



# CHURCH NEWS

## october 2016



### UPCOMING:

**Reclaiming Parliament Oct 22 -  
Vicki Janson**

**Reclaiming Education Oct 15 -  
Jacob Mathews**

**Summer Camp Registrations now open!**

## From the Pastor

# The Eyes of Faith

*"And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?"*

*So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."*

*And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see."*

*Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha." (2 Kings 6:17)*

2 Kings 6:8-22 tells us the account of the army of Syria hunting down the prophet Elisha, and what happened when they met.

Elisha's servant saw no escape with his physical eyes but Elisha had a different mode of vision: one that included the spiritual realm, and the power of God. This view of circumstances showed the true state of reality.

If you read the rest of the story, Elisha walks out to meet the army and instead of being captured, he captures the Syrian army with the prayer: 'Strike these people, I pray, with blindness'.

**We need to train ourselves to live by the same mode of vision that Elisha had, instead of relying solely on what our physical eyes see.**

## How can we do this?

### 1. Accept the Invitation

You are commissioned to live in the same supernatural vision and power as Elisha and Jesus did. When Jesus sent out his disciples two by two to "heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, [c]ast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give." (Matt 10:8), we know that it was not just for that particular time.

Why? Because the disciples continued to do these things long after Jesus ascended into heaven. This means that they understood it to be part of the Great Commission. This also means that healing the sick, raising the dead and casting out demons is also *your* mission.

However, these things cannot be achieved without the kind of vision that Elisha had: the eyes of faith that see beyond the natural. It may seem that the ordinary human being cannot do these things, yet Jesus tells us, "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you." (Luke 10:19) Do you accept this mission?

### 2. Let the Word of God change the way you see

*And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Rom 12:2)*

God's ways are far superior than anything the world could teach you. All His principles for relationships, raising children, managing your finances, dealing with difficulty and sickness – and more – are found in His Word. Read His Word, memorise it and apply it. Make God's way of living your own and you will find that your vision will be become more like His.

### 2. Strengthen your faith

Romans 10:17 says "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

Read your Bible aloud, listen to audio Bibles and sermons so that your faith grows.

Faith must also be used in order for it to be strong – so put that faith to action by believing God's Word and acting on it. Then you will personally experience how reliable and powerful His Word is.

### 3. Pray in the Spirit

The Bible tells us, "He who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men, but to God for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries...He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself" (1 Cor 14:2, 4).

The root word 'edify' means 'to build up, establish'. If you have received this gift, use it! Use it as often, wherever and whenever your mouth is free. You will find that it becomes easier to understand the Bible, to hear from God, to obey God and walk in faith.

If you don't yet have this gift, ask God for it! We are told to desire spiritual gifts (1 Cor 14:1), the gift of tongues is listed amongst the other manifestations of the Spirit in 1 Corinthians 12:7-10.

You are now a new creation, made with the same spiritual DNA as your Father in Heaven who created all things. You were made for a life of faith. You were made to see like Elisha did. Let us all accept God's invitation to live by faith and be diligent to both grow in and live by faith. See with the eyes of faith!

## Father's Day

Rachel, Uncle Wingkee and Pastor Yong



↓ Sunday School Father's Day encouragement: Rise up, you people of power!



↓ Father's Day gift presentation



↓ Sunday School Father's Day encouragement: Rise up, you people of power!



# announcements

## RECLAIMING EDUCATION: SAT OCT 15

ECCC: The Covenant Church is proud to host the Principal of Lighthouse Christian College Cranbourne, Jacob Mathews. Join us and invite your friends to hear about how God is already at work, and catch His passion and purpose for the Education sector.

## RECLAIMING PARLIAMENT: SAT OCT 22

Join us to hear the well-qualified Vickie Janson share her journey and her passion for God's vision of our Government, and pray together to see a shift in the spiritual atmosphere of our parliaments.

## WANTED: SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Please see Jedidah or Pastor Jasmine if you would like to help with our Sunday School classes!



*This month we are talking about...*

**The 7 mountains of influence in our Saturday services, & Come and See my Jesus in our Sunday services.**

### Remember!

Missions Offering is taken up the first week of each month.

## Register for Summer Camp now!

This year's Summer Camp will be held on the last weekend of November, and is open to all high school, university age students and young adults. Invite your friends and those of similar age - it will be a great time of outreach, establishing faith and seeking God in worship and the Word of God.

Visit [www.covenantchurch.org.au](http://www.covenantchurch.org.au) to register now!

# Mission Updates October

## ■ Celebrate Messiah

After a hugely successful online campaign, Celebrate Messiah is preparing to send out more than 2100 copies of the Isaiah 53 Explained book to Jewish seekers and those with Jewish friends here in Australia.

This chapter of Isaiah is not normally read by Orthodox Jews in the Synagogue and is unknown to many of them.

During this time of year, many Orthodox Jews are seeking God for forgiveness of sins and praying to have their names written in the Book of Life.

> **Let us pray that many will have a revelation of Jesus as their Messiah and the one whom Isaiah 53 so clearly speaks about.**

## ■ ACCI Missions

Ps. Alun Davies, National director of ACCI Missions reports that in the last year, our missionaries planted 53 new churches, trained 9216 leaders, led 5598 people to salvation and saw 1082 water baptisms and 1237 baptisms in the Holy Spirit. In addition, our community development programs have assisted over 78,000 people.

> **Let's keep praying for the 183 missionaries that are supported by ACCI across the globe, especially those who are in restrictive countries such as the Muslim countries in North Africa and the Middle East.**

## ■ Mt. Moriah Trust

The Mount Moriah Trust is a U.K. based charity which supports 44 Arab and Jewish churches in Israel.

