

COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

TODAY **Baby Dedication**

We are delighted today to join with Nathan and Priscilla Chan in the dedication to the Lord of their son, Elijah Yi-Hymn Chan. Elijah was born on 21 November 2012. We warmly welcome family and friends visiting for this special occasion. (11.30am, 2/F)

DEC 24 **Christmas Eve Services**

We look forward to celebrating with you at our special Christmas Eve services tomorrow. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite your family, friends and colleagues. Special music, creative features and a Christmas message will take place on 1st and 2nd floors at **6pm, 8pm and 10pm**. Below see QR code to open invitation.

DEC 25 **Indonesian Christmas Outreach**

On **Tuesday, December 25** at **10.30am** at Lily Valley Restaurant, G/F, 36 Oi Kwan Road, Wan Chai. It's FREE. We would like to invite your Indonesian helper to join us. Our guest speaker is a former Muslim. iGlee choir will join too. It will be fun and inspiring.

JAN 6 & 13 **Membership Class**

Find out how you can BELONG to Island ECC by joining us for the Membership Classes. It will run for 2 **Sundays (January 6 & 13)** at **11.30am** on the 8/F. Registration is required. Please email membership@islandecc.hk to register.

JAN 11 & 18 **Marriage Course - Part 2**

Join other couples on one or both **Friday nights, 7.30pm - 9.30pm**, for dinner at a private table, then view an engaging video with easy-to-follow workbook exercises. It makes for a great Date Night! Topics: January 11 - "Parents and In-laws"; January 18 - "Good Sex". Recommended cost is \$200 per couple. Visit www.islandecc.hk/spring-classes/ to register.

JAN 13 **2:7 Discipleship Course**

This course has a long history of helping Christians strengthen their walk with God to be rooted in Him and overflowing with thankfulness. The course teaches Bible study skills, Scripture memory techniques and other skill-based topics. Join us for this life transformational journey starting on January 13, 2013. Visit www.islandecc.hk/27 for detail and registration.

JAN 25-26 **GO Conference "First Things First"**

Priorities. To Do Lists. The Great Commission. The Great Commandment. We know that God is a God of mission, but is mission what matters most to Him? Join our Global Outreach conference with Steven C. Hawthorne. Tickets are available at 1/F Connect Counter today. Enjoy early bird discount before January 7, 2013.

Children's Ministries - New Check-in System

Children's Ministries is preparing for a new check-in system and needs the help of all parents. Prior to the launch of the new system in January, families need to pre-register and be set up with their account on The City. For more information, pick up a flyer on the 9/F. Bar code cards are now available to collect before and after services from the Green Room on the 9/F.

Deadline for Donations for Friends of Hong Kong Charities

Please take note that donation cheques for Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc. to be accounted for 2012 should be dated and handed in no later than December 31, 2012. Anything received after this date will be considered as a 2013 donation. Thank you.



www.islandecc.hk



WATCH FOR... ON THE CITY

The 12 Days of Christmas Devotionals

Every day leading up to Christmas Day, you can read a special Christmas devotional. The contributors are individuals who serve in our ministries and they have written in amazing ways from their hearts and experience. Along with their devotion, a fun picture depicts an aspect of that ministry and a prayer guide for that day. These are our gift to you during this Christmas season.

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: Egypt Mission Trip



December 23, 2012

Strength

²⁸ One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?"

²⁹ "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

³⁰ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'

³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

³² "Well said, teacher," the man replied. "You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him.

³³ To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

³⁴ When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

Mark 12:28-34

The _____ of the law is _____

The _____ of love is the _____