

# Announcements

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

Calling all constitutional members of Covenant EFC! Join our Annual General Meeting **next Sun, 25 Mar, 2:30pm at BPJ Grace Sanctuary.**

Collect your copy of Summary Highlights and Annual Report at the booth in the foyer today, or visit <https://voyager.cefc.org.sg> for the digital copy. Please note that the Annual Report and Church Constitution are available to constitutional members of Covenant EFC only.

## CAMP COVENANT 2018

Camp Covenant 2018 is coming! Early bird registration for CG and church members is still ongoing. **Regular Worshipers not in CGs can start registering from today. Early bird rate ends on 31 Mar.** Register at the church camp booth at the foyer. You can also go to <http://www.cefc.org.sg/campcovenant> for more details and registration.

## PARENTING TRAINING

We believe that discipleship begins at home. Let's journey together towards an Intentional Disciple Making Family (IDMF). We strongly encourage you to join us in this coming run.

### Parenting with Hope

For parents of tweens and teens

**Dates:** 7-28 Apr (4 Saturdays)

**Time:** 2pm – 4pm

**Venue:** ACKCentre

**Fee:** \$90 / couple

**Register today at the Information Counter.**

## ALPHA

The Alpha Course is a series of informal and relaxed sessions exploring the Christian faith. Many have come to know Christ through Alpha and you can be part of this amazing experience by inviting your pre-believing loved ones or friends! **It will begin on Wed, 4 Apr and will carry on for 10 sessions, ending on 27 Jun. Register at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com>** For enquiries, email [alpha@cefc.org.sg](mailto:alpha@cefc.org.sg)

**4 April Introduction: Is There More To Life Than This?** 7pm - 9.30pm at YMCA Orchard 1 Orchard Road (238824)

## GOOD FRIDAY OUTREACH SERVICE

Good Friday is just round the corner! Start praying and inviting your friends and loved ones to our evangelistic services on 30 Mar, 9am and 11am.

### BPJ Centre

Testimony: Peter Yu (local artiste)

Speaker: Ps Andy Lew

### WDL Centre

Testimony: Li Nanxing (local artiste)

Speaker: Paul Shi

### East Centre

Testimony: Lucas Chow (former Mediacorp CEO)

Speaker: Ps Matthew Lo

The offering collected on Good Friday will be donated to Biblical Graduate School of Theology. Light refreshments will be served for your guests.

## ORDINATION SERVICE

Come and join the celebration as we witness the ordination of our beloved **Pastor Barney Lau** on **29 Apr, 2:30pm at WDL Centre Main Sanctuary.**

## CHILDREN'S FEST 2018 MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

**We still need 220 volunteers for Woodlands and 130 volunteers for Bukit Panjang.** Sign up individually or as a CG at <https://tinyurl.com/loveCF2018> or email [jasonlee@newlife.org.sg](mailto:jasonlee@newlife.org.sg)

Don't miss this opportunity to bless the community children and their families. See you on 8 Apr!

**Volunteer Briefing. We have a volunteer briefing today, 2.30pm at BPJ Centre Chapel.** Volunteer briefing for Woodlands is next Sun, 25 Mar, 12.30pm at WDL Centre Main Sanctuary. For enquiries, email [jasonlee@newlife.org.sg](mailto:jasonlee@newlife.org.sg)

## MAUNDY THURSDAY PRAYER

Lent is the season we remember what Jesus did on the cross to save us. On Maundy Thursday, we will gather in prayer and repentance to renew our love for God and pray for those yet to know Jesus. God wants to work in answer to our prayers to bring repentance and revival. See you on **Thu, 29 Mar, 8pm at WDL Centre!**

## EASTER FAMILY LUNCH

We will have an Easter Family Lunch on 1 Apr at BPJ and WDL Centres. **Please note that there will be no parking in BPJ Centre on that day.**



... 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](mailto:mail@cefc.org.sg)  
**W** [www.cefc.org.sg](http://www.cefc.org.sg)  
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WOODLANDS, 18 MARCH 2018

SERVICE LEADER: PS EDMUND WONG • WORSHIP LEADER: CHUA SUE ERN

## What No One Told Me About Sex

PAUL SHI, THE NEXT GENERATION

**M**usic and movies disciple us on sex. These movies do not even need to be sexually explicit for them to frame our values and understanding of sexual intimacy. The subtle message of these movies teaches that sex is nothing more than a physical activity, like one would play tennis or go for a run.

These ideas are reinforced with songs like *The Bad Touch* by Bloodhound Gang which sings: 'You and me baby ain't nothin' but mammals so let's do it like they do on the Discovery Channel', exchanging our human identity as image bearers of God with 'nothing but mammals'. These seemingly harmless lyrics pegged to a catchy tune is the kind of 'discipling' that glorifies sexual promiscuity, and gives reason why this kind of lifestyle ought to be pursued. It teaches that there's nothing wrong with sexual promiscuity, there are no consequences, everyone is doing it, and if you are a virgin by a particular age you should be ashamed of that.

Last week we learnt from 1 Corinthians 6:13 that '... the body is not for immorality, but for the LORD, and the LORD is for the body' (NASB). The

implication here is that there is a created, designated purpose for our bodies; they are for the Lord! The implication is when we engage in sexual immorality, there are detrimental impacts on our body. This is true not just because the Bible says so; science also affirms this.

