

# COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

## TODAY **Baby Dedications**

We are delighted today to join with 3 families in the dedication of their children to the Lord:  
- Hannah Ming Xi Lu, born 21 January 2013, to parents Quinton & Lillian (9.30am, 2/F)  
- Daniel Huen, born 24 September 2011, to parents Ian & Marina (9.30am, 10/F)  
- Julien Christopher Chou, born 31 March 2013, to parents Joseph & Joanne (11.30am, 2/F)  
We warmly welcome families and friends visiting for this special occasion.

## JULY 15 **The Essentials of Effective Prayer**

Join the women for a 6-week study on "The Essentials of Effective Prayer", a Precept inductive study of what the Scripture teaches about prayer. Limited to 6 people. **2pm-4pm on Mondays**, July 15-August 19, **8/F, Room A**. Register at [www.islandecc.hk/ministries/women](http://www.islandecc.hk/ministries/women).

## JULY 21 **New Class: God@Work**

Finding purpose at work is one of the greatest challenges we face. This 6-week course aims to equip Christians to live out their calling at work and find purpose in every aspect of their working lives. Class runs from July 28 to September 1, **2.45pm, 8/F, Room A**. Visit [www.islandecc.hk/classes/](http://www.islandecc.hk/classes/) for registration.

## JULY 21 **Japan Mission Trip Sharing**

The work in Japan to expand God's kingdom continues even after the relief work comes to a close. We have seen how God has been doing a miraculous thing of bringing many more to know Christ. Come join us as we share stories about what God is doing in Tokyo, Tohoku and Kyoto, and how local ministries have expanded. **2pm, 8/F, Room B**.

## JULY 26 **Blockbuster Movie Night**

Summer is here! And what better way to celebrate the relaxed atmosphere than with a movie night! Join us for an all-church Blockbuster screening of the hit movie, The Avengers. We'll be popping fresh popcorn and providing all sorts of movie fare! Donation: \$20 per person. Doors open at 7.30pm and showtime will begin promptly at **8pm, 2/F**.

## **Coming soon: Oxford in Asia**

Sept 5-7. A conference training up future leaders of Hong Kong and beyond, hosted by Ravi Zacharias International Ministries HK in partnership with Island ECC. Early online registration now available at [www.islandecc.hk/OxfordinAsia](http://www.islandecc.hk/OxfordinAsia).

## **Prayer Request Sharing**

Feel free to share with us your prayer requests by email or by hand. These prayers could be praises and thanks to God or petition to God. Our 2/F Prayer Room is available on Sundays. Email [prayer@islandecc.hk](mailto:prayer@islandecc.hk).

## Visit The City/Marketplace For —

### Job Opportunities

- Coordinator of Youth Ministries. A full-time position from 1 Sept.
- Executive Director - A new full-time position with Hope of the City.

### Wanted — Volunteers

- Quench bookstore is looking for a few volunteers willing to serve as cashiers on the Ministry Support team on Sundays.

## 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](http://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."

July 14, 2013

## The Stoning

### Stephen is seized

<sup>8</sup> Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup> Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen. <sup>10</sup> But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke. <sup>11</sup> Then they secretly persuaded some men to say, "We have heard Stephen speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God." <sup>12</sup> So they stirred up the people and the elders and the teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and brought him before the Sanhedrin. <sup>13</sup> They produced false witnesses, who testified, "This fellow never stops speaking against this holy place and against the law. <sup>14</sup> For we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us." <sup>15</sup> All who were sitting in the Sanhedrin looked intently at Stephen, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Acts 6:8-15

### Stephen accuses

<sup>51</sup> "You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! <sup>52</sup> Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— <sup>53</sup> you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it."

Acts 7:51-53

### The stoning of Stephen

<sup>54</sup> When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup> But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." <sup>57</sup> At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, <sup>58</sup> dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Acts 7:54-60

### The role of guilt

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2 Corinthians 7:10

photos: "The Ark" The Island ECC Dragon Boat on race day

[www.islandecc.hk](http://www.islandecc.hk)

