

# 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](mailto: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.

## 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**. Drop by the recruitment booth at the foyer today to find out more. You may also email your questions to [cv.chorale@gmail.com](mailto:cv.chorale@gmail.com) Join the Choir family today!

## MANDARIN PARENTS' APPRECIATION LUNCH

All tickets have been sold out. For enquiries, please email [chris.pang@cefc.org.sg](mailto:chris.pang@cefc.org.sg)

## 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](mailto:info@idmc.org.sg)

## 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.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:volunteer@newlife.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](mailto:mail@cefc.org.sg)

W [www.cefc.org.sg](http://www.cefc.org.sg)

FB [www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch](http://www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch)

**EAST, 6 MAY 2018**

SERVICE LEADER: BENJAMIN SUN • WORSHIP LEADER: BENJAMIN AND SHARON TAN

## 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: REV BARNEY LAU

### 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: PS EDMUND WONG

### Introduction

The Church is called to honour the name of Jesus, beyond any leader's name no matter how great. When we declare, invoke and call upon Jesus' name – God moves!

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

1. God heals the most impossible – even a man crippled since birth (v.2) for over 40 years (4:22) which makes healing even more unlikely. Luke, the physician, uses medical terms (v.7) to describe the healing that took place without medical intervention.
2. In His time – Jesus and His disciples would have seen this man when they frequented the same temple grounds (Jn 10:23). Yet the healing didn't happen till that fateful moment through Peter who was filled with the Spirit.
3. With many ways – Peter commanded and raised him up the way Jesus did (Mk 2:11, 5:41). Jesus also used other means to heal (Mk 8:23-25, Lk 17:14). There are no fixed steps to guarantee healing! The supernatural and medical dimensions both fall under God's purview and purpose.
4. Through faith (v.16) – we swing to two extremes when it comes to how faith works in healing:
  - a. If you believe, you will receive (now) – i.e. there is something faulty with our faith when we don't receive. But the faith here was likely not the man's, but Peter's!
  - b. If it's Your will, you will heal – i.e. if I don't receive it, it means God will not heal. And we resign ourselves and do not grow our faith!
5. Focus: Our biblical conviction – because the Kingdom is here, God will heal! But we don't know when (immediately, in this life or the next) and how (supernaturally or medically). Yet we can pray humbly and confidently in Jesus' name believing God will heal, while leaving the timing and method totally to God's sovereign choice.

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

1. Verses 13-15 – like the sermon at Pentecost, the apostle Peter placed the responsibility of nailing Jesus to the cross squarely on the shoulders of the Jewish crowd. But he does not leave them hopeless in their guilt.
2. Verses 19-20 – total forgiveness of our sins when we repent just like the writing on papyrus where the ink can be completely removed. “Refreshing” is not about having our stress relieved, but our burden of sin lifted when we turn back to God. The joy of being forgiven and saved becomes our strength even when our sicknesses are not fully healed.
3. Verse 21 – total freedom of our sicknesses when Jesus returns. While the Kingdom is here, the Kingdom is not yet in this fallen world where sickness still remains. But when Jesus comes, the Kingdom will find its full and glorious expression.
4. Focus: As we await for our own healing, we can tell others that total forgiveness for our sins is possible through Jesus.

### Conclusion

We already know the ending of the story of His Kingdom. It will be glorious. Experience the power of Jesus' name in the meantime!