

Welcome!

Have you had to defend your faith recently? If asked by a hostile colleague, "Why do you believe in a faith that has been responsible for so much evil in the world?", what would you say?

Or how about this one: "I thought you were educated? Are you telling me that you don't believe in science, but you do believe in an unseen God that created the world?"

In our continuing series on *Evidence*, today we'll look at some of the most-often used ammunition against Christianity, namely that the Bible is full of contradictions, and therefore cannot be trusted. My prayer is that you will be encouraged in your faith, and assured that you can both think AND believe.

Brett

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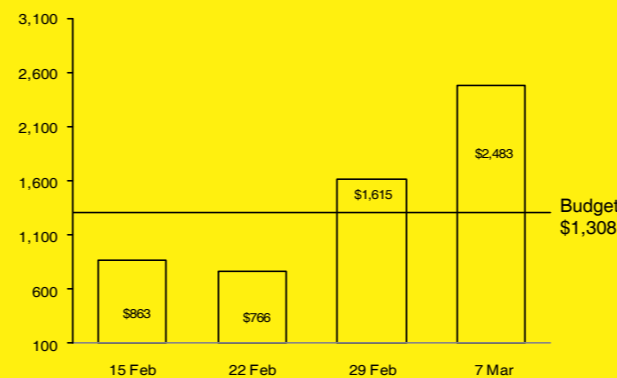
FISCAL YEAR SEPT 2015 - AUG 2016

YEAR TO DATE (27 WEEKS)

-3.0% deficit on giving

YTD Budget \$ 35.3M
YTD Giving \$ 34.2M
YTD Variance \$ -1.1M

PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)



	15 Feb	22 Feb	29 Feb	7 Mar
Weekly Budget	1,308	1,308	1,308	1,308
Weekly Giving	863	766	1,615	2,483
Weekly Variance	-445	-542	307	1,175

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.

ISLAND ECC

8/F 633 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong T 2864 9360 info@islandecc.hk islandecc.hk

EVIDENCE

Contradictions In The Story

March 13 2016 9.30am, 11.30am, 3pm, 5pm
633 King's Road, 1/F, 2/F, 10/F

HIGHLIGHTS

TODAY CHURCH SURVEY 2016

We are conducting a quick online church survey today at each of our services. If you are aged 18 and over, we appreciate your participation. You can get the form ready on your phone by accessing islandecc.hk/survey. During the service, your host will give you instructions and there will be time for us to complete the survey together. Thank you for your participation!

TODAY BABY DEDICATION

We are delighted today to join with 3 families in the dedication of their children to the Lord:

- Elliott Joshua Pang, born 17 October 2014; Andrew Zachary Pang, born 19 June 2011 and Preston Joseph Pang, born on 6 August 2008 to parents Philip & Geneviva (9.30am, 10/F)
- Ching Kei Janis Tang, born 12 December 2015, to parents Kai Ming & Jamie (5pm, 2/F)
- Alexa Suarez, born 12 June 2015, to parents Rene & Carine (5pm, 2/F)

TODAY FUSE YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Fuse, our young adult ministry, is meeting today. 3pm, 11/F The Well. Come and join us for some great fellowship and discussion about relevant biblical topics!

TODAY KIDS CLUB FX (FAMILY EXPERIENCE)

Our very first Kids Club FX is today in the 10/F Worship Hall. Doors open at 1.30pm. For those who have purchased lunch coupons, pizza and drinks will be served on 9/F, Kids Worship Hall, 1.00pm-1.30pm. We look forward to seeing you!

TODAY ISLAND YOUTH SUMMER CAMP - REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Last day to register for Island Youth summer camp! If you're 11-18, come join us for a life-changing experience of worship and community set in Kenting, Taiwan. This trip is set for June 26 to 30. Register today at islandecc.hk/summercamp2016 or inquire at youth@islandecc.hk.

MAR 18 & 19 REASONABLE FAITH CONFERENCE

In addition to the day-time equipping conference to be held at St Andrew's Church, there will be free outreach events at 7.30pm each night for attending along with a friend. Friday night will be on "Is faith reasonable in a world with ISIS?" and on Saturday night, "Finding real hope in life - the reality of Jesus' resurrection." More information on these and tickets for the day event are available at www.standrews.org.hk/reasonable-faith-conference.

