

COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

TODAY Quench Summer Sale — Last day!

Need to pick up some books for summer reading or maybe find a gift for a friend or family member? Come check out the Quench Summer Sale! Great books at discounted prices — up to 40% off! Don't miss this great opportunity to save!

AUG 18 Morocco 2013 Renewing Strength — Application Deadline

This year, we will bring medical care to remote areas, spend time with the physically handicapped, and share business & IT skills to help people keep up with today's economy. Learn more at www.islandecc.hk/ministries/missions.

AUG 18 Egypt Short Term Outreach Info Session

We will join hands with a team of Egyptian believers to share the gospel in Luxor in November. Find out what it's like to live in a Muslim-majority country and learn first-hand what God is doing in the midst of the current political situation. 2.30-4pm, 8/F, Room B.

AUG 18 Endurance Sports Info Session

Ever thought of being a tri-athlete? Join our Endurance Sports fellowship! Come learn that it is actually a very reachable goal and see how we can take part in a race together with a few months' training. It is also an excellent way to fellowship & outreach to other athletes. It will be Sunday, 2.45pm (for around 1 hour), 8/F. Speakers: triathletes & coach. For more information, email: sportsfellowship@islandecc.hk.

AUG 24 Sports Fellowship Junk Trip

The Junk Trip is finally here! Get your tickets now at the 1/F Connect Counter. \$300 (cash only) per person including boat fees/food/drinks. First come first served. Limited numbers.

AUG 31 Fuse Kickoff @ PLAY in Hong Kong

Our young adults ministry (FUSE) will be taking over PLAY from 1-3pm to kickoff the new year! PLAY is the premier indoor sports facility in HK and we have indoor ski slopes, baseball batting cages, video games and more! Food will be provided, so come hungry. The cost is only \$150 and you can register at the 1/F Connect Counter or on The City. Limited numbers.

Sham Shui Po Home Assessments and Home Visits

We are looking for volunteers for two upcoming local outreach opportunities: Home visits with YWCA to assess the needs of low-income households (Sham Shui Po, Saturday, August 24, 9.30am-1pm) and Mid-Autumn festival home visits (Sham Shui Po, Sunday, September 15, 2.30-5.30pm). Please email volunteer@hopeofthecity.com for more information or to register.

Kids Club — Fall Volunteer Recruitment

Interested in serving in our Children's Ministry? We are looking for teachers, assistants and worship leaders to begin serving on Sunday, September 1. There will be a New Volunteers Orientation on Sunday, August 25, 9.30am or Tuesday, August 27, 7.30pm, and a Teaching Lab training on September 14, 9.30am-4.30pm for all new and returning volunteers. If you are interested to sign up as a volunteer, please contact us at kidsclub@islandecc.hk.

Looking For Youth Volunteers!

Island Youth is seeking new, energetic volunteers who have a desire to help share the love of God with students in middle school and high school! There are opportunities to serve and grow on Sunday mornings as well as during the week. For more details, please contact youth@islandecc.hk.

www.islandecc.hk



New On The City

Job Opportunities

Coordinator of Youth Ministries. A full-time position beginning on 1 September.

Volunteer needed

Our Indonesian Ministry is looking for a volunteer Guitar Instructor. For more details please visit The City.

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



August 11, 2013

Unhindered

¹⁶ When we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to stay by himself, with the soldier who guarded him... ³⁰ He lived there two whole years at his own expense, and welcomed all who came to him, ³¹ proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

Acts 28:16, 30-31

1. Paul on trial before governor Festus

¹¹ ... But if the charges brought against me by these Jews are not true, no one has the right to hand me over to them. I appeal to Caesar!" ¹² After Festus had conferred with his council, he declared: "You have appealed to Caesar. To Caesar you will go!"

Acts 25:11-12

Paul was unhindered by common laws. He was bold because of his _____.

I have a citizenship in heaven that allows me to appeal _____.

2. Paul defends himself before King Herod Agrippa

²² But God has helped me to this very day; so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen— ²³ that the Messiah would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would bring the message of light to His own people and to the Gentiles.

Acts 26:22-23

Paul was unhindered by Jewish authorities. He was bold because he knew God's _____.

I am bold when I know _____.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15

3. Paul testifies in front of an angry mob

¹⁷ "When I returned to Jerusalem and was praying at the temple, I fell into a trance ¹⁸ and saw the Lord speaking to me. 'Quick!' He said. 'Leave Jerusalem immediately, because the people here will not accept your testimony about me.' ¹⁹ "Lord," I replied, "these people know that I went from one synagogue to another to imprison and beat those who believe in you. ²⁰ And when the blood of your martyr Stephen was shed, I stood there giving my approval and guarding the clothes of those who were killing him." ²¹ "Then the Lord said to me, 'Go; I will send you far away to the Gentiles.' "

Acts 22:17-21

Paul was unhindered by _____. He was bold because he had personally encountered Jesus Christ.

I can be bold because, "When I'm called to answer for my history, _____ answers for me."