

ANNOUNCEMENTS For more information, please approach Gladys or Priscilla.

1. Corporate Prayer Meeting

Date & Time: 24 April, 8PM
Venue: Honor Room, WCRC

2. WAC Family Camp 2009 – “Following Jesus All The Way”!

Date: 16 - 19 June (Tue - Fri)
Venue: The Palm Garden Hotel (Putrajaya, Malaysia)
Brochures are available at the admin counter!
Dateline soon!!! Please sign up TODAY!

3. WWF – Breakthrough Weekend “Growing Strong In The Broken Places”

Date: 30 April - 01 May
Check in: 6pm Check out: 6pm
Venue: City Beach Resort
Calling all ladies above 21years old. Cost applicable, please refer to brochure.
Brochure is available at the admin counter.

4. Confirmation Class

Starting Date: 26 April
Time: 1pm
Venue: Glory Room

5. Congratulations!

Congrats to Dennis & Jeslyn Lee on their new born baby girl on 16 April 2009.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April	19	(Sun)	GB Enrolment Service
	24	(Fri)	Prayer Meeting
	26	(Sun)	Confirmation Class #1
	30 - 01 May	(Thur - Fri)	WWF - Women's Breakthrough Weekend
May	01	(Fri)	Labour Day
	09	(Sat)	Vesak Day
	10	(Sun)	Confirmation Class #2
	15	(Fri)	WDT - Mid Year Check
	17	(Sun)	Confirmation Class #3
	22 - 23	(Fri - Sat)	Diocesan Centenary Evangelistic Rally
	24	(Sun)	Council Meeting Confirmation Class #4
	29	(Fri)	Corporate Prayer Meeting

Any announcements, articles or testimonies to share? Email Gladys @ wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg

WESTSIDE ANGLICAN CHURCH

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES, IMPACTING COMMUNITY

BISHOP: The Most Revd Dr John Chew
DEAN & VICAR: The Very Revd Kuan Kim Seng

ASSOCIATE VICAR: The Revd Canon Dr Louis Tay
PRIEST-IN-CHARGE: Revd Timothy Chow

19 April 2009

SOWING THE SEEDS OF CHARACTER

By Revd Timothy Chow (Chaplain of GB 76th Coy)



As Eleanor Roosevelt said, "People grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built."

Character is a trait that everyone wants. It's something parents want their children to learn. Yet it is difficult to define, can mean different things to different people, and requires practice to develop. According to Michele Borba, Ed.D., noted author and educator, character is defined as "moral intelligence, the capacity to understand right from wrong, have strong ethical convictions, and to act on them so one behaves in the right and honorable way." Here, she shares her views on what character means and how children can learn it.

Q: How does moral intelligence connect to character?

Moral intelligence consists of seven essential virtues—empathy, conscience, self-control, respect, kindness, tolerance, and fairness—that guide your character. Once you plant the virtues, you can teach girls the skills to empower them so they can provide their own moral compasses.

Q: Why is character-building so important today?

Our children are getting hit with a huge barrage of mixed messages. They are confronted with peers, not-so-great adult role models, and media where they hear about top CEOs who value money more than ethical behavior. They are receiving unfiltered information from the Internet, song lyrics, video games, and TV. Character-building is nothing new. Socrates and Aristotle spoke about it. They believed that "You are what you are because of what you do repeatedly."

Q: How do you teach skills?

First, figure out what you stand for. Girl Brigade is very clear about this. Then ask yourself what's the most important thing you want to teach. I've asked leaders influencing girls, what do you want to be remembered for? Respect, responsibility? You can also ask yourself, what kind of example do I set? If you asked your kids to tell you what you stand for, what would they say? Parents need to be the example. When parents lecture their kids and say, you need to be respectful, they may think their kids know what that means but to empower them means you need to teach them. The Girls' Brigade is a great place for nurturing character. Girls get opportunities to practice skills, and they learn by doing.

West Coast Recreation Centre
No. 12 West Coast Walk

Sunday Services

10am - 12pm
English Service @ Auditorium
10am - 12pm
Mandarin Service @ Thanksgiving
10am - 12pm
Children In Action @ Honor

Saturday

3.30pm - 6.30pm
Destiny Impact (Youth) @ Honor

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EVERY MEMBER A FRUIT BEARING DISCIPLE

Q: Any other suggestions for character-building?

Yes, T-E-A-C-H:

T: Target character traits. Prioritize the ones you want your kids to learn. Is it respect, responsibility, or something else?

E: Example. If you want your child to be respectful, ask yourself if you are respectful. What other examples are you exposing your children to?

A: Accentuate. If you rent a video, talk about the plot. Was she responsible? Look for moments. If your child is upset, talk about virtues that are important.

C: Catch them doing it. You say, "That took courage." Use the language of virtue. Use the word, then tell why: "That took courage because you had to do something you were afraid to do."

H: Highlight why it's so important. Show them the value of strong character. What are the rewards? If you don't, they might say, why bother?

The work of the Girls' Brigade is indeed very critical as it aims to build girls into women of Godly character. What our nation and the world at large needs desperately are men and women of character and not just talent and intelligence. Our very future and survival depends on this. May the Lord continue to strengthen the work of the Girls' Brigade and through it see the raising up of a generation that will be truly a blessing to the nations.

DUTY SCHEDULE

	Today 19th April	Next Week 26th April (H.C.)
Chairperson	Arlene Pang	Raymond Ang
Speaker	Mrs Tay Poh Imm	Dean Kuan
Worship Leader	Kai Lun	Zhong Fa
Music Team	TBC	Janice, Seng Choon, Kelvin, Eunice, Carolyn, Adrian, Matthew, Jonathan
Projectionist	Scarlet, Elissa	Michelle, Priscilla
Soundworks	Eric Matthew Sng	Eric Matthew Sng
H.C. Server	-	Raymond, Tony
Intercessory Prayer	-	Tony Tay
Scripture Reader	-	Selena Tay

WISE DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

DATE	PROGRAM
24 Apr	Prayer Meeting
01 May	Labour Day - No WDT -
08 May	- No WDT -
15 May	Mid Year Check

*Cell groups are suspended till further notice due to WDT. For further enquiries, you may contact the Office at 63376104 ext 188/189 or email wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg

Question: What are the reasons Moses did not enter the Promised Land? Moses recorded in Deut 1:37 and Deut 3:26 that God was angry with Moses because of the Israelites, is this the sole reason? Is there more to it?

Dt 1:37 Because of you the LORD became angry with me also and said, "You shall not enter it, either.

Dt 3:26 But because of you the LORD was angry with me and would not listen to me. "That is enough," the LORD said. "Do not speak to me anymore about this matter.

Response: (Pastor Raymond)

These two verses must be seen in context with the rest of the related verses:

Nu 20:12 But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

Nu 20:24 "Aaron will be gathered to his people. He will not enter the land I give the Israelites, because both of you rebelled against my command at the waters of Meribah

Nu 27:14 for when the community rebelled at the waters in the Desert of Zin, both of you disobeyed my command to honor me as holy before their eyes." (These were the waters of Meribah Kadesh, in the Desert of Zin.)

Dt 32:51 This is because both of you broke faith with me in the presence of the Israelites at the waters of Meribah Kadesh in the Desert of Zin and because you did not uphold my holiness among the Israelites.

The reason is clear: Moses and Aaron 'did not trust, disobeyed, rebelled against, and broke faith' thereby they did not 'honor God as holy, and uphold God's holiness.' There is insufficient details in the biblical accounts for us to see how 'striking' instead of 'speaking' can dishonor God to the extent that they were denied from entering the Promised Land. On the surface it looks rather trivial and makes one question why over forty years of faithfully serving God can be overlooked by this one very act.

It is interesting to observe that Moses' name, which means 'drawn out of water' (Ex 2:10), was denied entry into the Promised Land when he 'drew water out' of the rock. Anyway, though we lack enough details to appreciate the severity of their action, Moses probably took the greater blame. I say this because Satan disputed with Gabriel over his body after he died (Jude 9) but God buried him and hid him from everyone, including Satan (Deut 34:5,6). *Some say that Satan wanted Moses body because he murdered an Egyptian.

What we can learn:

1. God takes his holiness seriously and we must guard against dishonoring God in the eyes of His Church. Leaders must honor God as holy before the eyes of His people.
2. Moses was not rejected by God but only disqualified from entering the Promised Land. When a spiritual leader falls into sin, though he repents, God may deny him the fruit of his years of labor, yet his salvation and eternal rewards is not affected (cref.; Moses' appearance with Jesus at the Mount of Transfiguration).
3. What is amazing is that Moses continued to faithfully serve God with all his heart till the day he died. Since he knew that he couldn't enter the Promised Land, Moses could have cared less about the people and his leadership, yet he didn't. This is a true mark of leadership, when a leader fails/falls and repents, and despite God hand of severity upon him; continues serving faithfully with all his heart. A leader continues even when everything is taken away from him.

VISION STATEMENT

A home and family focused church committed to building godly families that are the centers of worship, faith formation, discipleship ministry fellowship and witness for Jesus Christ