# Welcome!

God's economy is unlike the world's.

As Christians we are given insight into how God actually works, and how our own lives can be blessed by Him.

The principles of sowing and reaping are more certain and predictable than any other economic data you may be interested in. And the rewards are way more reliable. But you have to understand how God's economy works.

"This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed...." (Mark 4:26)

Today we will learn some incredibly valuable truths, that will apply to every aspect of our lives. Relationships, character development, career advancement, financial management.

You reap what you sow. Plain and simple. I hope you will be stretched today into thinking how you can apply these truths to your own circumstances.

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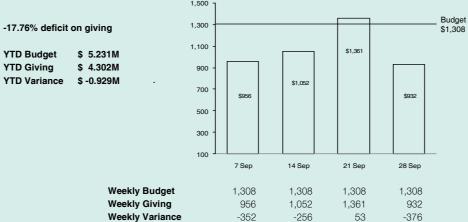
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**Executive Assistant** 

#### FISCAL YEAR SEPT 2015-AUG 2016

PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)

#### YEAR TO DATE (4 WEEKS)



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. Enquiries to karen.kwok@islandecc.hk.

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# COMING UP AT ISLAND ECC

#### TODAY & TOMORROW Bold Faith Dress Sale

Thousands of party dresses and bridal gowns are on sale at slashed rates to raise funds for a new building, as part of the Bold Faith Campaign. Price range HK\$200-\$1000. 11.30am-7pm, Kodak House 1, 321 Java Road, Room 102.

#### OCT 5 Alpha Course Fall 2015

The Alpha Course is a ten-week opportunity to explore the Christian faith in a laid-back environment. It is a practical introduction to the basics of Christianity centred around a meal, a talk and small group discussion. Mondays, 7pm, 2/F. Visit www.islandecc.hk/alpha for details.

#### OCT 11 Nurturing Your Marriage Class

Join Pastor Didi Wong for this two-week class for marriage enrichment. All couples have a pattern to the way they "dance" together. You will explore together the core desires and fears that drive the dynamics in your relationship for better and for worse. Oct 11 & 18, 11/F Classroom, 11.30am. Visit: https://www.islandecc.hk/classes/ for registration.

#### OCT 11 New Class: "Discover What the Future Holds" Precept Study

This 6 week Precept study is led by Derek Chan. Learn a systematic method of studying the Bible to explore the prophecies of Daniel to gain a clearer picture of the future. Starts Oct 11, 3pm. Material cost \$60. Visit: https://www.islandecc.hk/classes/ for information and registration.

## OCT 11 Cambodia Family Trip

Join the informational meeting that will be held in the 8/F Living Room, 11.00-11.30am. We will join together to serve Cambodia during the Chinese New Year break, February 10-15, 2016.

#### OCT 11 Baptism Class

Baptism is an outward expression of an inward faith. If you're interested in being baptised, please plan to attend the 2-Sunday baptism class starting on October 11, 5pm (both classes required). You can register by emailing baptism@islandecc.hk.

#### OCT 12 Bible Study for Working Women in Central

A new 6-week lunch hour class will start every Monday from Oct 12, 12.30-2pm, Unit 1904 19/F Worldwide House. The topic is "How do you know God is your Father?" focused on the book of 1 John. Bring your own lunch. Sign up at https://www.islandecc.hk/ministries/women/.

## OCT 24 Prayer Hike

With the cooler weather, time again to enjoy nature and its Creator. Join us for a purposeful morning at Lung Fu Shan trail, 9.30am. Register online at www.islandecc.hk/ministries/prayer.

#### OCT 24 Sports Fellowship — Kayaking

Missing summer? Then join us on our Kayak trip from 10.30am-1pm in Stanley. Tickets are \$120 per person and can be bought at the 1/F Connect Counter today or October 11.

## OCT 25 New Classes

#### How to Study the Bible

Learn how to understand the Bible in a systematic way and apply the Word of God in your lives with Elder Joseph Mohan. 6 weeks starting Oct 25, 11.30am.

#### Managing Money God's Way

Ever asked these questions: What is the safest and best place to invest money? How do I get free from worrying about money? Join this 9 week course with Jeff Ryan and Ramon Maronilla. Starts Oct 25, 9.30am, Material Cost: \$500

Visit: https://www.islandecc.hk/classes/ for information and registration.



# On The City

#### Staff Vacancy on the Marketplace

• Coordinator of Ministry Support — to help provide administrative and logistical support for our Sunday services, ministry events, facility use, as well as assistance to our pastors. We are looking for a friendly and energetic person with a heart to serve and an eye for detail, plus strong communication and administrative skills. Fluency in both English and Cantonese is needed.

To apply, go to the Marketplace/Jobs.

#### NEW TO ISLAND ECC? ■

## 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.

#### 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.



## CHECK OUR WEBSITF

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 trust Jesus to do what we can't. We don't trust our own efforts to save us. WE BELIEVE We can't save ourselves. We don't place our trust in other people to save us.

## **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 Shanxi



#### October 4, 2015

# **A Life That Reaps**

Don't be misled: no one makes a fool of God. Whatever a person plants, he will harvest

Ten Laws of S	Sowing and	d Reaping
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1. Everything starts
God said, "Let the land have seed-bearing plants and trees that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their varieties."  Genesis 1:11
2. Nothing happens until
Jesus said, "Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, it cannot reproduce. But if it dies, it will produce much fruit." John 12:24
This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how.  Mark 4:26-27
3. Whenever you have a need
Do your planting in the morning and in the evening, too! You never know whether it will all grow well or whether one planting will do better than the other.  Ecclesiastes 11:6
4. I will reap
For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged. Matthew 7:2
Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.  Galatians 6:7-8
5. I am reaping
I sent you to reap where you didn't plant; others had already done work before you, and you will gather the harvest.  John 4:38
6. Reaping requires
Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for after a while we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up.  Galatians 6:9
7. I always reap
Some seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, multiplying thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times.  Mark 4:8
8. The best time to plant
Those who wait for perfect weather will never plant seeds; and those who look at every cloud will never reap a harvest.  Ecclesiastes 11:4
9. The amount of my harvest depends

The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. Proverbs 11:24

reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously

will reap generously. Each one should give what he's decided in his heart to give, not

Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy. Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.