

ANNOUNCEMENTS For more information, please approach Gladys or Priscilla.

1. "Survival Skills as Children Grow And Change"

Family Wellness Talk 4

29 August 2009, 3pm @ Thanksgiving Room
Cost: Adults - \$3 Youth - F.O.C

2. Mid Autumn Festival Celebration

26 September 2009 @ WCRC
Special guest singer invited.
Invite your family and friends to this event. More details to be out soon!

3. Diocesan Family Day

21 September 2009, 9.30am - 3pm @ St. Andrew's Cathedral
Get your tickets today at the Admin Counter. \$10/ticket.
There will be food stalls galore, great fun games, handicraft stalls, street soccer, special children's play zone, community services booths and the launch of the Centenary commemorative book.

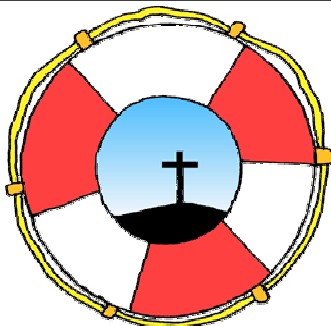
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August	29	(Sat)	Family Wellness Talk 4
	30	(Sun)	Council Meeting
September	19	(Sat)	WAC Leaders' Retreat
	21	(Mon)	Diocesan Family Day
	25	(Fri)	Corporate Prayer Meeting
	26	(Sat)	Mid Autumn Festival Celebrations
	27	(Sun)	Council Meeting

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)
9.5AM 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

23 August 2009

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE UNDER GRACE? PART II

Those words speak for themselves, but I will paraphrase just for the sake of it; the Law outlines sin, tells us what sin is so we can turn away from it and live the right way. The Law is not for the righteous, but for those who are lawless, to lead them to obedience and to walk in the way of the Law, the way that is according to the Gospel of God. Later, the same Paul writes: Rom 7:6-7 – But now, by dying to what once bound us, **we have been released from the law** so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit, and not in the old way of the written code. What shall we say, then? **Is the law sin? Certainly not!** Indeed **I would not have known what sin was except through the law.** For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet."

Again, he says that the Law of the Almighty Yah is there to show us what is the right thing to do. The very Law we have been released from (that we've died to) is the same Law that tells us what sin is! There is no way to escape that fact. Although there's a release from, death to this Law, it does seem that the actions are still in accordance to that Law, just as the married woman from the earlier example. John, another apostolic writer, wrote these words: 1 Jn 3:4 – Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.

This is paraphrased and expounded on by Paul: Rom 6:15 -18 – What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? **Certainly not!** Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet **you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.** And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

The question that we all should ask in light of this is: if we are free from the Law, then are we allowed to break this Law? What we have read so far gives us the answer: No, we are to avoid sin and 1 Jn 3:4 explains that sin is lawlessness, because breaking the law is sin. The question that follows, then, is this: What does it mean to be free from the law?

Why are we released from the law? In response to this question, let's look again at Paul's writings. Rom 8:1-4 – Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ

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



Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. For **what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature**, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the **righteous requirements of the law** might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.
 Ever thorough, Paul says here that there was nothing wrong with the Law. In fact, its “requirements” are called “righteous”. The Law was unable to save. And, of course, it still is.

Mankind’s sinful nature is what is wrong with the Law, not the Law itself (indeed, Paul says the Law was supposed to “bring life”, Rom 7:10). Thus, we had to be released from the Law, which requires blood for sin and indeed by the atoning blood of Jesus we were freed from it. If we repent, our sins are not counted against us (Rom 4:7-8; Psalm 13:1-2).

But this justification by faith existed even before our Messiah first walked on the earth after becoming human: Gen 15:6 And he [Abraham] believed in the LORD, and **He accounted it to him for righteousness**.

Heb 11:17-19 - **By faith** Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

Heb 11:28 - **By faith** he [Moses] kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

Here, we’ve read that Abraham’s faith led to such obedience that God saw him fit to be the one through which we receive the promise (to become heir of the world; Rom 4:13) as his descendants: Rom 4:16 – Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all

Gal 3:29 – And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.

It is through faith that Moses obeyed the Lord Yahweh his God when he kept the Passover and that Abraham passed the test that is seen by so many as the type of God’s own sacrifice for us. And it is that faith and love for God (which leads to obedience) that God sees and accounts to us as righteousness. This is not to say that without the death of Abraham’s Seed, there would still be salvation for Abraham. On the contrary, it shows to me that – in terms of how God sees His people, and imparts forgiveness – the Passover death of Christ transcends even time. Nevertheless, the unity of love and obedience is seen very clearly in these ancient examples. And as we see from Scripture: Jn 14:15 – “If you love Me [Jesus], keep My commandments. 1 Jn 5:2-3 - By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

...To be continued

DUTY SCHEDULE

	Today <u>23rd August (H.C.)</u>	Next Week <u>30th August</u>
Chairperson	Ng Siew Choo	Wong Seng Choon
Speaker	Dean Kuan	Dr. Joseph Akintunde
Worship Leader	Zhong Fa	Joanie
Music Team	Janice, Rebecca, Eunice, Carolyn, Matthew, Sean	Destiny Impact
Projectionist	Violet, Priscilla	Elissa, Rachel
Soundworks	Eric Matthew Sng	Carol Elizabeth Wee
H.C. Server	Raymond, Tony	Raymond, Tony, Kevin
Intercessory Prayer	Susy Tan	Susy Tan
Scripture Reader	Yvonne Lim	Yvonne Lim

WISDOMSHIP TRAINING

DATE	PROGRAM
28 August	WDT 11
04 September	WDT 12
11 September	No WDT
18 September	WDT - Evangelism

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	:	S\$20,000
AMOUNT COLLECTED TO DATE	:	S\$11,307.50

PRAY FOR CHRIST CHURCH SAWANG DAENDIN:

Date: 16 to 20 October

Camp speaker and the team going to Sawang Daendin.

