by 28 Feb to remain as a constitutional member.

- Affirm your membership at the booth at the foyer or at www.cefc.org.sg by clicking "My Account".
- Select whether you would like to receive the notice of AGM by email or by postal mail.
- Add a profile photo and update your personal particulars after your affirmation to receive the appropriate information and letters for the upcoming AGM.
- If you need assistance with your Voyager account, email sgl.admin@cefc.org.sg

If you are not able to affirm, submission of new membership application form is required to be a member again. Application forms are available at the Information Counter.

i12PRAY

Participate in *i12pray* by committing to pray for Covenant EFC leaders and for Singapore at least once a month, on a day of your choice. Sign up and access the daily prayer guide through the "Covenant EFC" mobile app! Together, we can cover our nation and church in prayer every day of the year!

CHURCH STAFF RECRUITMENT

We are looking to fill the following positions:

- **Executive (Global Alliance)**
- **Executive (Human Resources)**
- **Executive (Finance)**
- **Executive (The Next Generation)**

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, please visit <http://www.cefc.org.sg/index.php/about-us/recruitment> Email your resumes to hr@cefc.org.sg by 4 Feb.

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!

AGM NOMINATIONS

Nomination of office bearers for the Church Board 2018-2019 term is now open. Please get the nominations forms at the Information Counter and submit by 28 Jan 2018 to The Honorary Secretary, Covenant Evangelical Free Church, 2 Kallang Avenue, #10-26, CT HUB, Singapore 339407. Candidates will be considered by the nominations committee and subject to Board approval. For enquiries, contact Sandy Siak, Honorary Secretary at honsec@cefc.org.sg

Nomination Committee

Nomination Chairman: Chang Li Lin
Senior Pastors: Rev Tony Yeo and Rev Tan Kay Kiong
Board Chairman: Elder Louis Tan
Board Honorary Secretary: Sandy Siak
Board Members: Roger Loh and Patrick Lim
Lay Members: Tham Sau Ling and Paul Ong

BREAKTHROUGH WEEKENDS

Today is the last day of early bird registration. Don't miss it!

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, 14 Apr, 21 Jul and 20 Oct.** Register at the Information Counter.

YOUTH DANCE WORKSHOP

Covenant Dance Ministry will conduct Youth Dance Workshops (Contemporary, Hip Hop and Ballet) during the March and June 2018 school holidays! Youths should have at least two years of dance experience from regular dance classes as this is not an introductory dance workshop.

For youths aged 10 to 12 years old. This workshop will introduce them on how to use their gifts and talents in dance to serve God. Dates: 17 and 18 Mar Venues: ACKCentre and WDL

For youths aged 13 to 15 years old. This workshop will invite them to consider what it means to be a Christian dancer and how to be set apart to use their gifts for God's Kingdom. Dates: 9 and 10 Jun Venues: ACKCentre and WDL

Cost: \$15 per participant (payment by cheque)
Registration closes on 11 Feb To register or enquire, email cefdance@gmail.com



... 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

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EAST, 21 JANUARY 2018

SERVICE LEADER: PS MATTHEW LO • WORSHIP LEADER: DAVID CHONG

Authentic Discipleship

PS BARNEY LAU, DIRECTOR, THE NEXT GENERATION

What is a Christian? What is a disciple? What is the difference?

The term "Christian" appears only 3 times in the NT, while "disciple" appears at least 268 times in 252 verses depending on the Bible version. Jesus was popularly known as a teacher or rabbi (Mk 9:5, 11:21; Jn 3:2) and his associates known as disciples. Members of the early Church (Acts 6:1) were first referred to as "Christians" in Acts 11:26 to mean disciples of Christ.

In biblical times, being a Christian is synonymous with a disciple which in Greek (*mathētēs*) means pupil. Unlike modern education, ancient Jewish rabbinic pupilage is more akin to the all-encompassing and immersive tradition of apprenticeship. The Torah and all of life is the classroom. To be a disciple is to follow the rabbi, literally, in all aspects of life – to learn by observing and doing, by imitating what their rabbi said and what, why and how they did in reaction and relation to everyday life and the manner in which they lived. The task of the disciple was to become as much like their rabbi as possible in philosophy, worldview, values and behavior. So, when Paul

claimed himself Gamaliel's student (Acts 22:3), he claimed not only pedagogical pedigree but all the credibility and integrity of one disciplined under the great rabbi to persecute the Church.