In a secular article in *The Journal of Sex Research*, Sacramento State University psychologist, Melina Bersamin, studied the sexual activity of 3,900 students over 30 campuses across different ethnic and social backgrounds as well as their well-being. This study found that those who engaged in casual sexual hook-ups reported lower levels of self-esteem, life-satisfaction and happiness compared to those who have not had casual sex in the past month. They also scored higher distress levels as indicated by scoring higher in depression and anxiety.

There are more researches in the area of pre-marital sex, divorce rates, well-being, and marital satisfaction which attest to the truth that the body is for the Lord. Viewing our bodies as created and hardwired emotionally, physically and psychologically for the Lord beckons us to live according to this truth.

# Sermon Outline

## The Case for Marriage

SCRIPTURE: TOPICAL • SERMON: SEAN MCDOWELL

### Introduction

#### A. The Biblical Case for Marriage

1. Genesis 1:27
2. Genesis 2:24
3. Matthew 19:3-4

#### B. The Case for Marriage Without the Bible

Same sex marriage is not the root of the problem, it is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the problem.

Three steps for natural marriage:

1. Sex makes \_\_\_\_\_
2. Society needs \_\_\_\_\_
3. Babies need a \_\_\_\_\_

#### C. What Can We Do?

“True for You, but Not True for Me”

John 14:6

##### 1. Three Reasons Truth Is Important

- a.
- b.
- c.

##### 2. Definition of Truth

Truth is when a belief \_\_\_\_\_

##### 3. Subjective vs. Objective Truth

- a. Subjective “truth” is: \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Objective truth is: \_\_\_\_\_

#### NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

25 MAR - PS EDMUND WONG (BPJ), PS IVAN HO (WDL) AND PS LEE DA-WIN (EAST)

# Last Week's Sermon Summary

## Mind Your Body

SCRIPTURE: 1 CORINTHIANS 6:12-20 • SERMON: REV TONY YEO

### Introduction

Context: The City of Corinth was a very impressive and prosperous city with strategic economic ports. But there was an immoral side. Gnosticism, a second-century heresy claiming that salvation could be gained through secret knowledge and that the created, material world (matter) is evil. It caused the people to do anything to their bodies. Two essential truths that will help and strengthen the church in sexual purity:

#### A. Our Body Is for the Lord (v.13a)

“The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord ...”

Two reasons why the body is not meant for sexual immorality:

1. Sexual immorality **harms** the body (v.12a) – “All things are lawful for me’ but not all things are helpful”(ESV). *Sumpberō* (Gk) – expedient (KJV), beneficial (NIV), good (NLT), profitable (NASB). Illustration: Increasing trend of younger people seeking help for sex and porn addiction (Channel News Asia, 15 Feb 2018).
2. Sexual immorality **controls** the body (v.12b) – “but I will not be dominated by anything” (ESV), “... mastered” (NIV), “... brought under the power of any” (NKJV), “become a slave to anything” (NLT). 1 Thess 4:3, 4 - “... Every one of you know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor.” “Vessel” means body. Romans 8:13 – kill the flesh, mortify the flesh, master the flesh, gain control. Control your body so it does not control you. Illustration: Half of teens in Singapore exposed to pornography (The Straits Times, Sep 6, 2014).
3. Sexual immorality is a sin that God forgives totally and completely in His grace, by the blood of Jesus Christ. But there’s a price to pay. Sin will take us further than where we want to go, will hold us longer than we want to stay, will cost us more than we are willing to pay.
4. Application: Confronting pornography at several levels and communities: church staff, church leaders and CG members.

#### B. The Lord Is for the Body (vv.13b-14)

“... and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power.”

1. Divine **power** – “power” (*dunamis*) – might, strength, miraculous power, supernatural and resurrection power. Our old, weak and fragile bodies will be transformed into a glorified, resurrected new body.
  - a. “God raised the Lord” (*ēgeiren*) – referring to that one time in history when God raised Jesus from the dead.
  - b. “God will also raise us up” (*exegerei*) – future tense, but refers to both now and future experience from every sexual immorality. **Focus: We can’t but God can!**
2. Divine **initiative** - The Lord gave the body not for evil; sex was created by God for marriage.
  - a. Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit (v.19a) - sexual immorality destroys the spiritual union of two persons in a way that no other sin can.
  - b. “You are not your own.” (v.19b) – You belong to God!
  - c. “You are bought with a price.” “Bought” – paid for by Calvary’s cross. Redemption has three Greek words: *agorazo* – to buy in the slave market, *exagorazo* – to buy out of the slave market, *lutron* – to set a slave free by paying the price
3. Our Response:
  - a. Flee immorality – the Bible does not say flirt with or fight immorality. Illustration: overseas trip with a person of the opposite sex alone, pre-marital sex. Sex is a marital privilege and not an audition for dating.
  - b. Glorify God by returning to God. Illustration: Late Rev Dr Billy Graham and the 1948 Modesto Manifesto, Geoff Bullock’s story in his song, the power of your love

### Conclusion

God’s love is greater than all our guilt and shame. A prayer to mind our bodies and consecrate ourselves to glorify God together.