

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more information, please approach Gladys or Priscilla.

1. WDT – FINAL YEAR CHECK

16 October 2009, 8pm @ Honor Room
Those who cannot take the exam on 16 October, please contact Priscilla.

2. DIOCESAN CENTENARY WORSHIP SERVICES

29 November 2009, 10am or 5.00pm Service @ Suntec Convention Hall
Because of the limited seating capacity, tickets for the services will be issued.
(Admission for the services is strictly by tickets only.)
Please fill up the insert and return it back to the admin office by today.

3. DOULOS IN SINGAPORE

Doulos, the World's Oldest Ocean Going Passenger returns to Singapore!
08 October - 12 October @ Vivocity, Harbour Front
Opening hours: 10.00am - 10.00pm
Free entrance to the Onboard Bookshop

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October	16 - 19	(Fri - Mon)	Mission Trip to Sawang Daendin
	25	(Sun)	Council Meeting
	30	(Fri)	Corporate Prayer Meeting
November	07	(Sat)	SAC CDC Graduation Ceremony
	13	(Fri)	Corporate Prayer Meeting
	15	(Sun)	WDT - Promotion

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

SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE

9.10AM	BOON LAY WAY – BOON LAY MRT (BUS STOP)
9.15AM	JURONG WEST ST 51 BLK 51 CARPARK
9.30AM	CLEMENTI MRT – BUS STOP TOWARDS CITY



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

04 October 2009

THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

By Pastor Timothy Chow

There is a teaching in Singapore today spreading like wildfire that if left unchallenged can leave the lives of countless Christians devastated and shipwrecked. It is the doctrine of cheap grace. It is a brand of Christianity that is not new. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote about it during the second world war years. Let us be warned, alerted and enlightened so we are not misled and deceived. Not all that sounds good or taste sweet is naturally or for that matter spiritually good and healthy. We must have the resolve to only consume healthy life-giving "food"! The following excerpt of Bonhoeffer's writings is highly insightful and I strongly commend them to your prayer reading. WAC is committed to grow healthy, fruitful disciples. Our understanding of grace and true discipleship is vital to achieve that goal. Let us seriously reflect upon what is Biblical discipleship. Bonhoeffer has got the idea of grace and discipleship so right. May we get the help of the Holy Spirit to clearly see all the errors, extremes, imbalances and discern the truth from the false.

Grace and Discipleship

Cheap grace is the deadly enemy of our Church. We are fighting today for costly grace. Cheap grace means grace sold on the market like cheapjacks' wares. The sacraments, the forgiveness of sin, and the consolations of religion are thrown away at cut prices. Grace is represented as the Church's inexhaustible treasury, from which she showers blessings with generous hands, without asking questions or fixing limits. Grace without price; grace without cost! The essence of grace, we suppose, is that the account has been paid in advance; and, because it has been paid, everything can be had for nothing.

Cheap grace means grace as a doctrine, a principle, a system. It means forgiveness of sins proclaimed as a general truth, the love of God taught as the Christian 'conception' of God. An intellectual assent to that idea is held to be of itself sufficient to secure remission of sins.... In such a Church the world finds a cheap covering for its sins; no contrition is required, still less any real desire to be delivered from sin. Cheap grace therefore amounts to a denial of the living Word of God, in fact, a denial of the Incarnation of the Word of God.

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

Office: 11 St. Andrew's Road S(178959) | Tel: 63376104 | Fax: 63391197 | Email: wacoffice@livingstreams.org.sg | website: www.livingstreams.org.sg/wac

EVERY MEMBER A FRUIT BEARING DISCIPLE

Cheap grace means the justification of sin without the justification of the sinner. Grace alone does everything they say, and so everything can remain as it was before. 'All for sin could not atone.' Well, then, let the Christian live like the rest of the world, let him model himself on the world's standards in every sphere of life, and not presumptuously aspire to live a different life under grace from his old life under sin.

Cheap grace is the grace we bestow on ourselves. Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate.

Costly grace is the treasure hidden in the field; for the sake of it a man will gladly go and sell all that he has. It is the pearl of great price to buy which the merchant will sell all his goods. It is the kingly rule of Christ, for whose sake a man will pluck out the eye which causes him to stumble, it is the call of Jesus Christ at which the disciple leaves his nets and follows him.

Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son: "ye were bought at a price," and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is grace because God did not reckon his Son too dear a price to pay for our life, but delivered him up for us. Costly grace is the Incarnation of God.

Costly grace is the sanctuary of God; it has to be protected from the world, and not thrown to the dogs. It is therefore the living word, the Word of God, which he speaks as it pleases him. Costly grace confronts us as a gracious call to follow Jesus. It comes as a word of forgiveness to the broken spirit and the contrite heart. Grace is costly because it compels a man to submit to the yoke of Christ and follow him; it is grace because Jesus says: "My yoke is easy and my burden is light."

On two separate occasions Peter received the call, "Follow me." It was the first and last word Jesus spoke to his disciple (Mark 1.17; John 21.22). A whole life lies between these two calls. The first occasion was by the lake of Gennesareth, when Peter left his nets and his craft and followed Jesus at his word. The second occasion is when the Risen Lord finds him back again at his old trade. Once again it is by the lake of Gennesareth, and once again the call is: "Follow me." Between the two calls lay a whole life of discipleship in the following of Christ. Half-way between them comes Peter's confession, when he acknowledged Jesus as the Christ of God.

This grace was certainly not self-bestowed. It was the grace of Christ himself, now prevailing upon the disciple to leave all and follow him, now working in him that confession which to the world must sound like the ultimate blasphemy, now inviting Peter to the supreme fellowship of martyrdom for the Lord he had denied, and thereby

forgiving him all his sins. In the life of Peter grace and discipleship are inseparable. He had received the grace which costs.

As Christianity spread, and the Church became more secularized, this realization of the costliness of grace gradually faded. The world was Christianized, and grace became its common property. It was to be had at low cost.

Let us embrace costly grace.

DUTY SCHEDULE

	Today <u>04th October</u>	Next Week <u>11th October (H.C.)</u>
Chairperson	Chia Siew Choo	Kelvin Koo
Speaker	Revd Timothy Chow	Mr Ralph Parker
Worship Leader	Liow Zhong Fa	Wong Seng Choon
Music Team	Joanie, Althea, Andy, Jun Hoong, Jonathan	Denny, Kah Mun, Jonathan, Jethro, Jimmy, Tony
Projectionist	Priscilla, Scarlet	Rachel, Violet
Soundworks	Janice Leow	Carol Elizabeth Wee
H.C. Server	-	Raymond, Tony, Kevin
Intercessory Prayer	Susy Tan	Joyce Chow
Scripture Reader	Pamela Pung	Anita Tay

WDS - DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

DATE	PROGRAM
09 October	No WDT
16 October	WDT - Final check
23 October	WDT - Fellowship / Evangelism
30 October	Corporate Prayer Meeting

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

MISSIONS

MISSIONS FUNDS NEEDED IN 2009	:	\$20,000
AMOUNT COLLECTED TO DATE	:	\$14,262.50

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Team going on 16 – 19 October: Pastor Timothy, Hui Ling, Siew Choo, Kwee Hoon, Cynthia, Lars, Janice & Gladys
- Pastor Kittikhun and his team as they prepare for the camp.
- 69 people who signed up for the camp.