

December 9, 2018

THE PATH TO BETHLEHEM



Mary, Did You Know?

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The LORD is with you."

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favour with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call Him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The LORD God will give Him the throne of His father David, ³³ and He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; His kingdom will never end."

³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail."

³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Luke 1:26-38

1. Mary knows _____
2. Mary knows _____
3. Mary knows _____
4. Mary knows _____
5. Mary knows _____

Are you new here?

Come to our Newcomers Lunch

For details, please refer to the highlights of the bulletin.

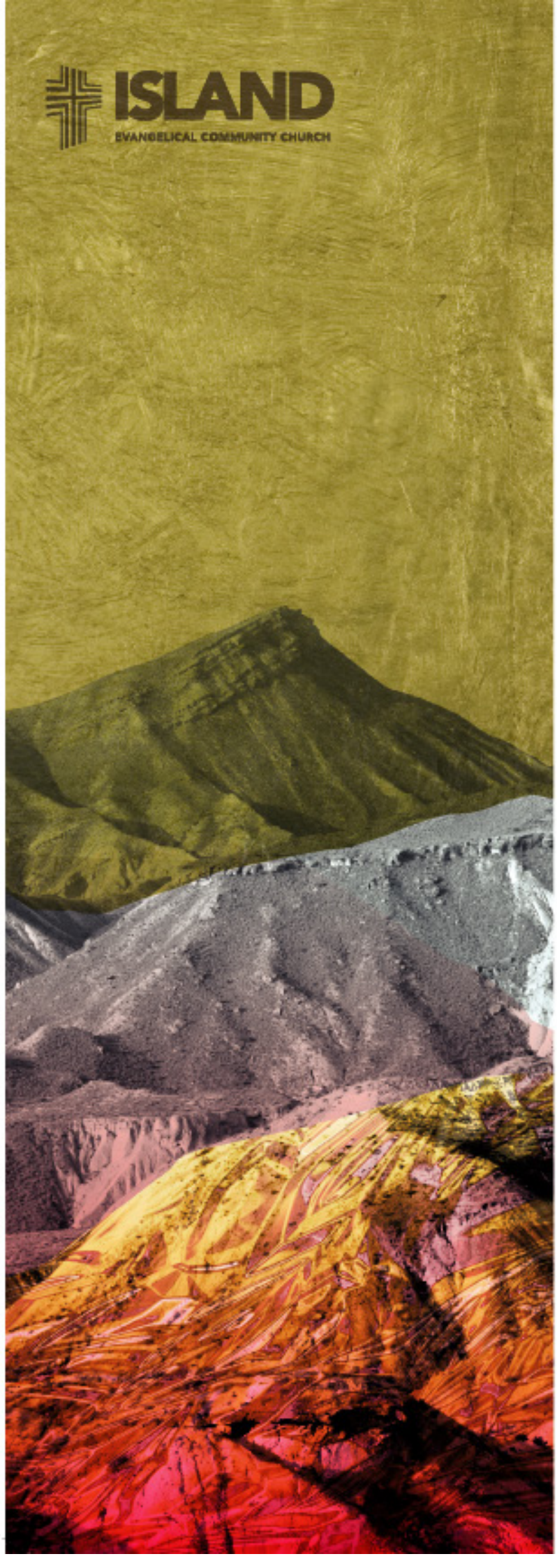
Let's get to know each other!

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

✂
TEAR OFF THIS CORNER AND
PLACE INTO THE OFFERING BAG



HIGHLIGHTS

TODAY PRAYER AFTER SERVICE

We want to encourage the church to set aside time to pray today wherever you are and if you need to pray with people, feel free to approach our prayer volunteers at the front. Kindly leave the sanctuary quietly and respect those who are praying.

TODAY QUENCH CHRISTMAS BOOK SALE

Special discounts are available on a wide selection of adult and children's titles while stock lasts. 1/F Quench and 10/F only.

TODAY CHRISTMAS LOVE OFFERING

Every year Island ECC blesses and advances God's work in Hong Kong and around the world. We do this through the Christmas Love Offering, which is one way we partner with a wide variety of organisations and individuals involved in innovative, courageous and faithful ministry. Pray about what you will give this year and place your offering in the red envelope provided.

TODAY CHRISTMAS GIFT TAGS

Christmas gift tags are now available at Quench for \$20 each. This will be a great way to share the Gospel and fun of Christmas!

TODAY ISLAND ECC 2019 CALENDAR

The 2019 Island ECC Calendar is now available! Get this as a wonderful Christmas gift for your family and friends. On sale at 1/F, 2/F and 10/F for \$60 each.

TODAY KIDS CLUB FX: COMPASSION

Come join us for Kids Club FX to learn all about compassion: caring enough to do something about someone else's need. 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 10/F Auditorium.

DEC 19 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION AT THE VILLAGE

Come celebrate Christmas as a sisterhood. An event especially created for you to reach out to your girlfriends and female family members. With creative booths, touching testimonies and amazing finger food under a joyful atmosphere, we hope to share the love of God with them. Sign up today at any Connect Counter. 7:30 - 9:30 pm, 2/F Auditorium.

DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

We would like to invite you, your family and friends to worship with us during our special Christmas Eve Services. These special candlelight services will be held at 5 pm and 7 pm.

FEB 22-23 GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

GLS is a two-day leadership training event featuring world-class speakers via videocast as well as live local influencers. Learn how to maximise your impact and inspire those around you. Early bird discount of \$350 available through 31 December. To register, visit glshk.org

CLASSES & SUPPORT GROUPS

To register and for more information on the following classes, go to islandecc.hk/classes

JAN 6 OLD TESTAMENT: TOO OLD, ODD, DIFFICULT?

The Old Testament always presents a challenge to Christians because it seems so distant and distinct from the New Testament. Join Martin Radford in this 4-week class to obtain a panoramic view of the Old Testament and understand its relevance today. 9:30 - 11 am, 10/F Classroom.

JAN 13 NAVIGATING YOUR FINANCES GOD'S WAY

Come join this 8-week class to improve your life and finances by learning what God says and practical skills on handling money with Bryant Stone. The practical principles derived from over 2,000 Bible verses will also help you honour God. Registration begins on 9 December at 1/F Connect Counter. \$400 fee includes 2 textbooks. 11:30 am - 1 pm, 8/F Living Room. Limited seats.

OUTREACH

TODAY MEN'S VIETNAM MISSION TRIP INFO SESSION

The Men's Ministry team is returning for the 8th year to build relationships with the local community in a Vietnamese village through contributing to the middle school facility improvement and family visit food programme. Join this info session to learn more. 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, 8/F Living Room. For more info, email men@islandecc.hk

DEC 23, 26 CHRISTMAS PRISON OUTREACH

This Christmas, we will be visiting male inmates on 23 December at Tung Tau Correctional Institution and female inmates on 26 December at Tai Lam Centre to share our faith through worship, testimonies and celebration. For more info, email go@islandecc.hk

OPPORTUNITIES

For more information about the below opportunities, go to islandecc.hk/about-us/employment-opportunities. If you are interested, send your CV and cover letter to hr@islandecc.hk.

- Web Developer
- Senior Accountant
- Technical Support Officer
- Creative Video Producer

GENERAL OFFERING

LAST 2 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)

Budget	26 Nov	3 Dec
Giving	1,539	1,539
Variance	1,126	1,263
	(412)	(275)

YEAR TO DATE

(14 Weeks)

Budget	
Giving	\$21.5M
Variance	\$16.2M
	\$-5.3M (-24.7%)

BOLD FAITH FUND

Received	Outstanding Pledged
\$130.1 M	\$18.9 M

GIVING TO ISLAND ECC

We encourage those who consider Island ECC their church home to prayerfully give a percentage of their income to the church on a regular basis.

Cheques payable: 'Island ECC Ltd' for Hong Kong tax receipts or 'Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc' for US tax receipts.

Enquiries: giving@islandecc.hk