

# COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

## TODAY Christmas Love Offering

Make your gift an act of worship, over and above your regular giving. This year's theme is Responding to a Wounded World. Giving will help the spiritually wounded and those in crisis areas. Put your gift in the enclosed special red envelope into the offering bags. Thank you!

## TODAY Quench Christmas Book Sale

Do you need to pick up some Christmas gifts or a new book to bring with you on your holiday travels? Save up to 40% on selected children's and adult titles. While stock lasts.

## TODAY Christmas Gift Tags

Christmas gift tags are now available at the 1/F Quench. This is a great way to share the Gospel and the Christmas fun! Each set costs \$20.

## TODAY Devotional Calendar 2015

The Trailblazer Devotional Calendar is available this week on 1/F and 10/F. \$60 each.

## DEC 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

We will be holding two special Christmas Eve services. 5.30pm & 7.30pm. 1/F, 2/F, 10/F. Childcare will be provided at the 5.30pm service on 10/F. You can invite family and friends using the jpeg announcement found on our church Facebook page and on our website homepage banner – just click the banner image.

## DEC 28 Indonesian Christmas Party

Please invite your Indonesian helpers to join us for a Christmas party designed especially to bless them at 11am, 8/F, Room A & B, Food, games, music, and gifts! Invitations available at the Connect Counters.

## DEC 31 Deadline for Friends of Hong Kong Charities Donations

Please note that donation cheques for Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc. to be accounted for in 2014 should be dated and handed in no later than December 31. Anything received after this date will be considered as a 2015 donation. Thank you.

## JAN 4 New Class: OT "Big Pic": Genesis to Joshua

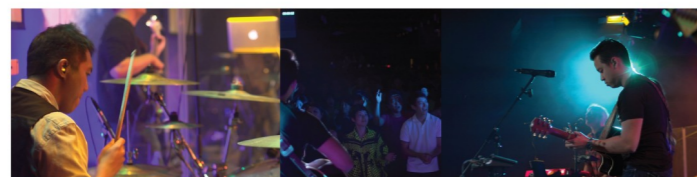
We hear Bible stories about Adam, the Flood, Abraham, Joseph and the Exodus but how do these events link together to become the "big picture" of God's purpose with mankind? Join this class and learn the answers. 11.30am, Room A, 8/F. Visit [www.islandecc.hk/classes/](http://www.islandecc.hk/classes/) for more info and registration.

## JAN 11 New Class : Apr/Jun Baptisms — Preparation Class

Our next baptisms will be held in April and June this year. If you would like to participate in one of these ceremonies, please plan to attend the 3-Sundays Baptism Class starting January 11, 11:30am, 10/F Classroom. Visit [www.islandecc.hk/connect-grow/baptism/](http://www.islandecc.hk/connect-grow/baptism/) for registration.

## JAN 14 New Class : Identity in Christ

How do you see yourself? Do you like or accept what you see, or do you feel inadequate compared to others? Join this group to build your sense of identity as someone valuable and uniquely created by God. 7.30-9.30pm. 10/F Living Room. Visit <http://www.islandecc.hk/classes/> for registration.



## New On The City

Look out for our Advent Devotional Thoughts every day through December 25 written by people from across the ministries.

St. Andrew's Family Ministry Day Conference with Dr Dave & Donalyn Currie on 10 January 2015.

### NEW TO ISLAND ECC?

#### 1 MEET US AT THE CONNECT COUNTER

We are so glad that you're here today and would love to get to know you! The Connect Counters are located on the 1/F, 2/F and 10/F. 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 3,000 people are already using this fantastic tool. By creating an account and logging in, you'll have access to weekly devotionals, updates on events and the chance to connect with others. Sign up now at the Connect Counter.

#### 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."

ReNEW Live Album Recording



December 21, 2014

## 0 Holy Night

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup>and asked, "Where is the one who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him."

<sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup>When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, ...

<sup>9</sup>After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.<sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup>On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh ... .

<sup>16</sup>When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.

Matthew 2:1-16 (NIV)

	Jesus Is	Response
Herod		
Shepherds		
Wise Men		