

TOP 10 AT ISLAND ECC

New Care Group Study

We are starting a church wide 4-week care group study "The Power of a Whisper" starting mid-November. You can purchase the book for \$100 at the 1/F Connect Counter. Your care group leader will give you a study guide during your group meeting. It is a perfect time to join a group if you are not in one yet. Check out our website for detail of care groups.

TODAY Yunnan Mission Trip Sharing — An Inconvenient Church

An entire lost generation of children and youth are being welcomed back into the Kingdom. Come and hear about our trip to Yunnan and how you can make a difference in 2013. Today, 1pm, 2/F. A simple lunch is provided from 1pm.

NOV 23 Night of Prayer

Join us for a night of corporate prayer and worship when we will focus on God's heart for outreach. Friday, November 23, 7.30pm, 2/F. Doors open 7pm.

NOV 25 Xiamen Mission Trip Sharing

Our medical volunteer team spent two days in a shoe factory in Xiamen, providing the workers with free medical consultations and dental care, and sharing God's love with them. They ministered to over 400 workers, and many people gave their lives to Jesus. Come and hear more. Sunday, November 25, 2pm, 8/F, Classroom A.

DEC 2 Christmas Orphanage Stocking Project

Share the joy and love of Christmas by filling a Christmas stocking for orphanage children and Filipino workers! Collect stockings and bags TODAY at 1/F Connect Counter and return by Sunday, December 2. Email go@islandecc.hk with any questions.

DEC 7 ReNEW Christmas

Island ECC is preparing a special night of worship and celebration specifically focused on Christmas. With music from our mixed-part choir (iGlee) and the Island ECC worship team, it's definitely an evening you don't want to miss. Free tickets are available from TODAY as seating is limited. Friday, December 7, 7.30pm, 1/F. Doors open 7pm.

DEC 14 FUSE: Bus Carolling

Christmas carolling is a great way to spread Christmas cheer. But imagine zooming through Hong Kong on an open top double decker bus, singing carols in Causeway Bay and Central! Tickets will be on sale starting next week at the 1/F Connect Counter for \$40 only. Friday, December 14, 7:30-10pm. Contact tim@islandecc.hk for more details.

DEC 24 Christmas Eve Services

Christmas is just around the corner and we look forward to celebrating with you at our special Christmas Eve services on Monday, December 24. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite your family, friends and colleagues. Special music, creative features and a Christmas message will take place on all service floors at 6pm, 8pm and 10pm.

Sermon Podcasts Online

Video podcasts of weekly sermons are available online at www.islandecc.hk. Consequently, we will no longer be providing CDs of sermons.



WATCH FOR... ON THE CITY

CORE Values

A special devotional from Pastor Brett. If you've wondered why we do something a certain way, or why we don't do certain things, this will help you understand more.

Vacancies for staff on the Marketplace

- Caretakers and cleaners for our church facility.
- Staff for our 10/F Nursery on Sunday mornings.

NEW TO ISLAND ECC?

1 MEET US AT THE CONNECT COUNTER ON 1/F

We are so glad that you're here today and would love to get to know you! The Connect Counter is located on the 1F and volunteers are there to answer any questions you might have about Island ECC and its different ministries and events.

2 JOIN THE CITY

The City is the online connection point for Island ECC. It's limited to the people who attend our church and over 1,000 people are already using this fantastic tool. By creating an account and logging in, you'll have access to weekly devotionals, updates on events, the chance to connect with others and more!

3 CHECK OUR WEBSITE

By visiting www.islandecc.hk, you'll have access to information about all our ministries, as well as a broad spectrum of resources - including video podcasts of sermons.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

HE LOVES

God loves you because he chooses to. "God wasn't attracted to you and didn't choose you because you were big and important... He did it out of sheer love..." (Deut. 7:7-8). He loves you so much that...

HE GAVE

He gave Jesus, His one and only Son. While we do wrong things daily, Jesus is sinless. Though sinless, Jesus took our sin. He died on the cross in our place. Our response to this great gift is simple...

WE BELIEVE

We trust Jesus to do what we can't. We don't trust our own efforts to save us. We can't save ourselves. We don't place our trust in other people to save us. We believe in Him.

WE LIVE

God gives us brand-new life. We have joy because of his Spirit living within us. Little by little his Spirit changes us to be more like Jesus. No guilt in life, no fear of death, He gives life, now ... and for eternity.

You can tell God you accept Him now.

"Father, I believe you love me. You gave your one and only Son so I can live forever with you. Apart from you, I die. With you, I live. I choose life. I choose you."

photos: Mongolia Mission Trip



November 18, 2012

El Roi

¹Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; ²so she said to Abram, "The Lord has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her." Abram agreed to what Sarai said. ³So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian slave Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. ⁴He slept with Hagar, and she conceived. When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. ⁵Then Sarai said to Abram, "You are responsible for the wrong I am suffering. I put my slave in your arms, and now that she knows she is pregnant, she despises me. May the Lord judge between you and me." ⁶"Your slave is in your hands," Abram said. "Do with her whatever you think best." Then Sarai mistreated Hagar; so she fled from her.

⁷The angel of the Lord found Hagar near a spring in the desert; it was the spring that is beside the road to Shur. ⁸And he said, "Hagar, slave of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?" "I'm running away from my mistress Sarai," she answered. ⁹Then the angel of the Lord told her, "Go back to your mistress and submit to her." ¹⁰The angel added, "I will increase your descendants so much that they will be too numerous to count." ¹¹The angel of the Lord also said to her: "You are now pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You shall name him Ishmael, for the Lord has heard of your misery. ¹²He will be a wild donkey of a man; his hand will be against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers." ¹³She gave this name to the Lord who spoke to her: "You are the God who sees me," for she said, "I have now seen the One who sees me."

Genesis 16:1-13

The rippling effect of neglecting God

Abram neglects God

Abram agreed to what Sarai said. Genesis 16:2

Hagar gloats with pride

When she knew she was pregnant, she began to despise her mistress. Genesis 16:4

Sarai resents husband

You are responsible ... Genesis 16:5

Abram acquiesces leadership

Do with her whatever you think best. Genesis 16:6

Sarai abuses maid (Hagar)

I'm running away from my mistress Sarai. Genesis 16:8

For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman and the other by the free woman. His son by the slave woman was born according to the flesh, but his son by the free woman was born as the result of a divine promise.

Galatians 4:22-23

Realising God sees...

_____ our decision making

_____ us from foolish consequences

_____ us in times of confusion