

COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

TODAY Journey — Lent Devotional Book

This great daily devotional guide based on Luke's gospel, produced by the pastors of the international churches in Hong Kong, is available at Quench, 1/F. Suggested donation: HK\$20. App is also available for download at www.journeyluke.com.

FEB 25 Spring Alpha Course Launch 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. **Mondays, 7pm, 2/F**. Visit www.islandecc.hk/alpha for details and to sign up.

FEB 27 Ladies Night: Breaking The Myth of Financial Security

Join us for a night of worship, fellowship and learning with Natalie Chan who has 20 years experience in the finance industry is now focused on helping people fully integrate their faith and work. Light dinner and registration **7pm, 2/F**; programme starts **7.30pm**. Register now and pay \$50 at the Connect Counter or online at www.islandecc.hk/ministries/women/.

MAR 3 Bringing Your Soul to Work

This one-off class will explore how we can devise a game plan to find "true significance" in our everyday work. Whether you are in finance, media or an NGO, God has a plan for each of us. Join Ed Chin at **2pm, 8/F**. For details and registration, visit www.islandecc.hk/classes.

MAR 3 - 24 Letters of the Beloved Apostle

1, 2 and 3 John are practical letters addressed to Christian readers. They warn against the dangers of false teaching and exhort believers to lives of obedience to God and love for their brothers and sisters. Join our pastoral intern Kin Chiu in a survey of these 3 heart warming letters. Class starts **11.30am, 8/F**. For details and registration, visit www.islandecc.hk/classes.

MAR 3 - 24 Answering Islam Class

This four-week course from **2.30 to 4.30pm, 8/F, Classroom B** will equip you to communicate with Muslims effectively. It's also a pre-requisite if you plan to go on a mission trip to the Middle East this year. For details and registration, visit www.islandecc.hk/classes.

MAR 6 100 Steps Thru the Old Testament

This class will help you learn the great OT stories in 100 steps. Whether you are exploring the Bible for the first time or adding a new teaching tool for your ministry, you will benefit from this 10-week class. **Wednesdays, 7.30pm, 9/F**. For details and registration, visit www.islandecc.hk/classes.

MAR 17 Family Easter Picnic

Save the date for a Family Easter Picnic at The Peak Garden 11.30am-4pm. Easter activities being planned. More details to follow.

SIGN UP Easter Outreach at Tung Tau Prison

Can you use your Easter Sunday to bless and fellowship with inmates? We are looking for volunteers for an outreach at Tung Tau prison on Sunday morning, 31 March. This is a chance for those who want to try out prison ministry to join. Please email flo@islandecc.hk with your full name and HKID – you must apply by March 4.



WATCH FOR... ON THE CITY

Production Volunteers Needed

The Production CREW is looking for people with a desire to serve during worship services, especially at 5pm. Experience with video production, worship media or powerpoint are beneficial, but not necessary. We mainly need people with a heart to serve and an attention to detail. Please contact jason@islandecc.hk or visit The City for details.

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: Filipino Ministries Christmas Celebration, featuring performance by iGlee



February 24, 2013

Father, Forgive

²⁶ As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus.

²⁷ A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.

³² Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.

³³ When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.

³⁴ Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

Luke 23:26-27, 32-34

1. The fulfilment of a prophecy

... Yet He Himself carried the sin of many, and prayed for the sinners.

Isaiah 53:12

2. The excuse of ignorance

Now, fellow Israelites, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders.

Acts 3:17

3. Our resistance to forgiveness