

COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

TODAY **Special Love Offerings**

Today there is a special opportunity to give to the Philippines relief effort following the destruction wrought by Typhoon Haiyan. There will be further opportunities to give generously to mission in our Christmas Love Offerings on December 8 and 15.

TODAY **Beauty For Ashes**

Beauty For Ashes is a Christian band based in Kigali, Rwanda. Equipped with incredible songs and powerful testimonies, they are in Hong Kong and part of our services today on 2/F. Be sure to stick around this evening for a special night of music and worship. Invite your friends! Admission is free and doors open at 6.30pm.

DEC 1 **R. Paul Stevens Seminar: Integrating Work and Faith**

Have you ever wondered how your faith relates to your work, and how you can serve God even in your workplace? Prof. Stevens, known internationally as the "Marketplace Theologian," will share his insight with us. He has taught classes and seminars worldwide. Seminar runs from **2.30-4.30pm, 8/F**. Check out <http://www.islandecc.hk/classes/> for detail and registration.

DEC 1 **Philippines Outreach Info-Session**

What is it like to live on US\$0.50 a day? Let's help share God's love to the destitute through building projects, feeding programmes, testimonies and encouragements. Come find out more, **2-4pm, 8/F, Room C**. Email go@islandecc.hk for additional information.

DEC 1 **Morocco Mission Trip Sharing**

Learn how this year's team ministered to the physically handicapped, residents of remote villages, and inner city children and women, as well as how they used their business & IT skills to help vulnerable people keep up with today's economy. **8/F, Room B, 2-4pm**.

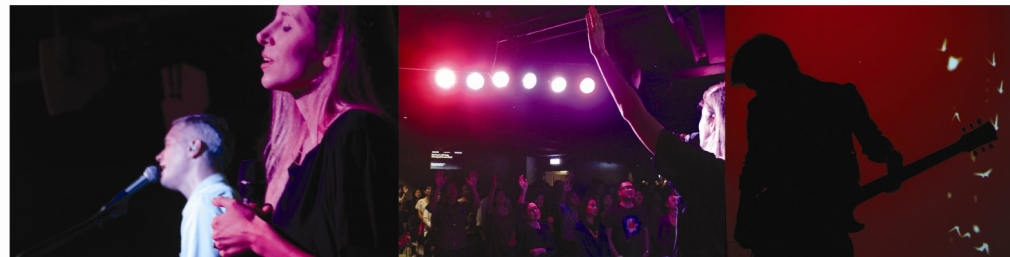
DEC 7 **Bethlehem Bound - Tickets on Sale NOW!**

Bring your kids and families to our musical Christmas outreach play starring your kids! Tickets available at the Connect Counter for 3 shows. \$100/child with accompanying adult and \$50/audience. Play is followed by Cast Party and Craft Sales for Global Outreach. Buy now as space is limited (see flier for show times and details). For more information contact kidclub@islandecc.hk.

DancersUNITE!

Hey, who doesn't like to dance? If you like to move it, move it, you're invited to send an audition video of your dancing (any style) to creativesunite@islandecc.hk. Our worship dance instructor, Michelle Wong will review submissions and be in touch!

www.islandecc.hk



New On The City

Advent Devotions

Look out for the daily devotionals appearing on The City from December 1.

Job Vacancy

Hope of the City is seeking to hire a Local Outreach Programme Administrator. Visit The Marketplace 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."

November 24, 2013

Friends of the Paralytic

¹ A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that He had come home.

² They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and He preached the word to them.

³ Some men came, bringing to Him a paralysed man, carried by four of them.

⁴ Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.

⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralysed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

⁶ Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves,

⁷ "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

⁸ Immediately Jesus knew in His spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and He said to them, "Why are you thinking these things?"

⁹ Which is easier: to say to this paralysed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'?

¹⁰ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So He said to the man,

¹¹ "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home."

¹² He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Mark 2:1-12

1. A paralysed man

2. Teachers of the law

3. Friends of the paralytic

ReNEW. A night of worship