Perhaps, the question is not what is a disciple, but who, and therefore who a Christian ought to be. It is not what we do or say that makes us Christian but who we follow by the life we live. Jesus' discipleship programme is far more radical than the rabbinic tradition. Jesus said, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me." (Lk 9:23 NASB). Jesus' call is for His followers to dethrone self and embrace a whole new identity, ("he must deny himself") and calling ("and take up his cross daily") in Christ, enthroning Him as Lord ("and follow Me")!

This is what "authentic discipleship" means in Covenant EFC's mission statement. Authentic discipleship is fundamentally about following Christ above all else with all we've got, in all situations, in all stations, and in all seasons of life, at work and ministry wherever God has placed us.

Sermon Outline

Maturity Through Authentic Discipleship

SCRIPTURE: HEBREWS 5:11-14 • SERMON: JEREMY KOH

Introduction:

Maturity is about growing our Spiritual ABCs:

A. Spiritual Appetite (v.11)

B. Spiritual Basics (vv.12-13)

C. Spiritual Choices (v.14)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

28 JAN - PS LEE DA-WIN (BPJ), PS EDMUND WONG (WDL) AND REV TONY YEO (EAST)

Last Week's Sermon Summary

Mandate: Returning the Church to Her Disciplemaking Roots

SCRIPTURE: TOPICAL • SERMON: PS BARNEY LAU

Introduction

1. **Three Kinds of Church Visions:** 1) Dynamic vision of any church must be Jesus Christ. Specific to Covenant EFC are: 2) Distinctive vision of an Intentional Disciple Making Church; 3) Directional vision of local/global mission and personal calling.
2. **Mandate of the Church** is to carry Christ's Gospel into the world (Mk 1:14-15, Lk. 4:18-19) by how we live and love (Jn 13:34-35). The work we are to do and the way we are to walk (borrowing from Exo 18:20) is at the heart of the mandate, mission and ministry of the church. We must return to it!
3. **God's Call for Covenant:** Returning the Church to its disciplemaking roots (Mandate) through authentic discipleship (Maturity) and intentional disciplemaking (Multiplication) so as to reproduce disciples of *A Certain Kind* (Ministry) and to multiply them to win the world for Christ (Mission)!

A. Return to the Great COMMANDMENT (Matthew 22:34-40)

1. **Not Method or Religion to God:** To Jesus, all the commandments in the Law and Prophets are really just footnotes and annotations to the two central commandments to love God and to love others (v.40 paraphrased).
2. **But a Mandate and a Relationship with God:** Above **all else**, love the LORD your God with everything you have ... your will (heart), your being (soul) and your understanding (mind). This is your prime and preeminent directive. **Then**, out of that love, love your neighbour like yourself (vv.37-39 paraphrased).
3. **The Way We Are to Walk** is not anchored in any cause but the Cross of Christ! Loving God is our preeminent motivation and prime substance, and it stems from knowing God (1 Jn.4:7-8). Loving others is our pertinent expression and practical evidence of Christian discipleship (Jn 13:34-35), and it stems from experiencing God's love for us at the Cross of Jesus Christ (1 Jn. 4:9-11, 19)!
4. **The Roots of a Disciplemaking Church** are not religion and methods, but its relationship and motivation in God, hence its mission and ministry to the world.

B. Return to the Great COMMISSION (Matthew 28:18-20)

1. **Our Commission to Go:** Basis for our commission is Jesus' authority (v.18); our stance is Proactive (Go therefore...), not passive; our strategy is to Proliferate (make...) disciples and not merely produce believers (2 Tim 2:2); the scope of our mission is Pervasive (of all the nations) and not parochial (v.19a)!
2. **Our Commission to Disciple** must be to reproduce disciples who are radically transformed with a new identity in Christ (baptizing them..., v.19b) and a new calling to Christ (teaching them to observe all that I commanded you..., v. 20a).
3. **Our Commissioner's Promise:** See and understand (and lo...) that the work we do is not apart from Jesus but a part of Jesus always (I am with you...)!
4. **The Work We Are to Do** must not be founded in our passion for the lost alone but in Christ's power and the promise of His presence to win the world through the disciplemaking church!

Conclusion

Return to our disciplemaking roots! **Live** the mandate to carry out the mandate!