

# Announcements

## ALPHA: DOES GOD HEAL TODAY?

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:** 20 Jun (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)

## PARENTING TRAINING

**Parenting with Faith** is for parents with kids below 12 years old.

Dates: Eight sessions from 7 July to 25 Aug.

Time: 2pm - 4pm

Venue: ACKCentre

Fee: \$100 / couple

**Parenting with Love** is for married couples preparing for their first child.

Dates: 30 Jun and 7 July (Saturdays)

Time: 12pm - 5pm

Venue: BPJ Centre

Fee: \$50 /couple

*Register at the Information Counter today!*

## LIFE CROSSROADS FORUM

Are you at life's crossroads (midlife career switch, retrenchment or retirement)?

Are you struggling to move forward?

Encouragers-in-Covenant brings you Life Crossroads - 3 Rs Forum. Covenanters (any age) are invited to come and hear fellow Covenanters share their journeys. Register today as seats are limited!

**Date:** 14 Jul (Sat)

**Time:** 8.30am - 12pm (breakfast will be served from 7.30am to 8.30am)

**Venue:** ACKCentre, #10-03

To register, email [encouragersadmin@cefc.org.sg](mailto:encouragersadmin@cefc.org.sg) and indicate your name and contact number.

## PASTORS' INSTALLATION

Come and join the celebration as we witness Jeremy Koh and Sandra Chi of the Covenant EFC Staff Team installed as pastors, and Dr Stacey Tay installed as a lay pastor. A pastor is a salaried staff of the church while a non-salaried lay pastor serves firstly in the marketplace, and secondly in the church in a pastoral capacity.

**Date:** 15 Jul (Sun) **Time:** 2:30pm - 5pm

**Venue:** WDL Centre, Main Sanctuary

**For catering purposes, please RSVP by 5 July at the respective links:**

Jeremy Koh - <http://cefc.ch/jk>

Sandra Chi - <http://cefc.ch/sc>

Dr Stacey Tay - <http://cefc.ch/st>

Come and bless them and share their joy!

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

Pray and Repent is the spiritual burden for our upcoming 40-day prayer season.

Let's get ready to pray! Come and join LoveSingapore's Solemn Assembly.

**Date:** 1-7 Jul (Sun-Sat)

**Time:** 8pm-10pm

**Venue:** BPJ Centre

## IDMC INSTITUTE'S ONE-YEAR INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME INTRO SESSION

IDMC Institute's One-Year Internship Programme is an opportunity to discover the God of the Word, be mentored, and journey together with a community of fellow disciples, as you crystalize God's call on your life in the marketplace, ministry or in missions. Come and find out more at the Intro Session!

**Date:** 21 Jun (Thu) **Venue:** ACKCentre

**Time:** 7.15pm - 9.30pm

For more information and to RSVP, please refer to the "Covenant EFC" app, or go to [www.cefc.org.sg/idmci](http://www.cefc.org.sg/idmci) today!



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

**WOODLANDS, 17 JUN 2018**  
SERVICE LEADER: PS IVAN HO • WORSHIP LEADER: PS FABIAN GHUI

## God as a Father

PS KIRK TAN, MEN'S MINISTRY NETWORK

**B**ut God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. — Romans 5:8

This verse struck me afresh today regarding how God relates to us as His children, which caused me to reflect on my fathering.

**God demonstrates His love.** Present tense. He keeps showing His love towards us. I ask myself if I am consistent in loving my kids. Sadly, no. Many times, I say or do things that are not very loving, or even hurting, towards them. God isn't like this one bit towards us. Rather, He keeps showing His perfect love towards us.

**God loves us perfectly and unconditionally.** Yet, He loved us "while we were still sinners" that is not after we had confessed our sins or repented, not after we had compensated, not because we are perfectly obedient children. It is easy perhaps for a terrible father to love a terrible son if they are both equally terrible. But God is the Perfectly Holy Heavenly Father here and we are unholy,

imperfect children who should be ever faithful and grateful to Him, but are yet completely otherwise. For God to love us unconditionally is completely out of this world. I often find my love towards my children so conditional. I can only keep asking and praying to God to change me to become more like Him in His love for me, so that I might be more like Him in my love towards my children.

**In His Perfect Love, God gave us His best — His only Son Jesus.** It's easy to love sentimentally. It is difficult to love when the love will cost you most dearly and precious. I had to face this question afresh recently and I found myself struggling. But God did not. He wholly and willingly gave us His best — He gave us His Son Jesus.

As we celebrate Fathers' Day this week, may we celebrate God who is our Perfect Heavenly Father, perfect in His unconditional, sacrificial love for us as His children; and may we consecrate ourselves afresh to becoming like Him as a father towards our children.

# Sermon Outline

## Being a Father

SCRIPTURE: 1 THESSALONIANS 2:10-12 • SERMON: BISHOP EMERITUS ROBERT SOLOMON

### Introduction

The best fathers are those who have experienced being fathered by God.  
The challenge of spiritual fathering.

### Being Good Models (v.10)

Holy, righteous, and blameless

### Being Good Motivators (vv.11-12)

Encouraging, comforting, urging

### The Goal of Good Spiritual Fathering (v.12)

That you “live lives worthy of God, who calls you into his kingdom and glory” (v.12).

### Conclusion

1. You are the father to your children. By God’s grace, be one.
2. God our Father fathers us so that we can be fathers pleasing to Him.
3. Help fathers father.

**NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:**

24 JUN – PS LEE DA-WIN (BPJ), PS IVAN HO (WDL), AND REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (EAST)

# Last Week's Sermon Summary

## THE DISCIPLESHIP OF RADICAL OBEDIENCE

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 5:17-42 • SERMON: REV EDMUND CHAN

### Introduction

1. One of the greatest problems in Discipleship today is the lack of congruence: the gap between what we say and what we do. Discipleship is reduced to mere **Knowledge Transfer**.
2. There's no “church” problem. What we have is a “**people**” problem ... with a “**heart**” problem ... an “**obedience**” problem ... a “**faith**” problem ... a “**maturity**” problem ... in essence, a “**discipleship**” problem. *That's the church problem!*

Acts 5 highlights TWO Vital Principles for Discipleship -

#### A. THE TESTIMONY OF DISCIPLESHIP IS CHANGED LIVES

“... yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching ...” (v.28)

##### 1. Two Dramatic Contrasts -

**Contrast 1. From Cowardice To Courage** (v.28) – Transformed disciples!!

“... yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching ...” (v.28)

**Contrast 2. The Religious Establishment vs The Mighty Apostles Of Jesus** (v.17f.)

“But the *high priest* rose up ... *filled with jealousy* ... they arrested the apostles ...”

##### 2. Changed Lives! Why so hard? Because PRIDE gets in the way!

Application. Is YOUR life changed? How?

#### B. THE TEST OF DISCIPLESHIP IS OBEDIENCE

“Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people ...” (v.20)

##### 1. Three Common Problems With Obedience (the Apostles dealt with them all!)

a. **A Selective Obedience** (I choose to obey what I like and reject what I don't like)

###### b. A Partial Obedience

- Selective Obedience is “Choosing What I Like And What I Don't Like”

- Partial Obedience is “Choosing what God Wants BUT doing it only halfway.”

###### c. A Delayed Obedience

v.21 “And when they heard this, they entered the temple *at daybreak...*”

##### 2. Why Is It So Hard To Obey God And What Can We Do About It? (H.A.R.D.)

- (1) **Honesty** (*My life is in a Mess*), (2) **Acceptance** (*I can't*),

(3) **Repentance** (*Repent of thinking that I can!*) and (4) **Dependence** (*God Can!*)

##### 3. The Waywardness Of Stubbornness Or The Wisdom Of Surrender

[Adapted. Patrick Morley says there are four kinds of Christians]

a. “**I'm Going To Do What I Want**, regardless of what God wants”

b. “**If God Gives Me What I Want**, I would give God what He wants”

c. “**I Will Give God what He wants SO THAT** He would give me what I want.”

d. “**I Give God what He wants, REGARDLESS** of what I want, because HE knows what's best for me!” - (*BUT there's a theological flaw in this thinking!*)

**Better** - “I give God what He wants, REGARDLESS of what I want,

because GOD knows what's best, (not for ME) but **what's best FOR HIS GLORY!**”

**Conclusion. Going Forth IN FAITH!**