

# Announcements

## SP/CO DIALOGUE ON VISION 2028 DOMESTIC AGENDA AND FUNDRAISING

Come dialogue with our SPs/COs on the Vision 2028 domestic agenda and fundraising, and why these are so crucial and imperative towards building for the next generation.

**East Centre:** 22 Jul, Sun, 1pm–3pm at Park Avenue Convention Centre

**BPJ Centre:** 29 Jul, Sun, 2:30pm–4.30pm at BPJ Chapel

**WDL Centre:** Sun, 29 Jul, 1pm–3pm at WDL Main Sanctuary

## BAPTISM AND MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

**Baptism Class** is on Sun, 5 Aug, 1.00pm to 3.30pm at BPJ Centre.

**Membership Class** is on Sat, 11 Aug, 9am to 4pm at ACKCentre.

Register at the Information Counter.

## PARENTING TRAINING

We'd love to journey with you towards an Intentional Disciple Making Family (IDMF)! We strongly encourage parents of teenagers, particularly those in Momentum, to join us in this coming run of **Parenting with Hope**. This is for **parents of tweens and teens, to be held on 28 Jul to 25 Aug (four Saturday sessions), from 3.30pm to 5.30pm at WDL Centre, Joy and Love Rooms**. The venue and time coincide with the Momentum Service. **Registration fee is \$90 per couple**. Register today at the Information Counter.

## VOCATION, MINISTRY AND WORK 1

IDMC Institute is hosting a module by Biblical Graduate School of Theology on Vocation, Work and Ministry. Learn about the theology of work and discover what God is doing in the world, what He is calling us to do, and how we can serve Him in church and in the marketplace. Register today for the first of a two-part module!

**Dates:** 16, 23, 30 Jul and 6, 13, 27 Aug (Mondays)

**Time:** 7.15pm – 10.00pm

**Venue:** ACKCentre, Live Recording Studio (#10-10)

**Fee:** \$225 (Credit), \$90 (Audit) Covenanters are entitled to 20% discount on credit courses only. To register, email [registration@bgs.edu.sg](mailto:registration@bgs.edu.sg)

## OVERNIGHT PRAYER

Get ready to climax our 40-day prayer season with overnight prayer! We will hear senior civil servants share about our nation so that we can pray for our government. We will learn about the societal issues happening so that we can repent of on behalf of the land. We will do a prayer walk in the community and bring blessing over it. Let's pray and repent together for our nation!

**Dates and Time:** 8 Aug, 11pm to 9 Aug, 6am

**Venues:** BPJ Centre, WDL Centre, ACKCentre (for Covenant East)

## DISCOVERY WEEKEND

A full-day workshop for courting couples on how to build a strong foundation in their relationship based on honest interaction, biblical principles and purity.

**Date:** 21 Jul (Sat) **Time:** 8.30am – 5pm

**Venue:** ACKCentre, Performing Arts Studio (#10-03) Register at the Information Counter. For enquiries, email [fic@cefc.org.sg](mailto:fic@cefc.org.sg)

## SERVE IN NEW LIFE

### Steady Readers Programme

New Life needs 10 more volunteers in BPJ Centre and 10 more volunteers in WDL Centre. A total of 100 are children are waiting to be mentored in reading literacy for the next run in Jul to Nov. To find more about the programme, go to [tinyurl.com/SteadyReaders](http://tinyurl.com/SteadyReaders) **Training will be held on 16 Jul, Mon, 7.30pm at Fajar Youth Hub. To sign up, contact Jason at 9635 1135 or email [volunteer@newlife.org.sg](mailto:volunteer@newlife.org.sg)**

## NEW LIFE FUNDRAISING EVENTS

**Charity Golf** is happening on **Thu, 13 Sep at Singapore Island Country Club**. The Guest of Honour is Dr Vivian Balakrishnan. Sign up as golfers or donate (in cash or in kind). Visit [tinyurl.com/newlifegolf](http://tinyurl.com/newlifegolf)

**Charity Run** will be held on **Sat, 20 Oct at CSC Run by the Bay** ([www.cscrunchbythebay.com](http://www.cscrunchbythebay.com))

To register or to find out more, email [fundraising@newlife.org.sg](mailto:fundraising@newlife.org.sg), call Trevor at 9827 8803, or drop by our booth after the service.



... 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

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

WOODLANDS, 15 JUL 2018

SERVICE LEADER: PS SHARON FONG • WORSHIP LEADER: JONATHAN CHI

## Building for The Next Generation (3): The Future Unseen

ELDER DESIGNATE TONY TAN (FUNDRAISING CHAIRMAN) & SENIOR PASTORS

Deep calls to deep (Psa 42:7), God is taking me (Tony Tan) deeper into the mysteries and adventures of faith in Him, to step out of my comfortable shore and plunge into the blue ocean of God's purpose for Covenant EFC and my life — to me, this is what Vision2028 and Beyond is about.

God is calling Covenant EFC to the **deep** – deeper love, deeper passion, and deeper faith to follow Jesus and help others follow Him too. Thus, our mission is to expand the Kingdom of God through both a local and a global Intentional Disciple Making Church (IDMC) movement. There will not be a global movement without a strong supportive and complementary local movement. The \$40M Seed Fund is about growing a vibrant IDMC movement for the next generation beyond 2028!

