

# Welcome!

Decisions, decisions, decisions. Every day you make hundreds of them. Some are small and insignificant, and some are more weighty. But all of these decisions will largely impact your life.

So how do you decide? As Christians, we desire to follow God's will, but how can you know what He wants? Does he really care about everything? Do I need to pray about which restaurant to eat at? If He gives me freedom to decide in certain areas, how do I know when I need to consult with God, or just make the call?

Looking at Romans 12:1-2, this message is a fresh look at how we can navigate life's decisions so that we can "test and approve" His good, pleasing and perfect will.

*Brett*



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## GENERAL OFFERING

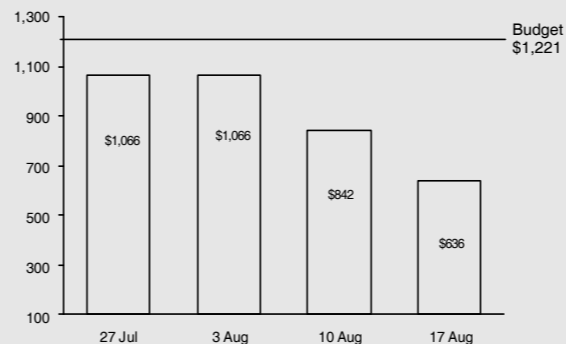
### YEAR TO DATE (51 WEEKS)

**-3.08% deficit on giving**

**YTD Budget** \$ 62.279M  
**YTD Giving** \$ 60.363M  
**YTD Variance** \$ -1.916M

## FISCAL YEAR SEPT 2014-AUG 2015

### PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)



	27 Jul	3 Aug	10 Aug	17 Aug
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	1,221	1,221	1,221	1,221
<b>Weekly Giving</b>	1,066	1,066	842	636
<b>Weekly Variance</b>	-155	-155	-379	-585

**GIVING TO ISLAND ECC** We encourage those who consider Island ECC their church home to prayerfully give a percentage of their income to the church on a regular basis.

Cheques payable to 'Island ECC Ltd.' for HK tax receipts or to 'Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc.' for US citizens. More info at [www.islandecc.hk/give](http://www.islandecc.hk/give). Enquiries to [karen.kwok@islandecc.hk](mailto:karen.kwok@islandecc.hk).

## ISLAND ECC

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TESTING >  
PERSEVERANCE

=



## BACK TO SCHOOL

### Test And Approve

Aug 23, 2015 9.30am, 11.30am, 3pm, 5pm  
633 King's Road, 1/F, 2/F, 10/F

# COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

## TODAY **Baby Dedication**

It is our joy today to witness the dedication to the Lord of Bethanie Suen, born 22 January 2013 & Matthias Suen, born 1 October 2014 to parents Benjamin & May. We warmly welcome visiting family and friends (11.30am, 10/F).

## AUG 28 **New University Care Group**

University presents a time of great testing for every person seeking a relationship with God and a life with Christ. We aim to create a space for Christian students to do life together and encourage each other to confidently participate in academic discourse. Meets Friday evenings 7.30pm at church. Visit: <https://www.islandecc.hk/connect-grow/care-groups/> for details.

## AUG 30 **Basic Counselling for Small Group Leaders**

Join Pastor Didi Wong for this 3 week class aimed at equipping small group leaders (care group, Bible study, men's/women's group) with basic counselling methods and skills on how to give godly counsel and advice, should do's and don't's, so that you can become a better listener and counsellor. **3pm, 8/F Classroom.** Visit: <https://www.islandecc.hk/classes/> for details.

## AUG 30 **Men's Prison Ministry Training Course**

An introductory class by our supported partner, Kun Sun Christian Association. Learn how to reach out to English speaking inmates in Hong Kong and consider signing up to become a regular volunteer. Men and women are both welcome to attend but only male volunteers will be recruited for visitation. **2-5pm, 8/F Classroom.**

## AUG 30 **Outreach Open House**

Open to anyone interested in missions at Island ECC. No previous experience necessary! Light lunch provided. **1.30pm, 10/F Worship Hall.** Get your free ticket at the Connect Counters.

## AUG 30 **Helper Management Class (For Employers)**

Join Melanie Leung-Shea, founder of Helpwise, for a 4 week class that will provide you with lots of practical advice on training, managing, and communicating with your helper. **3-5pm, 8/F Living Room.** Visit <https://www.islandecc.hk/classes/> for detail and registration.

## SEP 4 **RZIM Apologetics Conference Tickets**

RZIM in Asia aims to equip Christian leaders as they endeavour to effectively give the reason for the hope that they have in Christ. Conference runs Sept 4-5. Tickets at \$350 are available at the Connect Counters. For details, please visit: <https://www.islandecc.hk/RZIM/>.

## SEP 4 **Youth Alpha**

We will be hosting Youth Alpha in The Well (11/F, 6.15pm) this fall for both middle school and high school students. Dinner, games, and teaching from the Alpha Youth Film Series included. This a great opportunity for students to become grounded in their faith and introduce friends to Jesus in a fun, welcoming atmosphere. For more information, email [youth@islandecc.hk](mailto:youth@islandecc.hk).

## SEPT 6 **New Classes**

**The Rise of Islam:** How to Reach out to Muslims Effectively? — A one off class by Abdu Murray.  
**Money & Marriage** — A new 6 week study.  
Visit <https://www.islandecc.hk/classes/> for detail and registration.

## OCT 16 & 17 **Fuse Singles Conference: Start Tomorrow**

Sometimes it's hard to get started on something. We put it off and leave it for a later time. Life can be that way. We procrastinate even the big decisions. This year's Fuse Singles Conference will challenge us to **START TOMORROW...now!** Get your early bird tickets today at Connect Counters on all floors. For more information, email [youngadults@islandecc.hk](mailto:youngadults@islandecc.hk).



## On The City

### Staff Vacancies on the Marketplace

- **Executive Assistant** — As the church is growing and we embark on our Bold Faith Initiative in September, the needs of our Senior Pastor and Executive Team require someone with energy and dedicated commitment to support the expanding work. We are looking for a mature Christian professional with outstanding communication and interpersonal skills; church experience preferred.
- **Part-time Coordinator of Children's Ministries** — to help prepare for Kids Club and other related events. 20 hours per week including Sundays.

For details on the above go to the Marketplace/Jobs.

### 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."

Mission Trip to Taiwan



Aug 23, 2015

## Test And Approve

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

<sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:1-2

### Prerequisites for hearing God's voice:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

### Principles for hearing God's voice

1. Is it in line with \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is it in line with the \_\_\_\_\_

3. How does it impact the \_\_\_\_\_

4. What do \_\_\_\_\_ have to say?

5. What are my \_\_\_\_\_ ?