

Welcome!

Good morning!

Just a reminder that we have Dr. Alister McGrath speaking in our afternoon services today. You might want to come back at either 3 pm or 5 pm to hear this world renowned former atheist speak about engaging in our postmodern world as Christians. An Oxford graduate and leading apologist, Dr. McGrath is sure to challenge your thinking and equip you to better understand how to defend the faith.

In our series this morning, we will focus our attention on Abigail. I love this woman of God, so much so that we named our first child after her! Her name means "Source of Joy", and I'm sure you'll find her story intriguing and helpful.

Brett

Are you new here?
Come to our Newcomers Lunch
Today
1:30pm, 10F Living Room

LEADERS

SENIOR PASTOR

Brett Hilliard
brett.hilliard@islandecc.hk

EXECUTIVE PASTOR

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elders@islandecc.hk

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pastors@islandecc.hk

BOLD FAITH OUR FOUR GOALS

The Bold Faith fund campaign is an initiative to establish a permanent venue in Hong Kong to advance God's kingdom. The objective is to raise sufficient funds to procure and own a building to enable our church to multiply ministries and serve our city well.

BRING
PEOPLE
TO WORSHIP
JESUS

OPTIMISE
TRAINING AND
LEADERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT

LOVE
THE CITY

DEEPEN
RELATIONSHIPS
AND
COMMUNITY

Bold Faith Fund [Target \$1 Billion]

Received	\$106M	Outstanding Pledged	\$29.2M
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Total Fund Received and Pledged \$135.2M

GENERAL OFFERING

YEAR TO DATE (9 WEEKS)

-24.4% deficit on giving

Budget	\$13.1M
Giving	\$9.9M
Variance	-\$3.2M

GIVING TO ISLAND ECC

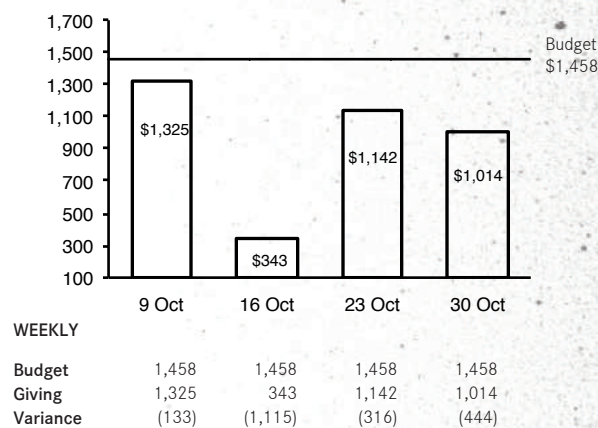
We encourage those who consider Island ECC their church home to prayerfully give a percentage of their income to the church on a regular basis.

Cheques payable:
• 'Island ECC Ltd.' for HK tax receipts
• 'Friends of Hong Kong Charities Inc.' for US citizens

Enquiries:
giving@islandecc.hk

FISCAL YEAR SEP 2017 - AUG 2018

PAST 4 WEEKS (Thousands HKD)



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 HOW DO YOU PRESENT FAITH IN A POST-MODERN CULTURE?

Today, for our 3pm service, we welcome guest speaker Professor Alister McGrath from Oxford University to speak on the challenges of presenting our faith in today’s culture. He is one of the world’s eminent Christian apologists. This talk will be live on 1/F and broadcasted to 2/F, and will be replayed at our 5 pm service on both 1/F and 2/F. Go to the Island ECC blog on our website to see a replay of the message.

TODAY CALLY ADVENT BEAR SALE

Looking for a fun way to countdown to Christmas with kids? Cally is a soft, cuddly stuffed advent bear. Cally can sing 24 Christmas melodies and counts down the days to Christmas. Suggested donation of \$250. All proceeds will go towards supporting the Bold Faith Campaign. Pick up a Cally Advent Bear on 9/F & 10/F today!

NOV 10 RENEW WORSHIP NIGHT

Music is designed to excite our emotions. It has a unique power to awaken our hearts in a way that words alone cannot. And when God’s people come together to lift their voices as one, there’s nothing like it. This is why we sing! Join us Friday, 10 November, 7:30 pm. Doors open at 7pm.

NOV 17/18 JOURNEY OF PRAYER

We believe in prayer and giving you options for prayer. Our 10/F will be equipped with prayer stations where you can come anytime, alone or with friends, to experience God through prayer. Join us on Friday, 17 November, 7:30 – 9:30 pm and 18 November, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.

NOV 25 FLOURISH: A ONE-DAY MOMS EVENT

Moms, what do your current seasons look like? Isolating? Overloaded? Wearisome? Frustrating? Whatever season you are in as a mom, whether filled or drained or somewhere between, this event was made for you. Come connect, soak in Jesus’ word and find the freedom to flourish. Tickets available (\$150) today at all Connect Counter.

NOV 25-26 MENS MINISTRY RETREAT - THE GREAT GETAWAY II

Men’s Ministry is holding another retreat this fall! Come join “The Great Getaway II” and enjoy time away from the hustle and bustle of Hong Kong to fellowship with other men. Sign up at Connect Counters and online at islandecc.hk/greatgetaway. Early bird retreat tickets (\$350) include transportation, food, lodging and gear.

NOV 26 ISLAND YOUTH THANKSGIVING

Island Youth is inviting all of our Island Youth families to join us for our annual Thanksgiving potluck! We’ll provide the turkey and cutlery but are asking each family to provide a side dish large enough to feed at least 10 people. Sunday, 26 November, 1:30 – 4 pm, 11/F. If you would like to join, please email us at youth@islandecc.hk.

CLASSES

To register and for more information on the following classes, go to islandecc.hk/classes.

NOV 10-11 COUNSELLING PROBLEMATIC EMOTIONS

This 2-day seminary-level course will assist students in understanding the complexities of emotions and developing skills to counsel those suffering from anxiety, grief, guilt, anger, and depression. Participants can take the course for credit (former credit students only) or audit. Audit cost is \$300. Friday & Saturday, 10 – 11 November, 9 am – 5 pm, 10/F Auditorium.

NOV 19 WHAT’S NEXT?

Whether you’re new to Island ECC or you’ve been here for a while and are ready to jump in, we’d like to help you take your next step. This class will allow you to find out more about Island ECC, how to get involved, how God has gifted you, and what opportunities there are to serve. Join us for this 2-week class starting Sunday, 19 November, 3 – 4:30 pm, 11/F.

HOPE October: Cooking competition, Yum Cha with elderly and visit to the homeless



OUTREACH

NOV 11 SHAM SHUI PO CARNIVAL

Industrial Evangelical Fellowship (IEF) is hosting their biannual carnival in Sham Shui Po and gathering all the churches and NGOs that serve in this community to share the joy and peace of Jesus Christ. Hope of the City is seeking a group of energetic volunteers to host a game booth from 12:30 – 5:30 pm. For more information, please email volunteer@hopeofthecity.com.

NOV 12 MOROCCO MISSION TRIP SHARING SESSION

From our experiences in Morocco this year, we were reminded of what it means to live life with Christ as our focus so that every good work bears fruit. Come on the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church to hear the Morocco mission team share their testimonies with locals they spent time with and how God is moving! 3:30 – 5:30 pm, 10/F Auditorium.

DEC 23/24 CHRISTMAS PRISON OUTREACH REGISTRATION OPEN

Registration Deadline: 23 November / Mandatory Training: 3 December

We will be visiting English-speaking inmates over Christmas at Pik Uk Prison (23 December) and Tung Tau Correctional Institution (24 December) to share our faith through worship and testimony from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. Email go@islandecc.hk to register before 23 November. There will be a mandatory training on 3 December, 1:30 – 3 pm, 8/F Living Room. Priority will be given to men.

FEB 16-19 ICM PHILIPPINES MISSION TRIP

Information Session: 19 November / Registration Deadline: 3 December

Next CNY, Island ECC will send a team to Dumaguete, Philippines to serve the spiritual and physical needs of the community by helping with a sanitation project, interacting with locals to show love and giving hope to some of the poorest families in the Philippines. Come to the info session on 19 November, 1:30 pm, 10/F Classroom to learn more.

OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in the opportunities below, send your CV and a cover letter to hr@islandecc.hk. Go to islandecc.hk/about-us/employment-opportunities for more information.

COORDINATOR OF WORSHIP & CREATIVE COMMUNICATIONS

This is a full-time position to coordinate and follow up on strategic promotional plans and creative initiatives at the church as well as provide administrative support to the worship team on Sundays and other special events. If you have a heart to serve, are fluent in English, familiar with social media platforms, and have excellent administrative skills, please apply.

COORDINATOR OF OUTREACH

We are seeking to hire someone in our Outreach team to work with our supported mission partners in Hong Kong and overseas, and to coordinate our annual Christmas Love Offering project. The position requires a heart for international missions. Overseas mission experience is beneficial. This is a full-time position but part-time could also be considered.

NEW TO ISLAND ECC

- 1 MEET US AT THE CONNECT COUNTER
- 2 VISIT OUR WEBSITE   
- 3 CONNECT WITH US!

MEN
men@islandecc.hk

WOMEN
women@islandecc.hk

SINGLES
singles@islandecc.hk

YOUTH
youth@islandecc.hk

CHILDREN
kidsclub@islandecc.hk

WORSHIP
worship@islandecc.hk

VOLUNTEER
serve@islandecc.hk

PRAYER
prayer@islandecc.hk

CARE GROUP
caregroup@islandecc.hk

CLASSES
classes@islandecc.hk

OUTREACH
GLOBAL
go@islandecc.hk

HONG KONG
info@hopeofthecity.com

FILIPINO
filipino@islandecc.hk

INDONESIAN
indonesian@islandecc.hk

For other questions,
please contact
info@islandecc.hk

5 NOVEMBER 2017

Level-Headed Intervention

The request

²A certain man in Maon, who had property there at Carmel, was very wealthy. ³His name was Nabal and his wife’s name was Abigail. She was an **intelligent and beautiful woman**, but her husband was surly and mean in his dealings.

⁴While David was in the wilderness, he heard that Nabal was shearing sheep, “Go up to Nabal at Carmel and greet him in my name. ⁶Say to him: ‘Long life to you! Good health to you and your household! And good health to all that is yours!’”⁷“Now I hear that it is sheep-shearing time. When your shepherds were with us, we did not mistreat them, and the whole time they were at Carmel nothing of theirs was missing. Therefore be favourable toward my men, since we come at a festive time.”

The response

¹⁰Nabal answered David’s servants, “Who is this David? Who is this son of Jesse? Many servants are breaking away from their masters these days. ¹¹Why should I take my bread and water, and the meat I have slaughtered for my shearers, and give it to men coming from who knows where?”

The retaliation

¹³David said to his men, “Each of you strap on your sword!” So they did, and David strapped his on as well. About four hundred men went up with David, while two hundred stayed with the supplies. ¹⁴One of the servants told Abigail, Nabal’s wife, “David sent messengers from the wilderness to give our master his greetings, but he hurled insults at them. ¹⁵Yet these men were very good to us. ¹⁷Now think it over and see what you can do, because disaster is hanging over our master and his whole household.”

The intervention

¹⁸Abigail acted quickly....¹⁹Then she told her servants, “Go on ahead; I’ll follow you.” But she did not tell her husband Nabal. ²¹David had just said, “It’s been useless – all my watching over this fellow’s property in the wilderness so that nothing of his was missing. He has paid me back evil for good.

²⁴She fell at his feet and said: “Pardon your servant, my lord, and let me speak to you; hear what your servant has to say.²⁵Please pay no attention, my lord, to that wicked man Nabal. He is just like his name – his name means Fool, and folly goes with him. ²⁶And now, my lord, as surely as the Lord your God lives and as you live, since the Lord has kept you from bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hands...

²⁸“The Lord your God will certainly make a lasting dynasty for my lord, because you fight the Lord’s battles, and no wrongdoing will be found in you as long as you live. ²⁹Even though someone is pursuing you to take your life, the life of my lord will be **bound securely in the bundle of the living** by the Lord your God, but the lives of your enemies He will hurl away as from the **pocket of a sling**.

The result

³²David said to Abigail, “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, who has sent you today to meet me. ³³May you be blessed for your **good judgment** and for keeping me from bloodshed this day and from avenging myself with my own hands.³⁵Then David accepted from her hand what she had brought him and said, “Go home in peace.” ³⁶When Abigail went to Nabal, he was ... very drunk. So she told him nothing at all until daybreak. ³⁷Then in the morning, when Nabal was sober, his wife told him all these things, and his heart failed him and he became like a stone. ³⁸ About ten days later, the Lord struck Nabal and he died..Then David sent word to Abigail, asking her to become his wife.

⁴² Abigail quickly got on a donkey... and became his wife.

1 Samuel 25:2-42

TEAR OFF THIS CORNER AND PLACE INTO THE OFFERING BAG
Want to learn more about us?
Name _____
Email _____
Phone _____