

# COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

## TODAY **Baby Dedication**

We are thrilled to join with Eric and Katie Farmer in the dedication of their son, Titus Liam, to the Lord. Titus was born on 11 August 2013. We warmly welcome family and friends visiting for this special occasion. (9.30am, 2/F)

## TODAY **CORE Meeting**

A great time for the church leaders to bring you up to speed on what is happening in the church and where we are going. Attendance is open for all and expected of those who function in any leadership role in the church. **1.15-3.00pm** on 2/F. A light lunch will be provided.

## TODAY **New Class: How NOT to Read the Bible**

The Bible is the foundation of our life. However, there are times when we unintentionally misinterpret what the Bible says. Join Pastor Albert Ng to learn how NOT to read the Bible and some principles to help you read the Bible properly. This 2 week class starts **TODAY, 9.30am, 10/F classroom**. Visit <http://www.islandecc.hk/classes/> for detail and registration.

## NOV 6 **FUSE: Young Adult Fellowship**

Fuse is a fellowship for young adults/young professionals in Hong Kong who would like to connect with God and other young adults. We will meet this Wednesday at **7.30pm** in The Studio (321 Java Rd, 1/F - across the street from the church). There will be FOOD, teaching, discussion and time to hang out. See you there!

## NOV 9 **Home Needs Assessments in Sham Shui Po**

Hope of the City is seeking Chinese-speaking volunteers to conduct home "needs assessments" in Sham Shui Po, **9.30am-1pm**. Volunteers will visit elderly and low-income families to evaluate home safety conditions and educational needs for children.

## NOV 10 **Newcomers Lunch**

Everyone's been a newcomer at church at some point. If you're new to the church and want to know more about Island ECC, please join us for a Newcomers Lunch at **1.30pm, 2/F**. There is no cost for this lunch, but you do need a ticket to get in, so please pick one up today at the Connect Counter.

## NOV 22 **A Time of Prayer**

The prayer team is hosting a time dedicated to prayer at **7.30pm, 10/F**. Join us for this time when we will focus on three areas: (1) Prayers for our church; (2) The persecuted church; and (3) Personal prayers for one another.

## **Bethlehem Bound — Family Christmas Outreach**

Call for volunteers, for our church-wide Family Christmas Outreach Play — Bethlehem Bound — on December 7 starring families! From rehearsal to cast party, all in one event! We are looking for Rehearsal Leaders, Ushers, Stage Crew and Bakers. Sounds fun...then help us launch the Christmas season for all our Island families. Contact [serve@islandecc.hk](mailto:serve@islandecc.hk) for more information.

## **Christmas Prison Outreach Volunteers**

Most English speaking inmates will not have any family or visitors during Christmas. We are looking for volunteers to visit inmates at Tung Tau prison on December 22 and show love in action. This is a unique time when volunteers can visit on a one-off basis. Men will have priority. Email [localoutreach@islandecc.hk](mailto:localoutreach@islandecc.hk) to sign up.

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



## New On The City

### MAX Volunteers

See the many opportunities for volunteers to serve at our Sunday services.

### 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."

Alpha Fall 2013



November 3, 2013

## The Return of the Prodigal Son

### About the artist:

Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn (1606-1669) is considered the most important painter in Dutch history. He painted an abundance of biblical scenes, often asking his Jewish neighbours to pose for Old Testament scenes. *The Return of the Prodigal Son* is displayed at The Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia.

<sup>11</sup> And He said, "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup> And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything."

Luke 15:11-16

<sup>17</sup> "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup> am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'" <sup>20</sup> And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate."

Luke 15:17-24

<sup>25</sup> "Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup> But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup> but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Luke 15:25-32