MAR 25 GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER AND COMMUNION

Appreciate and celebrate God's perfect love for us on Good Friday - the day we remember Christ's death - with worship, reflection, prayer, and communion. 7.30pm, 1/F Auditorium.

CLASSES

REGISTER AT ISLANDECC.HK/CLASSES

TODAY THE RISE OF RADICAL ISLAM: FRIDAY THE 13TH IN PARIS

Why were 130 people killed in Paris last November? What has happened since and what's next? Join Lincoln Loo for this one-off presentation for an analysis that is not available in mainstream media outlets such as Al-Jazeera, BBC, and CNN. 11.30am, 8/F Classroom.

MAR 18 THE CHRISTIAN FAITH AND CHINESE ANCESTRAL PRACTICE SEMINAR

Chinese traditions such as funerals, Ching Ming Festival, incense burning, and even weddings can often be sources of conflicts for many Chinese Christians with their families. What are the beliefs behind these ancestral practices? How should Christians react in ways that are honouring to both God and their family? Come explore these questions at the seminar with guest speaker Rev. Dr Joseph Mak. 7.30-9.30pm, 10/F Worship Hall. Seminar is conducted in Cantonese.

MAR 19 ISLAM: GOD'S STORY BEHIND THE MEDIA HEADLINES

Do the headlines of what is happening in Iraq and Syria confound and depress you? Does it appear like evil is winning? Far from it. Come and listen to Islam expert Georges Housney share what God really is doing in the Middle East today. Hear the story behind the headlines. "For what is seen is temporal; unseen, eternal". 10am-12pm, 10/F Worship Hall. No registration needed.

OUTREACH

TODAY GET TO KNOW HOPE

Hope of the City was founded by Island ECC in 2010 with the mission to transform the lives of the underprivileged in Hong Kong. Hope believes in each person's potential to succeed in life and seeks to provide them with access to equal opportunities. Learn more about their mission and what they do at the Get To Know Hope session today. 1.15pm, 11/F Classroom. Lunch is provided.

MAR 20 TAIWAN MISSION TRIP INFO SESSION

In Taiwan, Christianity is a minority religion while traditional values and religions hold a prominent place in the heart of the populace. Every summer we partner with local churches to bless an aboriginal village by caring for their children and finding opportunities to share the gospel. This year our trip will take place in early July. Learn more at our information session, 1.15-3pm, 11/F Classroom. Lunch is provided.

MAR 26 SSP X-PERIENCE: EASTER OUTREACH

Hope of the City's overnight SSP X-perience in January was a huge success. Now, we're pleased to present a one-day version during Easter, 11am-6pm. Participants will get a close-up, hands-on experience of how challenging life is for the underprivileged in Hong Kong. Register at volunteer@hopeofthecity.com. Fee is \$200 per person.

OPPORTUNITIES

COORDINATOR OF MINISTRY SUPPORT

We are looking to hire a full-time Coordinator in our Ministry Support team, including Sundays, to help provide administrative and logistical support for our Sunday services. 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.

COORDINATOR OF ASSIMILATION

We are looking for an enthusiastic and outgoing person with good administrative skills to assist in connecting people to the church. The person will work with an existing team to provide practical and administrative support for volunteers on Sundays and ministry events, and provide some pastor support. The position is full time. Fluency in English and good attention to detail are required.

To apply for the above positions, email hr@islandecc.hk with a cover letter and CV.

VOLUNTEERS FOR SHIRT AND DRESS SALE

We are looking for male volunteers to help move boxes in the morning of Saturday, March 19 & 26. Email boldfaith@islandecc.hk if you can help. More details to come on a Spring shirt and dress sale planned for April.

VOLUNTEERS FOR 3PM KIDS CLUB

If you have a heart for serving young children, aged 3-10, we would love to hear from you! We are in need of volunteers for our 3pm Kids Club service. Training and orientation will be provided. Please contact us at kidsclub@islandecc.hk for more information.

13 MARCH 2016

Contradictions In The Story

"... research that shows young evangelicals often feel they have to choose between their intellectual integrity and their faith, between science and Christianity, between compassion and holiness."

Rachel Evans, CNN blog, 2013

Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Acts 17:11

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

1 Peter 3:15

NEW TO ISLAND ECC

MEET US AT THE CONNECT COUNTER

- 1 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

- 2 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.

Filipino Ministry's annual Beloved Conference over Chinese New Year



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