

Announcements

ALPHA: WHY AND HOW SHOULD I READ THE BIBLE?

Alpha is a series of informal and relaxed sessions exploring the Christian faith. Many have come to know Christ through Alpha. Invite your pre-believing loved ones or friends!

Date: 9 May (Wed) **Time:** 7.00pm - 9.30pm

Venue: YMCA Orchard 1 Orchard Road (238824)

Register at <http://alpha.cefcapps.com>

For enquiries, email alpha@cefc.org.sg

MISSIONARY COMMISSIONING

We warmly invite you to celebrate with us as we commission our Covenant Missionaries on **3 Jun, 2.30 pm at WDL Centre Main Sanctuary**. Please RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/commissioning2018> (password: MissCom2018) by 16 May.

CHILD DEDICATION CLASS

Sign up for the child dedication class at the Information Counter.
WDL Centre
20 May, Sun, 1-5pm Joy and Love Rooms
The Child Dedication Service will be held on Sun, 24 Jun.

SERVE IN CHOIR

The Covenant Choir family is looking for new members to join them in worshipping God with one voice. If you are interested, **sign up for audition at** <https://step-up.cefcapps.com> **by 20 May**. For enquiries, email cv.chorale@gmail.com Join the Choir family today!

IDMC 2018 – FAITH & FIRE

Sign up for IDMC 2018 by 31 May to **enjoy the Covenanter special rate** at \$60 (leader & spouse) and \$120 (member) on <https://engage.cefc.org.sg>

If you have signed up for IDMC, you can help serve the Body of Christ. Find out more on <http://volunteer.idmc.org.sg> For enquiries, please email info@idmc.org.sg

CHURCH STAFF RECRUITMENT

We are looking for **Executive (Global Alliance)**. For more information, please go to <https://www.cefc.org.sg/index.php/about-us/recruitment> 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. Interested candidates, please email your resumes to hr@cefc.org.sg

SERVE IN NEW LIFE

Steady Readers Programme impacts the lives of more than a hundred children in our neighbouring communities by equipping them to read at their academic level and breaking the cycle of illiteracy.

New Life is looking for **110 Steady Reader Mentors in their next run starting from July to November**. For more information or to sign up, email volunteer@newlife.org.sg

MANDARIN PARENTS' APPRECIATION LUNCH

All tickets have been sold out. For enquiries, please email chris.pang@cefc.org.sg



... 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
BPI 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

BUKIT PANJANG, 6 MAY 2018
SERVICE LEADER: PS LEE DA-WIN • WORSHIP LEADER: JONATHAN CHI

We Are Church — What Does This Mean for You?

REV TAN KAY KIONG AND REV TONY YEO, SENIOR PASTORS

At the Senior Pastor's Office annual Listening Retreat last year, we were convicted to come back to God's design for the Church. That's why we are preaching through the book of Acts to rediscover Church in this year of our 40th Anniversary.

Covenant EFC is called to be a discipling church. Our vision slogan is "Authentic Discipleship (AD) and Intentional Discipling (ID) of *A Certain Kind*." AD is all about our spiritual maturity, all about following Jesus fully. ID is all about our spiritual multiplication, all about helping others to follow Jesus faithfully. *A Certain Kind* is the Christ-mastered kind. But what do all these mean to you?

If you are an Occasional Visitor:

- Perhaps you are looking for the right church. Then don't wait too long. After a while, it can get too comfortable and you can become a church-roamer rather than a God-worshipper.
- Perhaps you are attending Covenant EFC because of a friend's invitation or you benefit from the pulpit ministry. We applaud your hunger to learn. But do ensure you are strongly engaged and serving in your own church. Use the Covenant EFC app for sermons and stay engaged in one local church.

If you are a Regular-Sunday Worshipper:

- Are you engaged in our church life? If not, inquire about our Hello Group which seeks to orientate you to our discipleship vision, values and processes. After that, we will connect you to an appropriate group. It's not God's will for you to just be a Regular-Sunday Worshipper.
- If you are already engaged in a Covenant Group (CG), are you growing spiritually? Are you serving both the group and the church with your heart? There is a place for everyone if you are willing to learn and grow.

If you are a Committed and Serving Worshipper:

- Keep growing. Make it a point to join or bring others to the Breakthrough Weekend (BTW) once a year or once in two years. Take a short-term missions (STM) trip.
- Join the Intentional Discipleship Training (IDT) to deepen your walk with God. We don't try to be a disciple; we train to be one.
- Step up to new leadership responsibilities. When you lead, you grow. It's not about your abilities but your willingness to serve and grow.

At the end of the day, whether you are an occasional visitor, a regular-Sunday worshipper or a committed and serving worshipper, we need to Pray and Repent. This is the gateway to God's heart and the power to be His Church!

Sermon Outline

When the Pressure Is On

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 4:1 – 31 • SERMON: PS ANDY LEW

Introduction

In the midst of opposition and pressure:

A. We Must Stand UP (vv.1-22)

B. We Must Stand ON (vv.23-30)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

13 MAY – SANDRA CHI (BPJ), STACEY TAY (WDL) AND PS VALERIE CHAN (EAST)

Last Week's Sermon Summary

In the Name of Jesus

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 3:1-26 • SERMON: REV TAN KAY KIONG

Introduction

Acts chapter 3 on the healing of the crippled man serves as one of the many examples of “wonders and miraculous signs” done by the apostles in the early Church. Without any pomp or pageantry, Peter extended the healing of God to the crippled man by faith. In an instant, he began walking, jumping and praising God. How does a 21st century disciple deal with supernatural healing in our world of sickness and disease?

Two overarching truths:

A. There Is Healing in the Name of Jesus (vv.1-10)

1. Peter's declaration “In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, arise and walk”(v.6) resulted in an instant miracle.
2. Three most common words: “In Jesus Name”. But what does it mean to pray in the name of Jesus?
 - a. It is not a magic mantra or incantation. Otherwise we can go around saying “in the name of Jesus” to fulfil our own selfish wishes. Conversely, just because we don't say “in the name of Jesus” does not mean your prayers will not be answered. Because the Father in heaven already knows what's in our hearts.
 - b. It means we are praying in the **authority** and **will** of Jesus. We don't have any authority in and of ourselves (see Matt 28:18-20, Jn 14:33). It's because of the finished work of Jesus on the cross and because we are God's beloved children. Praying in the name of Jesus also means praying according to the will of Jesus (see 1 Jn 5:14).
3. This is what Peter was doing: Declaring God's healing in the authority and will of Jesus.
4. Application: Is it difficult to believe there is healing in the name of Jesus? If there is a Creator, why is miracle such a mental stretch? (Tim Keller) I think the problem is we are so dependent on medicine and technology so much so that we seldom pray for healing. As a result, we know so little of God's supernatural power and reality. In our self-made world, there is little room for faith. But without faith, we cannot please God. Will we dare to come out of the boat and walk on water?
5. Illustration: My Father's cancer healing and Ps Duane Miller's miraculous healing

B. There is Hope in the Name of Jesus (vv.11-26)

1. What if we pray and there is no healing? Does it mean that God is not powerful and not loving? If He is powerful and loving, then why does He not heal our loved ones? Lee Strobel struggled when his wife, Leslie was not healed from fibromyalgia. We may not experience healing but we can still have hope in the name of Jesus. Why?
2. Jesus suffered more than anyone of us on earth (Acts 3:13-15). He is the perfect son of God who entered into humanity and suffered because of our sins. And when we are suffering, we can find comfort in Jesus. We can also become more like him (see Phil 3:10-11).
3. Jesus will come again and restore everything (Acts 3:20-21). Healing may not happen on this side of eternity, but we will all be healed when He comes again. We live in a tension with regards to the Kingdom between **now** and **not yet**. **Now** because Jesus has ushered in the Kingdom and we are reconciled to God. **Not yet** because we await the new heaven and new earth.

Conclusion

Jesus, what a beautiful name!