Covenant EFC's 40 years of journey in properties and building has been nothing short of miraculous! 17 pioneers met in a humble Ghim Moh HDB apartment in 1978. This grew to about 400 worshippers by the 1980s in 721 Bukit Timah Road. Sale of the Bukit Timah property helped fund the \$14M BPJ Centre which opened in 2000. The WDL Centre was launched in 2008 at a cost of \$27M. In 2015, ACKCentre, which houses the staff office, IDMC Institute, and media and performing arts facilities, was birthed at a cost of \$25M. Led by the Lord, all three properties, costing \$66M in total were fully funded without any debt! BPJ Centre has now grown to an average worship attendance (AWA) of over 2,200 adults, and WDL

Centre to over 1,500 adults. In just 20 months, East Centre has grown threefold to an AWA of over 600 adults. Covenant EFC's total AWA now stands at over 6,200 including children and youths. What a testament to God's amazing grace, relentless faithfulness and bountiful blessings through the sacrificial and generous giving of Covenanters through the years! Praise the Lord!

Looking ahead, East Centre will soon need a permanent home. Both BPJ and WDL Centres' HDB lease renewals are due in 2027 and 2035 respectively. As the Lord leads, we plan to plant a fourth centre in the greater Jurong region, a major growing population centre, in 2021. Beyond mere property needs, the \$40M Seed Fund undergirds our calling towards a vibrant IDMC movement in Singapore and beyond.

Our leadership has endorsed Vision 2028 and Beyond since 2015. In May this year, the Board and Staff indicated a first-fruit gift of \$1M. This year's June camp saw 231 campers indicating a gift of another \$2M, totalling over \$3M in the first-fruit indication to the Vision 2028 and Beyond Seed Fund to date. Praise the Lord!

Will you prayerfully consider how you may own the Vision 2028 and Beyond journey? Will you prayerfully seek the Lord as to what and how you may contribute to the Seed Fund? And as the Lord leads you, join the Board, Staff and the 231 Covenanters to actualise the first-fruit giving to the Seed Fund starting at Covenant EFC's 40th Anniversary Service on 2 Sep 2018 till 28 Feb 2019. Let's go to the **deep!**

# Sermon Outline

## Three Pitfalls In Discipleship Today

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 8:1-24 • SERMON: PS IVAN HO

### Introduction

#### A. Seeing Life with the Wrong \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.1-3)

#### B. Putting Faith in the Wrong \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.4-13)

#### C. Seeking Blessings for the Wrong \_\_\_\_\_ (vv.14-24)

### Conclusion

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NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:  
22 JUL – REV COLIN SMITH (BPJ, WDL AND EAST)

# Last Week's Sermon Summary

## Faithful to the End

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 6:8-7:60 • SERMON: REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI

### Introduction

The Church was growing, but she was still geographically stuck in Jerusalem. The episode today moves the Church beyond her comfort zone. God used the life of Stephen who remained faithful to the end and in doing so, got the Church beyond Jerusalem.

#### A. Living Out Our Faith (Acts 6:8-15)

1. Stephen was faithful in his responsibility in serving among the Greek-speakers. He did not see this as an inferior assignment but was faithful in his assigned duties.
2. Stephen was faithful in his responsibility in the midst of opposition. These other Jews continually argued with Stephen. He continued to serve in the midst of opposition.
3. Stephen was faithful in his responsibility in the midst of opposition, filled with God's Spirit. If there's one phrase that described Stephen's life – is that he was "full of the Holy Spirit". The idea of being full of the Holy Spirit is not primarily how much we have of God as how much He has of us – it's a lordship relationship. We are first and foremost loyal to a person rather than to mere principles or values.

#### B. Speaking Out Our Faith (Acts 7:1-53)

1. Stephen was faithful in speaking forth his faith. He did not consider that since he was not an apostle, preacher or pastor, he need not share his faith. Instead his communication of the Gospel stirred his opponents.
2. Stephen was faithful in speaking forth his faith meaningfully. He communicated the Gospel using the original intention of God through their very own Jewish history to reveal to them their misunderstanding of the Temple and the Law (7:2 – 53).
3. Stephen was faithful in speaking forth his faith meaningfully with courage (7:51.) While he was full of grace (6:1), Stephen also had the courage to rebuke when it was necessary.

#### C. Holding Out for Our Faith (Acts 7:54-60)

1. Stephen was able to hold out for his faith because he was full of the Holy Spirit. This underscores that our ability to remain faithful to the end is not merely us holding on to God, but also God holding on to us.
2. Stephen was able to hold out for his faith because he saw His Lord. Knowing that Jesus wins at the end is a powerful hope for us to press on and finish well.
3. As Stephen remained faithful to the Lord, even his final words resemble that of the Lord (7:59, 60 and Lk 23:46, 34). As we stay faithful to our Master, we become transformed to be more like Him.

### Conclusion

God used a faithful man to get His Church beyond Jerusalem! May we be such faithful disciples used mightily for our Lord!