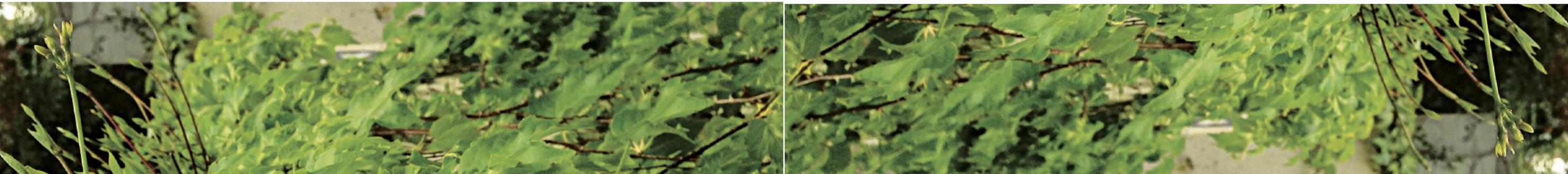
One of the ministries supported is the House of Victory in Haifa. It is a rehabilitation centre in northern Israel led by Eric Benson that welcomes both Jewish and Arab drug addicts and alcoholics.

Many men arrive at the centre almost dead. Some are picked up off the streets of Haifa whilst others knock on the door asking for help. Years of drug or alcohol abuse have reduced them to being homeless, thieves and beggars. Having lost their integrity and pride, they are out of work and incapable of caring or providing for their families (many are married with children). The hopelessness in the faces of these men is painfully obvious.

Within days of their arrival at the centre, there is a stark difference in their eyes. An almost unrecognisable transformation takes place as the power of addiction is broken. This is done through prayer, reading the Word of God and the power of the Holy Spirit. There are many stories of marriages and families being restored!

Most amazing of all is to see how Jews, many from the former Soviet Union, and Arabs are being treated together at the centre. Critics said it was impossible, but through the power of God the hostility between the groups is removed to the point of it being hard to tell who is who!

> **Eric says: "Please continue to pray with us for our Tel Aviv ministry to the homeless addicts and prostitutes. Only the anointing of God can break the yoke of bondage."**



# Our church

Eastern Chinese Christian Church (ECCC): The Covenant Church is a church located in Mount Waverley and ministering to the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne, Australia.

Our Sunday services are conducted in both English and Mandarin Chinese.

**Sunday Service 星期日中英文聚会**  
1.45pm-4.00pm

**Saturday Service 星期六英文聚会**  
6.30pm-9.00pm

**Service Location 教会地点**  
23 Grenfell Rd,  
Mount Waverley VIC 3149, Australia

星期六在教会 7.30pm-10.00pm

**Uni Bible Study**  
Monday at Church Office 7.30-9.30pm

**Church Office 教会联络地址**  
9 Anthony St,  
North Dandenong, Vic 3175

After Hours Phone: (03) 9792 1541

**Online Donation 网上奉献**  
Account name: Eastern Christian  
Chinese Church Inc.

BSB: 033 186  
Account number: 578 222

**Contact us**  
[www.covenantchurch.org.au](http://www.covenantchurch.org.au)

[eccc1melb@yahoo.com.au](mailto:eccc1melb@yahoo.com.au)

**Senior Pastors**  
Mee-Chai (Jasmine) & Kwong Yew Yong

0425 786 574 & 0409 177 183

**Ps Enoch Lavender**  
0415 452 850

**Youth Pastor**  
Melissa Yong



## We support these ministries:

### ■ EMPART

Reaching out to millions in India through 20,000+ churches planted since 1998, 4000+ church planters who are indigenous believers, bible schools, leadership training, mentoring, women's ministries, skills centres, children's homes and schools, mercy homes for the poor, widowed and disabled, medical teams and more...  
[www.empart.org.au](http://www.empart.org.au)

### ■ KENNETH COPELAND MINISTRIES

An international Bible-based teaching ministry that broadcasts the news that Jesus is Lord no matter where you are, and that the Word of God is the final authority.  
[www.kcm.org](http://www.kcm.org)

### ■ CELEBRATE MESSIAH

A ministry that shares the love of the Messiah Jesus Christ with Jewish people in Australia, and includes a messianic congregation in Melbourne that provides Hebrew classes and outreaches to Jewish people in need.  
[celebratemessiah.com.au](http://celebratemessiah.com.au)

### ■ EBENEZER

A Christian organisation that helps Jewish people return to Israel in fulfilment of Biblical prophecy. They provide humanitarian aid to the poor and needy in Jewish communities of the former Soviet Union, Israel and elsewhere.  
[www.operation-exodus.org](http://www.operation-exodus.org)

### ■ CHINESE CHRISTIAN MISSION AUSTRALIA

CCMA minister to Chinese-speaking communities Australia-wide.  
[www.ccma.org.au](http://www.ccma.org.au)

### ■ OUR DAILY BREAD MINISTRIES

Formerly Radio Bible Class (RBC) distribute ≥60 million bible resources in 150 countries, mostly for free. These are available via podcasts, books, mobile app, radio or television broadcast, DVD, and their website.  
[www.ourdailybread.org](http://www.ourdailybread.org)

### ■ MORIAH TRUST

The Mount Moriah Trust is a U.K. based charity which supports 44 Arab and Jewish churches in Israel.

### ■ ACCI WORLD MISSIONS & RELIEF

ACCI support individuals engaged in missions work internationally, by developing holistic and sustainable solutions to combat injustice, poverty and reinstate the value of life.  
[www.accimissions.org.au](http://www.accimissions.org.au)