

Welcome!

"Blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall never be disappointed." Alexander Pope.

This quote epitomises so many variations of this idea that basically tells us that the road to contentment is to have no expectations. Whether you agree with this quote in theory or not, the reality is all of us end up living this out in some way because disappointment hurts. Let's face it, we don't like to hurt and we often will do anything to avoid being hurt. Having no expectations sounds like a good way to go about it!

There are two problems with this road to contentment. First, it is nearly impossible to live life with no expectations. It is built into human nature to expect something from life and people. Second, if we kill all our expectations then what about "expecting" God to come through on God's promises?

Today, we will sing about contentment, we will be inspired by stories of contentment, and lastly we will hear what God has to say about the secret to contentment. Let's journey as a church to live out this secret of contentment.

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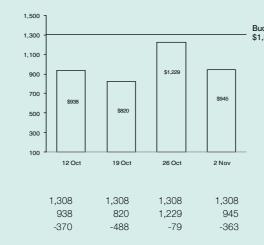
YEAR TO DATE (9 WEEKS)

-20.45% deficit on giving

YTD Budget YTD Giving \$ 9.362M YTD Variance \$ -2.407M

FISCAL YEAR SEPT 2015 - AUG 2016

PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)



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 islandecc.hk/give. Enquiries to karen.kwok@islandecc.hk.

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RAW EMOTION

Contentment

November 8, 2015 9.30am, 11.30am, 3pm, 5pm 633 King's Road, 1/F, 2/F, 10/F

HIGHLIGHTS

TODAY PRAYER AFTER SERVICE

We want to encourage the church to set aside time to pray today wherever you are, and if you need to pray with people, feel free to approach our prayer volunteers at the front.

TODAY & NOV 15 FOOD DRIVE

Hope of the City is holding a food drive for Feeding Hong Kong over two Sundays. Bring your contributions to church and drop them in the boxes on 1, 2, 8 & 10/F. For a list of items needed, check out www.hopeofthecity.com – cooking oil and pasta are especially welcome. For bulk donations, contact info@hopeofthecity.com.

NOV 13 cd launch to combat slavery

Musicians from several churches gathered in June for a "Battle of the Bands" to raise awareness about Human Slavery. They have recorded a CD of these original compositions and have a launch party with performances from featured bands. 2F, 7.30-9.30 pm.

NOV 15 NO 3PM AND 5PM SERVICE

In order to allow sufficient time for the Watoto Choir to set-up for their concerts, we have cancelled the two afternoon services next Sunday. While thrilled to have the Watoto children with us, we regret any inconvenience this may cause.

NOV 15 NEWCOMERS LUNCH

If you're new to the church and want to know more about Island ECC, please join us for the Newcomers Lunch at 1.15pm on the 10/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 on your floor.

NOV 15 "on what Love" watoro choir concert

There was an incredible response when we announced The Watoto Choir Concert last Sunday! Tickets were gone within hours. We want to encourage more to come, so Watoto has agreed to hold a second concert at 4.30pm for those who missed getting tickets for our later showing! Pick up tickets in 1/F Quench area while supplies last (limited to 2 per person, with the exception of families). A limited number of 7.30pm tickets can be exchanged for 4.30pm.

NOV 21 SPORTS FELLOWSHIP SCAVENGER HUNT

Sign up for the Sports Fellowship Scavenger Hunt. Teams of 6-8 people will solve clues and race to check points to win the prize! Tickets available at the Connect Counter TODAY!

NOV 22 FAMILY THANKSGIVING: PARENT-CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS

Kids Club invites parents for a thanksgiving lunch, 1.30-2.45pm, 10/F Auditorium. Discover how the church and family come together to impact our children's spiritual growth. \$50/adult. Kids free. Tickets available at 9/F Welcome Desk. Please RSVP by Nov 15.

NOV 27 NIGHT OF PRAYER

Join us $7.30 \, \text{pm}$ on 2/F to slow down, worship and remember how good God has been to us and our church. Doors open at $7 \, \text{pm}$.

OPPORTUNITIES

STRING PLAYERS WANTED

Do you play violin, viola or cello? Our goal is to build a team of 10 string players for our Christmas Eve services at Queen Elizabeth Stadium. If you will be in town this Christmas Eve and play the violin, please send an email to worship@islandecc.hk.



OUTREACH

NOV 15 FAMILY CNY CAMBODIA MISSION TRIP APPLICATION DEADLINE

We are looking for more families to join us to return to Cambodia to serve children from poor backgrounds. Trip dates are from Feb 10 to 14, 2016. Cost is \$6800 per adult and \$6200 per child. Email go@islandecc.hk to sign up or for more information.

NOV 15 LEBANON MISSION TRIP INFO SESSION

Women's Ministries is leading a small team of 9 to Lebanon from March 24 to April 3 to serve Syrian refugees. We will work with our local partner to bring God's love to children, women and widows. Join us for the informational meeting, 2-3 pm, 8/F Living room.

NOV 20 CHRISTMAS PRISON OUTREACH SIGN UP DEADLINE

Most English speaking inmates will not have any visitors during Christmas, so we are looking for volunteers to visit Tung Tau prison and show love in action on Dec 20 (9.30-11.30am). Email full name and HKID# to go@islandecc.hk. Priority to men.

NOV 22 "OH WHAT FAITH" UGANDA TRIP SHARING

Since 2008, teams have been visiting the poorest of the poor in Uganda and extending God's love to vulnerable children and women. Join us in this celebration of God's unfailing love and sharing the team's experience in slums and prison homes. 11/F Classroom, 1.30pm.

CLASSES

REGISTER AT ISLANDECC.HK/CLASSES

TODAY NEW CLASS — ART OF PARENTING

Are you a bit worn out as a parent with the never ending "on-the-job" training? Would you like some practical assistance based on both biblical truth and proven experience? Plan to attend this 3 week class with Pastor Didi Wong and team, 9.30am 10/F.

TODAY NEW CLASS — THE RISE OF RADICAL ISLAM (PART I)

This 4-week course with Lincoln Loo introduces you to Islam, strengthens your Christian faith, and equips you to respond with respect and confidence. 2pm, 10/F. Material cost: \$150. Completion of this course is a pre-requisite to Part 2, to be offered in 2016.

NOV 29 CHRISTMAS RECOVERED

Join Martin Radford in this 3-week class to recover the Christmas story, to bring clarity to the events in the Gospels, to move beyond fanciful embellishments and so deepen our walk with God as we discover faith, obedience and humility. 11.30am, 8/F.

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!

Visit the Connect Counters on 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.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE II 🖪 🗖

Check out www.islandecc.hk, where you'll have access to information about all our ministries and events, as well as a broad spectrum of resources - including weekly blog posts and video podcasts of sermons.

Children's Ministries VBS (Vacation Bible School)



NOVEMBER 8, 2015

Contentment

¹⁰I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it.

¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.

¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.

¹³ I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:10-14

¹⁴ Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles.