

COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

TODAY Chinese New Year Lai See Packet

Chinese New Year Lai See packets are available today for purchase. Each Lai See envelope comes with a bilingual gospel tract. A pack of 20 costs HK\$20.

TODAY Journey — Lent Devotional Book

This great daily devotional guide, produced by the pastors of the international churches in Hong Kong is available in the lift lobby, G/F. Suggested donation: HK\$20. The devotionals are based on Luke's gospel and commence on Ash Wednesday, February 13, and run through to Easter.

FEB 4 Super Bowl Monday

The biggest American Football game of the year is next week! We will be showing the Super Bowl on Monday at 7.30am on the 2/F. Join us for a great time of fun and fellowship. Breakfast will be provided along with coffee and Nespresso.

FEB 10 Family Service

Want to feel true excitement during Chinese New Year? We're welcoming in the new year as a whole church family. So come worship with us on February 10 as the youth join our main services to experience and serve God together. (Please note The Studio will be closed.)

FEB 23 Sports Fellowship — Wall Climbing Event

Do you envy Spider-Man's climbing skills? Come join Sports Fellowship for some fun on the wall! 2-4pm at YMCA, near Jordan MTR station. Tickets available at the Connect Counter for HK\$120 each. All levels welcome. Participants join at their own risk and must be over 18 (or accompanied by guardians).

FEB 25 Spring Alpha Course 2013

Looking for answers to life? The Alpha Course is a ten-week opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a laid-back environment. It is a practical introduction to the basics of Christianity centred around a meal, a talk and small group discussion. Course starts at 7pm on February 25 on 2/F. Visit www.islandecc.hk/alpha for more details and to sign up.

MAR 2 Door-to-Door Outreach in Sham Shui Po

Hope of the City is looking for Chinese speaking volunteers to help with a door-to-door outreach to low-income families on March 2. We will be partnering with YWCA to identify the needs of residents and inform them about what social services are available. Email volunteer@hopeofthecity.com.

SIGN UP ARK Dragon Boat

If you are interested in fellowship, fitness and fun, join Island ECC's dragonboat team, THE ARK, for the 2013 season! Trainings are on Sunday afternoons and Tuesday evenings. Fee is HK\$1,500. Sign up at the Connect Counter after services TODAY or contact ark@islandecc.hk for further information.

SIGN UP Israel Study Trip

This summer our pastors will lead a second study trip (June 27-July 7), journeying in the land of Jesus to places like Bethlehem, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem. The estimated cost is HK\$29,000 (all inclusive). A class on the life of Jesus on Sundays in May (at 11.30am) will help you prepare for this journey. If interested, please contact rick@islandecc.hk for details.



WATCH FOR... ON THE CITY

FUSE

Hey Young Adults of Island ECC! Here's a quick little introduction to our young adults ministry, Fuse. We try to have at least 2 events per month: Fuse (usually towards the end of each month) and some other informal event (like the Super Bowl tomorrow morning!). Check out our Fuse group on The City for more information.

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: You Got Served, Assimilation Ministries



February 3, 2013

Every Blessing

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,

To the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus:

² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love

⁵ he predestined us to be **adopted** as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—

⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

⁷ In him we have **redemption** through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

⁸ that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

⁹ And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,

¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

Ephesians 1:1-10

Two key aspects of our identity in Christ:

1. _____

2. _____