

# Announcements

## CHRISTMAS OUTREACH SERVICES

Christmas is just around the corner! Invite your pre-believing friends, loved ones and colleagues to “Season of Hope” so that they can hear about the hope we have in Christ. Li Nanxing will share his testimony at BPJ Centre, Ps Judith Halim at WDL Centre, and Belinda Lee at East Centre.

**Date:** 25 Dec (Tue) **Time:** 9am and 11am  
**Venues:** BPJ, WDL and East Centres

**Sunbeam** will have an outreach “A Christmas Wish” for kids aged 7 to 12 years old.

**Date:** 25 Dec (Tue) **Time:** 9am and 11am  
**Venue:** BPJ and WDL Centres

Admission is free. Register at <http://cefc.ch/sbxmas18> Please note that there will be **NO Sunbeam services next Sun, 23 Dec.**

**Japanese Christmas Outreach** will be held on Sat, 22 Dec, 12.30pm to 3.00pm at ACKCentre, #10-03. Please email [missions@cefc.org.sg](mailto:missions@cefc.org.sg) by Tue, 18 Dec to RSVP.

**China Nationals Christmas Service** will be held next Sun, 23 Dec, 3.30pm to 5.00pm at WDL Centre Chapel 1 (Level 4).

## NO WEB SERVICE AT WDL CENTRE

Please note that there will be **NO WEB** service at WDL Centre on 23 and 30 Dec.

## TNG BAPTISM

Twenty-five of our youths will reach a milestone in their faith journey as they go through water baptism next Sun, 23 Dec, 12.30pm at BPJ Centre Main Sanctuary. This baptism service will replace the regular 12.30pm service. You are all welcome to join this celebration!

## WATCHNIGHT

Let's look back and thank God for what He has done in this Year of Prayer and Repentance. Covenanters will testify how God moved their hearts to pray, repent and reach others with the Gospel. Let's look forward to the Year of Proclamation, believing God for a harvest in our church and land like never before. Come with your family and CG on **31 Dec, 8pm to 11pm at WDL Centre!**

## COVENANT CHOIR'S CAROLLING

Covenant Choir will sing carols at public venues to share the Gospel message of Jesus' birth. Bring your friends and join in spreading the love of God at the following venues:

- Hillion Mall – 15 and 22 Dec, 5.30pm
- Orchard MRT – 16 Dec, 7.30pm & 8.30pm  
– 23 Dec, 5.30pm & 6.30pm
- Somerset MRT – 22 Dec, 8pm & 9pm

## IDT SIGN-UP

Are you seeking to grow in Christian maturity and in becoming an authentic disciple and intentional disciplinemaker? **Today is the last day of application for IDT.** Apply at Voyager. Email [idtadmin@cefc.org.sg](mailto:idtadmin@cefc.org.sg) for enquiries.

## SERVE IN NEW LIFE

### New Life Staff Recruitment

New Life needs committed and passionate staff to reach the next generation and be a blessing to the community. We are looking for talented people called to turn their passion into career to fill in the following positions:

- Youth Team Leader
- Childcare Principal (BPJ Centre)
- Office and Liaison Manager

If you are interested, download the application form at [tinyurl.com/nlcsjobform](http://tinyurl.com/nlcsjobform) and email to [hr@newlife.org.sg](mailto:hr@newlife.org.sg) Share this opportunity with your networks and friends too.

### Steady Readers Mentors

100 volunteers are needed to mentor K2 to P4 children who are not reading at their academic age and having difficulty in school due to lack of proficiency in English.

Period: 21 Jan – 25 May 2019

Days & Venue:

Mon and/or Wed at BPJ Centre

Tues and/or Thu at WDL Centre

Time: 8.00pm – 9.30pm

Required Training: 5 OR 6 Jan 2019

Time: 1pm – 5pm

Venue: Fajar Youth Hub (Blk 419 Fajar Road)

Sign up at <http://cefc.ch/newlifechildren>

For more information, email

Jason at [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  
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)

*CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch*

BUKIT PANJANG, 16 DEC 2018

SERVICE LEADER: PS YAM KENG MUN • WORSHIP LEADER: PS LIM KENG YEOW & KAREN

## Holy Discontentment

PAUL SHI, MINISTRY STAFF, THE NEXT GENERATION

As we approach the end of the book of Acts, how has studying it impacted us? Has it changed us?

For some of us, reading the book of Acts may feel like going to a museum. We admire the Pauls, Peters, Stephens and the early Christians. We marvel at how the Early Church patriarchs are indeed heroes of the faith. We stand afar in wonder how they lived their lives. We may be satisfied to simply wonder at this “Early Church museum”.

Others may have approached the book of Acts like a textbook. We studied its structure and examined how the Gospel began to spread based on Acts 1:8. We are well acquainted with the geography of the Early Church, Paul's missionary journeys and the theological implications of Gentile inclusion. We see and understand Luke's intentions of writing in that specific order. And we may be satisfied with the accumulation of

more theological knowledge about the Early Church.

For others, looking at the book of Acts may have been like attending a history class. We learned about the history of the Early Church and how the Holy Spirit birthed the first Jesus movement through it. And we may be satisfied that our historical understanding of Christianity has increased.

On a personal level, studying and preaching the book of Acts has stirred up a holy discontent in me — that there is so much more to the Christian life I have yet to experience. I was convicted by the devotion of the disciples, hungry for an experience of the Holy Spirit like wind and fire, and challenged by being a witness for Jesus through signs and wonders.

I do hope and pray that we do not simply conclude the book of Acts with merely a sense of objective learning, but a stirring in our hearts to know and experience Jesus in a fuller way.

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# Sermon Outline

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## Obeying the Divine Call

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 25:1-26:32 • SERMON: PS TAN SIANG HON

### Introduction

How do we obey God's call in the face of hostility and opposition?

#### A. Be Mission Faithful (25:1-27)

"I appeal to Caesar." (25:11b)

#### B. Be Resurrection Powered (26:1-15)

"Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead?" (26:8)

#### C. Be Gospel Ready (26:16-32)

"... to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light ..." (26:18a)

### Conclusion

I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision ... (26:19)

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**NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKER:**

DEC 23 - PS IVAN HO (BPJ), PS EDMUND WONG (WDL) AND PS MATTHEW LO (EAST)

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# Last Week's Sermon Summary

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## Faith Under Scrutiny

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 24:1-27 • SERMON: REV DAVID CHAN

### Introduction

Things can go wrong in our lives in very painful and perplexing ways.

Illustration: Painful break-up in relationship in Christmas 1980

Acts 21-23: Things went wrong for Paul one after another within a period of 12 days.

When things go wrong in our lives and our faith is tested, we respond in two ways:

#### A. WALKING WITH GOD RIGHTLY (vv.1-16)

Dangerous false accusations with political overtones were made against Paul: stirring up riots and desecrating the temple (vv.1-2a, 5-6). Paul rebutted each accusation to show that they were untrue and he was innocent (vv.10-13, 17-18). Undergirding and foundational to Paul's innocence was that he always strove to keep a clear conscience before God and people (v.16): Walking with God rightly.

- "A clear conscience" doesn't mean being perfect or sinless (1 Cor 4:3-5). It includes keeping short accounts of our sins with God.
- "... Before God and people" means relating rightly with God and people. When things go wrong in our lives, do not blame God. However things may go wrong in our lives, God is never wrong. Our foundational theological assumption and conviction must be: God is perfect, holy, righteous and just. When people wrong and hurt us, we must forgive. The most basic and fundamental in relating rightly with people is forgiveness.

#### B. WAITING ON GOD RESOLUTELY (vv.17-27)

Felix delayed his verdict on Paul knowing that the Jews' accusations were untrue (v.22). But he kept Paul in custody hoping to bribe him (vv. 23, 26). Paul was left in prison for two years (v. 27), during which he waited on God resolutely by anchoring on the word that God had spoken to him in Jerusalem (Acts 23:11).

Illustration: 18-year journey of financial wilderness, anchoring on God's Word which God faithfully kept.

### Conclusion

Personal clinical depression journey – still waiting on God, anchoring on His word: "My times are in Your hands." (Psa 31:14-15)