

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*

**There will be a special offering collection at our Christmas services for Santhosa Samsara, a charity trust founded by Ps George Ebenezer that is raising funds to build a Child Healing Centre in India for children who have been abused.*

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 today.**

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

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 next Mon, **31 Dec, 8pm to 11pm at WDL Centre!**

NO WEB SERVICE AT WDL & EAST CENTRES

Please note that there will be **NO WEB** service at WDL and East Centres next Sun, 30 Dec.

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 and email to 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



... 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

W www.cefc.org.sg

FB www.facebook.com/CovenantEvangelicalFreeChurch

WOODLANDS, 23 DEC 2018
SERVICE LEADER: PS SHARON FONG • WORSHIP LEADER: MAVIS LOW

Ending the Year of Prayer and Repentance Well

PS EDMUND WONG, PASTORAL STAFF, DISTRICT MENTOR AND PRAYER MINISTRY

We are about one week away before 2018 ends. How have you grown in prayer and repentance this year?

Last year, our senior leaders came back from their annual listening retreat with a strong burden: **Prayer**. The divine picture given to Senior Pastor Kay Kiong was Moses on top of the mountain, with his hands lifted up by Aaron and Hur. Every time his hands were lifted up, Joshua was winning the battle against the Amalekites (Exo 17:8-13). Bishop Rennis, President of National Council of Churches in Singapore, then declared 2018 as a year of prayer to prepare us for a national harvest in 2019, and our hearts resonated. These are exciting times of prayer-paration!

Besides our usual prayer platforms (e.g. CG Prayer and Praise), we intensified prayer this year by launching i12pray, a personal monthly prayer initiative to cover our leaders under attack and uphold our nation. We partnered with LoveSingapore during Holy Week for Solemn Assembly. We held overnight prayer meetings at our three centres on the eve of National Day, as our spiritual endeavour for revival.

We had a show of force during PraySingapore at the National Stadium, to register our solidarity and unity with the Body of Christ for the coming harvest. What a year of prayer this has been!

Moving forward, we will continue our prayer momentum for the harvest through the following:

i12pray – with refreshed monthly content that is more specific and targeted

Celebration of Hope Prayer Lead-Up – every first Friday (Jan to May) 8pm at BPJ Centre.

Recently, I came across a Facebook post by a friend: “If prayer isn't vital for your church, then your church isn't vital. This statement may be bold, but I believe it's true. If you can accomplish your church's mission without daily, passionate prayer, then your mission is insufficient and your church is irrelevant.” (Francis Chan, *Letters to the Church*).

Is prayer vital for your life and ministry? Let's end the year of prayer and repentance well, together. See you at Watchnight Prayer, 31 Dec, 8pm to 11pm at WDL Centre!

Sermon Outline

When Storms Come

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 27 • SERMON: PS EDMUND WONG

Introduction

Our lives can be storm-proofed when we ...

A. Take Heart — God's Word Will Be fulfilled in His Good Time (vv.1-26)

“So take heart men, for I have faith in God that it will be exactly as I have been told.” (v.25)

B. Take Charge – God's Work Will Be Done Through His Godly Servants (vv.27-44)

“... He took bread, and giving thanks to God in the presence of all he broke it and began to eat.” (v.35)

Conclusion

NEXT WEEK'S SERMON SPEAKERS:

DEC 30 – PS ANN CHAN (BPJ), REV DR CHUA CHUNG KAI (WDL) AND PS MATTHEW LO (EAST)

Last Week's Sermon Summary

Obedying the Divine Call

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 25-26 • SERMON: PS SANDRA CHI

Introduction

The ironic contrast of “powerless” Paul versus the power of the Roman Empire. Yet, the insignificant Paul looms large in world history today versus the fallen Roman Empire. What is the secret to his “power”?

A. Unwavering Faithfulness

1. Historical background of Festus the Roman procurator and King Agrippa II: Jewish religious dispute brought before the Roman court of law
2. Why did Paul appeal to Caesar? Because of unwavering faithfulness to his call rather than self-preservation to be acquitted and released.
3. Paul's testimony to Festus and Agrippa – the basis of his faith is his encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus. His life was completely turned around.
4. What was the compelling reason for his turnaround?
 - a. Illus: Story of music practice and being motivated to play without being nagged after experiencing God in worship.
 - b. Encountered Christ on the road of Damascus – realized that Jesus is not just a man, but God incarnate who stepped down from glory to die a criminal's death and be resurrected.
 - c. Paul's revelation – the resurrected Christ is the Christ who loves
 - d. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 – For the love of Christ compels us...
 - e. Paul now understands the death and resurrection of Christ through the lens of love.

B. Uncompromising Obedience

1. Paul was obedient to his mission (26:16-18) to be a servant and witness of Christ. We have been given the same mission – to be an instrument through which God uses to open eyes, to turn people from darkness to light, and from the authority of Satan to the authority of God.
2. Soul-searching question: Why do our lives of witness seem powerless in comparison to Paul?
3. Verse 19 – Paul was not disobedient to the vision from heaven. Implication of the double-negative: our human inclination is disobedience
4. Illus: Story of not obeying God's prompting to pray for someone with an eye condition. We fear the cost of obedience — rejection, damaging our reputation/ image, appearing crazy, etc. — we hesitate and miss our chance.
5. The problem with disobedience: Hebrews 4:7b — it hardens our hearts. Disobedience desensitizes us to the voice of God and eventually disconnects us from God.
6. Illus: Story of broken down car – although power was available through the battery and all electrical systems were working, it was completely unable to start because the fuse box was broken and so disconnected the entire system. Disobedience is like that fuse box.

Conclusion

Encountering Christ enables us to have unwavering faithfulness and empowers us to have uncompromising obedience. Don't let disobedience rob us of the power to fulfill our divine call. We obey because of Christ's own unwavering faithfulness to us and uncompromising obedience to the Cross.