

I Was Not Ready

In the stillness of the night, a piercing sound shattered the tranquility. Jolted from a deep sleep, my heart pounded as the relentless beeping echoed through the house. Groggy and disoriented, I stumbled out of bed, fumbling for the light switch. My first thought was that the security alarm had gone off, but its indicators looked fine. Yet, the beeping continued. After a moment of confusion, it became clear that the culprit was a smoke detector's low battery—but which one? Unprepared for such an interruption in the middle of the night, I scrambled to locate the source of the sound. Finding it brought only a fleeting moment of relief—I realized we might not have the right replacement battery. Defeated, my wife found earplugs while I tossed and turned until daylight allowed us to finally acquire the right battery and stop the maddening beeping.

With peace and sanity restored, I took a moment to reflect on the importance of being prepared. In life's busyness, I'd missed the early signs—the smoke detector's steady green light had turned into a sporadic, blinking yellow. When the relentless beeping finally came, I found myself without the right replacement battery. Fortunately, the consequences weren't too severe—just some sleep deprivation and an unexpected trip to buy batteries.

I continued to ponder the importance of being spiritually prepared. The Bible offers numerous signs of Jesus' return, urging believers to remain vigilant. In Matthew 24:7, Jesus says, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places," signaling global unrest and natural disasters as precursors. Additionally, 2 Timothy 3:1-5 highlights societal changes: "But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive..." These signs remind Christians to stay spiritually prepared, always watching and waiting for Christ's imminent return.

The Bible also teaches us many ways to prepare for Christ's return, and here are three of my favorites. First, strive to be more like Christ: "All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure" (1 John 3:3). By daily seeking to emulate His love, compassion, humility, and purity, we pursue becoming more like Him before we see Him. Second, be prepared to endure suffering: "But the one who stands firm to the end will be saved" (Matthew 24:13). Holding onto our faith in His sovereignty and goodness, we remain steadfast regardless of any suffering or persecutions that may come our way. Lastly, faithfully carry out what He has entrusted to us: "It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns" (Luke 12:43). By diligently serving others and fulfilling our callings, we actively participate in God's work, making a difference in the world.

You may or may not encounter beeping smoke alarms, but Christ's return is certain. I pray that we will all be prepared and ready.

REDMOND CAMPUS WORSHIP SERVICE | 10/27/2024

Worship through Praise
Congregational Prayer & the Lord's Prayer
Worship through the Word
Worship in Response
Doxology & Benediction
Welcome and Announcements

*Offering is a part of our worship to God.
Free-will offering box is located on the Welcome Table by the Worship Hall doors.
Online Offering: <https://eccseattle.org/en/give/>*

Message from Minister Christopher Hui
"The Extent of the Resurrection"
1 Corinthians 15:20-34

*Missed a sermon or want to share it? Listen to it at
www.eccseattle.org/media/sermons*

SUNDAY SCHOOL	TOPIC	LOCATION
CHILDREN	Elementary Worship and Sunday School Message	9:30 AM Room 106
	Preschool	9:30 AM Rooms 114-116
YF (JUNIOR HIGH)	Newish #4 (Room M101)	
YSF (SENIOR HIGH)	Christian Spiritual Practices (Room M106)	
ADULT/COLLEGE	Q&A Session with RED-ENG Council (English Worship Hall)	
SERVANT TEAM	TODAY	NEXT WEEK
SPEAKER	Christopher Hui	Ryan Summers
WORSHIP	Jordan Ott	Sing Wee
MODERATOR	Billy Tang	Scott Heimberger
DOOR ROTATION	William Cui, Lucy Liu	Sing Wee

Prayers for Our ECC Community

PRAISES AND PRAYERS

COMMON GROUND (COLLEGE GROUP)

- Praise God for lots of new people and new freshman joining CG!
- Praise God for a great start to the year with Kickoff and Corn Maze.
- Praise God for the number of people who want to get involved, such as with serving on the worship team or serving during CG Sunday.
- Pray that our small group time of Bible study will be fruitful and that we learn a lot from 1 John.
- Pray for good health as we enter cold and flu season, and pray that those who are sick be healed.
- Pray for focus, good time management, and discipline as we tackle midterms, projects, and exams.

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Grace Li is serving COCM (Chinese Overseas Christian Mission) in the UK area. She started a Bible study group for some new students. Church planting has been implemented smoothly and their first worship service started in July. Praise the Lord, who blessed Grace's trip to China, where she could visit family members and friends. This visit mutually strengthened her and others who live in

areas where their faith is being challenged.

Thank God for saving her life and preventing her from side effects when she experienced an intracranial hematoma. Please pray for October outreach activities – may the Lord provide them with opportunities to contact Chinese-speaking students and groups. Pray that God grants Grace and her team wisdom in prioritizing their workload and getting needed help.

PRAY FOR THE WORLD

- Please pray for the people of Lebanon who are caught in the midst of the conflict. May God preserve them from the airstrikes and the battles between Israel and Hezbollah, especially the many Christian communities and churches. May the Lord comfort those who have suffered loss and help them find refuge from the violence of war.
- Please pray for Cuba as they face the hurricane season without a fully functioning power grid. May the Lord help the government repair the power plants, preserve those in the path of the storm, and be gracious and merciful to those who have suffered loss.

*For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;
as far as the earth is from the west, so far has he
removed our transgressions from us.*

Psalms 103:11-12



REDMOND ANNOUNCEMENTS

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS SUNDAY, 11/3

Don't forget - Daylight Saving Time ends at 2 am on 11/3. Please set your clocks BACK one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.



STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATE

Stephen Ministry equips members of our congregation to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. After 50 hours of training, a Stephen Minister meets weekly with a care receiver to listen, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support. Are you interested in becoming a Stephen Minister? A new training course will begin on January 9, 2025. Please stop by the Stephen Ministry table today or reach out via email (Red-StephenMinistry@eccseattle.org) for more information.

KINDRED PRAYER MEETING

10/29 (TUE) | 7 - 8:30 PM | DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

Please come and join your sisters and brothers from the Kindred churches for a time of worship, reflection, and prayer.

BAPTISM CLASS

11/3 & 11/10 (SUN) | 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM | ROOM 107

If you are interested in baptism or would like to learn more about baptism, please join us for our next series of baptism classes on 11/3 and 11/10. Baptisms will happen on 12/1. To sign up or if you have any questions, please email Koby Leung (koby@pipingcold.com).

JOINT SUNDAY SCHOOL — THE AFTER PARTY: TOWARD BETTER CHRISTIAN POLITICS

11/3 - 12/15 | 11:15 AM | ENGLISH WORSHIP HALL

We invite you to join the Joint Sunday School class for both the Mandarin and English congregations on the intersection of faith and politics. This is a valuable opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue with humility and prayer. The class features resources from Redeeming Babel ("The After Party") with videos and breakout discussions, all in English.

RSVP FOR LUNCH IN NOVEMBER

Please place your Sunday lunch order ahead of time at:

<https://bit.ly/Lunch-NOV>

To reduce food waste, if your lunch plans change, please find the "ECC-RED lunch survey" in your email and click on the purple "Edit Response" button ASAP to help us track quantities accurately.



WE ARE HIRING: FACILITIES MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR (FMC)

ECC is seeking a dedicated Facilities Management Coordinator (FMC) who will be responsible for the overall management, maintenance, and operation of ECC's multiple facilities to ensure the functionality, safety, comfort, and sustainability of these spaces. Please visit <https://eccseattle.org/en/open-positions/> for details.

