

COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

TODAY Global Outreach Prayer Focus

Island ECC has partnered with Daniel and Anna Mayhugh who serve God in the Philippines. As Director of International Care Ministries' Livelihood programs, Daniel develops and implements holistic poverty reduction programs through local churches. Pray for Daniel, whose work involves a lot of travel to visit ICM's operations. Anna is a full-time mother to Nya (5) and Elyana (2), and also helps with ICM's medical work. Pray for good health for the family, and safety, as they have experienced several break-ins and thefts in their time in the Philippines.

TODAY Captivating: Unveiling the Mystery of a Woman's Soul

Join us in a 10-week book study that will guide you through a profound journey of discovery and healing. Learn the story of every woman's life being the passionate pursuit of her heart by God. Classes are on Sundays, 3pm-4.30pm from June 23 to August 25. Register at www.islandecc.hk/ministries/women.

TODAY New Class: Managing Money God's Way

Ever asked: What is the safest and best place to invest money? How do I get free from worrying about money? Come learn how to experience more contentment and joy in making an eternal difference with possessions. Taught by Ramon Maronilla and Jeff Ryan, this 10 week course starts June 23 at 9.30am, 8/F, Room A. Visit www.islandecc.hk/classes/ to register.

JUNE 30 Training on the Hong Kong Social Welfare System

For those interested in local outreach, Hope of the City is coordinating a training session about Hong Kong's social welfare system, 1.15pm-3pm, 8/F, Room A. Information will be shared by a social worker from HK Family Welfare Society.

JUNE 30 Xiamen Mission Trip Sharing and Info Session

This outreach is an incredible synergy between the local church, local mission partners and the team from Island ECC. Learn how the gospel is reaching migrant factory workers and how you can be involved. For the next trip we need medical professionals, people with an operations and management background, Mandarin-speakers and generalists! 1.30pm-3pm, 2/F.

JULY 17 Grief Support Group

Have you lost a spouse, family member or friend and are grieving or don't even know where to start? Do you ever feel like people don't understand the pain you carry? This 6-week support group is a safe place to share and learn from each other the journey of grief everyone walks through sometime in their lives. Email flo@islandecc.hk or sign up at www.islandecc.hk/classes.

Donations Needed — Costumes and Paper Masks

The Mongolia Mission Team is looking for costumes for age 6 to 18 (traditional country costumes, professional attire) for a photo session with the underprivileged, and also paper masks for a spa session for ladies. Please place your donations in the baskets on the 1/F from 23rd to 30th June. Thank you for your support.

English speakers and teachers needed for Summer Outreach Camps

Churches in Asia are using English Language Summer Camps to reach out and minister. Program and curriculums are in place - they just need people willing to step forward and get involved! Could that be you? Xiangmihu Church, Shenzhen — 22nd to 26th July; Tokyo Baptist Church — 11th to 18th August. Email go@islandecc.hk for more information.



Visit The City/Marketplace For —

Job Opportunities

- Executive Director - A new full-time position with Hope of the City.
- Nursery Staff for Sunday Kids Club.

Wanted — Volunteers

- Quench bookstore is looking for a few volunteers willing to serve as cashiers on the Ministry Support team on Sundays.
- Children's Ministries are recruiting volunteers to teach during the summer months of July and August (8 weeks). Visit The City/Children's Ministries.

NEW TO ISLAND ECC?

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.

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!

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: Dinner and Worship at Passover Celebration



June 23, 2013

Enduring Through Rejection

⁷ So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.

⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

⁹ But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 ESV

So I wouldn't get a big head, I was given the gift of a handicap to keep me in constant touch with my limitations. Satan's angel did his best to get me down; what he in fact did was push me to my knees. No danger then of walking around high and mighty! At first I didn't think of it as a gift, and begged God to remove it. Three times I did that, and then He told me: "My grace is enough; it's all you need. My strength comes into its own in your weakness." Once I heard that, I was glad to let it happen.

2 Corinthians 12:7-9 The Message

Key points:

1. It's okay to pray for _____
2. God can say _____
3. God may choose to _____ through your weakness
4. To experience His enduring grace, _____ is your best option

Blessings, by Laura Story (an excerpt):

We pray for blessings, we pray for peace
 Comfort for family, protection while we sleep
 We pray for healing, for prosperity
 We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering
 All the while, You hear each spoken need
 Yet love us way too much to give us lesser things

'Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops
 What if Your healing comes through tears
 What if a thousand sleepless nights
 Are what it takes to know You're near
 What if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise