# **Finding Freedom**

I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do — this I keep on doing.

Romans 7:15-19

...At just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

But the gift is not like the trespass... Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: the judgement followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

Romans 5:6-8; 12-17

We down here have to invite you to our Newcomers Lunch.

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Care Group Guide

## **Finding Freedom**

- 1) Have you ever leaned on a self-help book (or other resource, podcast, etc) in order to change a behaviour or break a bad habit? How did it work out?
- 2) Read Romans 7:15–19. In what ways do you see Paul's dilemma in other people's behavior? In what ways do you see it in your own behaviour?
- 3) What are some things people do or say in order to justify or compensate for not living up to the standards they set for themselves?
- 4) Is the idea that sin isn't just a verb (something you do), but a noun (something you're born into) new to you? How does the idea of sin as a noun change the way you view your own behaviour?
- 5) Is your tendency to try to be a better version of a person born in Adam or are you learning to allow Jesus to live through you? How do you recognise the difference? Explain.
- 6) Is there something you need to start or stop doing, but you just haven't been able? How might your life be different if you were successful in changing that behaviour? What can the members of this group do to support you?



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April 28 2019

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#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

## TODAY KAIROS COURSE

Want to deepen your understanding of missions? Kairos is a 10-week course that helps us learn about missions from biblical, historical, strategic, and cross-cultural perspectives. Join us today  $4:30-7\,\mathrm{pm}$ , 11/F Classroom.

## APR 29 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: HOW DO WE WALK THE WALK WE TALK?

You are surrounded by a world that's watching you, waiting to see if what you say is true – if you really believe what you say and walk the walk you talk. Join this study to discover what God says about the lifestyle of a true believer. Mondays, 12:30 – 2:00 pm, Worldwide House, Central. For more info, email women@islandecc.hk

## MAY 2 JOIN A NEW CARE GROUP

Not in a Care Group yet? Come join our 6-week Care Group study that follows the Bon Voyage sermon series! You will meet new friends and have fun studying together! Sign up at islandecc.hk/cgform and we will find you a good Care Group!

### MAY 5 NEWCOMERS LUNCH

If you're new to the church and want to know more about Island ECC, please join us for a Newcomers Lunch on Sunday, May 5, 1:15 pm, 10/F Living Room.

## MAY 18 PRAYER RETREAT AT 633

In a real way, the church is our family. Get time away to be with others to connect with a loving God. We meet on 2/F from 10 am – 4 pm with private time, sharing in small groups, and corporate prayer. Lunch is included (suggested \$50 donation at the event). Register at islandecc.hk/retreat633. For more info, email prayer@islandecc.hk.

### JUN 1-2 "THERE IS MORE!" WOMEN'S RETREAT 2019

Have you wondered, "Is there more to life?" Yes - there is more! Come away with the sisterhood to move and reach towards what God has dreamed for all His daughters. In amazing two days when we will hear impactful preaching from 3 women leaders in our city, deep connection and tons of fun. Limited spaces. Sign up now at 1/F Connect Counter or visit islandecc.hk/womenretreat

## JUN 28 ISLAND YOUTH SUMMER CAMP 2019

Island Youth Summer Camp is back! On June 28-July 3, we are travelling to the beautiful beaches and jungles of Kuala Lumpur. We will be staying at the all-inclusive ClubMed Resort. During camp, there will be worship, Bible study, teaching, small groups, games, food, beaches and more! Sign up at: tinyurl.com/iysummercamp2019 or email us at youth@islandecc.hk

### **CLASSES & SUPPORT GROUPS**

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

### MAY 15 BOOK OF REVELATION: UNRAVELLED

The Book of Revelation can be hard without any guidance to help. So come join Martin Radford in this 7-week class to understand the background, what's going on in the text, and how to use those principles in our lives. Registration begins today at 1/F Connect Counter. \$150 fee includes two books. 7:30 – 9:30 pm, 11/F Classroom. Limited seats.

### MAY 16 GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Have you lost a spouse, family member or friend? Are you grieving or don't even know where to start? This 6-week support group, led by caring professionals, is a safe place to share and learn from each other about the journey of grief. 7:30 – 9:30pm, 10/F Living Room.

#### **OUTREACH**

## MAY 5 SUPPORTING REFUGEE MINISTRY

The Refugee Ministry is looking for Bible donations to support an Outreach event. New or used English Bibles are welcomed. ESV, NIV, or Good News Translations are preferred. If anyone is interested to support this event, please contact go@islandecc.hk by May 5.

# JUL 20 TAIWAN MISSION TRIP APPLICATION OPEN Info Session: May 5 / Registration Deadline: May 19

For the 7th year, we are serving the aboriginal students by hosting a Vacation Bible School (VBS) at a local school in Jinlun village, Taitung. VBS plays a pivotal role in community transformation. Join us to serve the kids together with the love of Jesus. Info Session: May 5, 3 – 4 pm, 11/F Classroom. For information and application, 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.

- · Creative Video Producer
- Graphic Design Assistant
- · Bold Faith Administrator / Executive Assistant
- · Financial System Analyst

GENERAL OFFERING						
LAST 2 W	EEKS (Thou	sands HKD)	YEAR TO DA	YEAR TO DATE		
Budget Giving Variance	15 Apr 1,532 1,052 (480)	23 Apr 1,532 944 (588)	Budget Giving <b>Variance</b>	(34 Weeks) \$52.1M \$55.6M \$3.5M	6.7%	
BOLD FAITH FUND						

#### GIVING TO ISLAND ECC

Received

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

\$150.2 M

T 2864 9360 INFO@ISLANDECC.HK

ISLANDECC.HK

Outstanding

\$18 M

Pledged

