

# Welcome!

Encounters with Christ always change us. Or do they? Is it possible to be near to God, and yet remain unaffected?

Today's message examines a man who is physically healed, but remains spiritually hardened.

God desires so much more for us than simply to be a miracle-worker for our ailments or a dispenser of goodies from heaven. Yes, He delights to give good things, but only if they deepen our sense of awe in the One who gives good things.

In a world that is driven by consumer mindsets, how do we prevent that mentality from taking over our faith?

Conne to Our Newcomers Lunch

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CLASSES classes@islandecc.hk For other questions, please contact info@islandecc.hk

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FISCAL YEAR SEP 2016 - AUG 2017

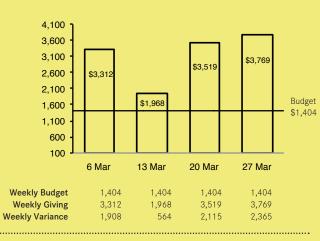
PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)

#### YEAR TO DATE (30 WEEKS)

10.5% surplus on giving

YTD Budget YTD Giving YTD Variance

\$42.1M \$46.5M \$4.4M



Bold Faith Fund \$127.7M

Bold Faith Initial Fund Raising Target \$1 Billion

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.

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

MY NAME IS

April 2, 2017 9:30am, 11:30am, 3pm, 5pm

633 King's Road, 1/F, 2/F, 10/F

HELLC

Unchanged

COURAGEDOS



NAME

MY NAME IS

# **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. Kindly leave the sanctuary quietly and respect those who are praying.

# TODAY newcomers lunch

Are you new to Island ECC? Want to know more about the church? If so, please join us at the Newcomers Lunch. Today, 1:30pm, 11/F Living Room C

## TODAY KIDS CLUB FX - HUMILITY

Bring the whole family to celebrate Easter, and learn all about Humility—putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve. Today, 1:30pm, 10/F Auditorium. Please pick up free event tickets and optional lunch coupons from 9/F Welcome Desk.

#### MAR 23- APR 11 BE INSPIRED BIBLE EXHIBIT

Be Inspired: The Exhibit will unfold around ten themes and will include stunning scrolls, books and Bibles rarely seen publicly. This exhibit presents a historical perspective on the origin of the Bible, a replica of the Gutenberg Press, an Isaiah manuscript, and Chinese scrolls. It is held at St Andrew's Church Kowloon, from Mon-Sat 10am-9:30pm, and Sun 3pm-9:30pm.

#### APR 14 good friday worship and communion

Appreciate and celebrate God's amazing grace to us on Good Friday, the day we remember Christ's sacrifice on the cross, with worship, reflection, prayer, and Communion. Apr 14, 7:30pm on 1/F, 2/F and 11/F.

# APR 23 FEARLESS: SPECIAL SERMON SERIES (INVITE YOUR FRIENDS)

Fear not. More than any other command throughout scripture, we are told to abandon our fear and live lives of courage. Can you imagine how free you could feel if fear wasn't a part of your life? Join us, and invite your friends, as we kick off an exciting new series called Fearless, starting Sunday, Apr 23 at all service times.

### May 26 & 27 dangerous women conference

Come hear from "dangerous" women in our community and city on their exciting adventures with God and how you can begin your own adventure by discovering your God-given identity as His change-maker at home, in the corporate world, our city and the world. May 26 & 27. Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more details next week.

#### **CLASSES**

For registration or more information, visit islandecc.hk/classes.

# TODAY ART OF DATING

This 4-week class, with Pastor Tim, is designed for single people who want to explore together this mysterious journey we call dating, and learn the biblical guidelines and practical tips that will help us to date in a godly way. Today, 11:30am, 8/F Classroom.

# TODAY RIGHT PERSPECTIVES IN PRAYER

Knowing what God says about His relationship with us can make all the difference in how we pray. Join Jennifer Tow for a 2-week workshop on having the right perspective in prayer. Today and April 9, 3pm-4:30pm, 11/F Classroom.

# APR 16 do you know your enemy?

The Devil is a sly adversary. Even though he has been disarmed and defeated he is still dangerous. This 2-week class will look at Scriptures in order to reaffirm the victory that we have in Christ over the Enemy. Apr 16, 2:30pm, 10/F Classroom.

#### **OUTREACH**

### JUL 1-8 TAIWAN MISSION TRIP

Registration Deadline: Apr 16

For our 5th year, we continue to serve in an aboriginal village in Taiwan by caring for families and sharing the gospel through action. This year our trip will take place in early July. For more information, please email iecc.taiwan@gmail.com or register at islandecc.hk/outreach/global/roc/

#### **OPPORTUNITY**

#### **BOLD FAITH DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

This full-time position will spearhead the development of the Bold Faith Initiative in building relationships and cultivating generosity to raise sufficient funds to acquire new church premises. We are looking for a mature Christian leader with solid managerial experience in development and fundraising. If you are interested, please send your CV and a cover letter to hr@islandecc.hk.

# **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 # \* •

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 BE LOVED Conference



#### 2 APRIL 2017

# Unchanged

Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals.

<sup>2</sup>Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. <sup>3</sup>Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralysed. <sup>5</sup>One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, He asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

<sup>7</sup>"Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me."

<sup>8</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." <sup>9</sup>At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, <sup>10</sup> and so the Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat."

<sup>11</sup>But he replied, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.' "

<sup>12</sup>So they asked him, "Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?"

<sup>13</sup>The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

<sup>14</sup>Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you." <sup>15</sup>The man went away and told the lewish leaders that it was lesus who had made him well.

<sup>16</sup>So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jewish leaders began to persecute Him. <sup>17</sup>In his defense Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at His work to this very day, and I too am working." <sup>18</sup>For this reason they tried all the more to kill Him; not only was He breaking the Sabbath, but He was even calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.

John 5:1-18

