

WELCOME (15minutes)

Choose one of the following icebreakers:

(If you have first-time guests, begin with a round of introduction and warmly welcome the new visitors.)

1. Telepathic

Divide your group into two. Have two persons from each team, stretch their palms to touch the other person's palm and both are to speak out simultaneously to see if they can guess correctly what is on each other's mind. Example: the leader would say, name a fruit (or animal, superheroes, countries etc). If both say apple, then the team scores 3 points. However, if they get it wrong, they will be given 2 more chances. If they get it right the second time, the team scores 2 points and if they get it right at the last try, it will be 1 point. Do as many rounds as possible. The team with the most points wins.



2. Chewing Gum

This game is to get everybody to do as the leader say. Example: Leader will say, "Chewing Gum" and the group will say, "stick where?" Then when the leader says, "stick on your head", everybody will then put their hands on their heads. Next, when the leader says, "Chewing Gum", again the group will say, "Stick where?". And when the leader says, "stick to the door", everybody will then rush to the door and place their hands on the door, and so on and so forth.

Transition to Worship:

With our whole being we praise You. We rejoice in knowing that You are our God, and that we are the people You watch over and the flock under Your care. Thank You, Lord! We bless Your holy Name!

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following suggested worship songs:

- 1) Let The Praises Ring (E)
- 2) Glorious Day (G)
- 3) Great Are You Lord (D)
- 4) Hosanna (Be Lifted Higher) (D)

Wait upon the Lord and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to everyone who hungers for His presence. Encourage the release of words, visions, tongues and interpretation of tongues - to minister to the people who are present.

Transition to Word:

Father, Your Word is more desirable than gold, yes, even the finest gold. Your Word is sweeter than honey dripping from the honeycomb. Your Word warns us and we expect great reward as we adhere to it. Father, You are great and greatly to be praised. We will bless You at all times and constantly speak of Your praises.

WORD (45minutes)

Memory verse of the week: Hebrews 12:7

Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father?

Sermon Title: The Shepherd's Heart

By DSP Rev Daniel Khong

on 23 & 24 Mar 19

Scripture: John 10:10-18 (NLT)

¹⁰ The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life. ¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep. ¹² A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will abandon the sheep because they don't belong to him and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because he's working only for the money and doesn't really care about the sheep. ¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, ¹⁵ just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They will listen to my voice, and there will be one flock with one shepherd. ¹⁷ "The Father loves me because I sacrifice my life so I may take it back again. ¹⁸ No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded."

Introduction

God desires all of His children to have a shepherd's heart. Often we thought a shepherd's heart is meant only for pastors and for cell leaders. But since Jesus is our Shepherd with a shepherd's heart, therefore we who are his disciples, should have a shepherd heart to love and serve others.

What does it mean to have a shepherd's heart? There are 3 characteristics of a shepherd's heart:

1. Not selfish but sacrificial
2. Not Intimidated but courageous
3. Not indifferent but compassionate

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. According to John 10:10-18, what does it mean to have a shepherd's heart?

A1. The difference between a shepherd and a hired hand is a shepherd is willing to sacrifice his life for his sheep, whereas a hired hand will run away when he sees the wolf coming. A hired hand works only for money and does not care for the sheep. Having a shepherd's heart means a willingness to sacrifice our lives to care and serve others like Jesus.

John 10:11 (NLT)

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.

John 10:17-18 (NIVUK)

¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.

Matthew 20:26-28 (NIVUK)

²⁶ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever wants to be first must be your slave – ²⁸ just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

Q2. How did David demonstrate his shepherd's heart?

A2. David had killed lions and bears before when these animals had threatened his sheep. When Israel was intimidated by Goliath, David was willing to go and fight him. Having a shepherd's heart means we are not intimidated by fear but having courage to overcome fear and willing to fight to protect our sheep against the enemy.

1 Samuel 17:32-37 (NLT)

³² "Don't worry about this Philistine," David told Saul. "I'll go fight him!" ³³ "Don't be ridiculous!" Saul replied. "There's no way you can fight this Philistine and possibly win! You're only a boy, and he's been a man of war since his youth." ³⁴ But David persisted. "I have been taking care of my father's sheep and goats," he said. "When a lion or a bear comes to steal a lamb from the flock, ³⁵ I go after it with a club and rescue the lamb from its mouth. If the animal turns on me, I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. ³⁶ I have done this to both lions and bears, and I'll do it to this pagan Philistine, too, for he has defied the armies of the living God! ³⁷ The Lord who rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear will rescue me from this Philistine!" Saul finally consented. "All right, go ahead," he said. "And may the Lord be with you!"

Q3. How did the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:30-37 show us that having a shepherd's heart mean not to be indifferent but to be compassionate?

A3. To have a shepherd's heart means we must be compassionate and not be indifferent to the needs around us. The Good Samaritan was commended by Jesus for not being indifferent to the injured man who was waylaid by robbers but he had compassion and tended to the man's wound even going out of his way to pay for his stay in the inn.

Luke 10:30-35 (NIVUK)

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: 'A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half-dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he travelled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said, "and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have." ³⁶ 'Which of these three do you think was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?' ³⁷ The expert in the law replied, 'The one who had mercy on him.' Jesus told him, 'Go and do likewise.'

Application Questions:

Break into smaller groups, share, pray and minister to one another on what have been discussed.

- 1) In what ways have you experienced the shepherd's heart of God in your life?
- 2) How can you develop a shepherd's heart for God?

Family Altar Time (F.A.T.)

(Cell Leader: Encourage your members to be faithful in keeping the weekly F.A.T. and refer them to this segment of the 4Ws for suggestions for their F.A.T. A possible time for the F.A.T. is after a meal together, say during the weekend.)

Use the second icebreaker in the WELCOME segment above or any appropriate icebreaker of your own choosing, and select worship songs that are meaningful to your family. If they are old enough, ask your children to select the songs and lead worship, and take this opportunity to teach them skills in waiting on God, praying, and leading with a servant's heart and as a willing vessel for God.

After worship, you may wish to:

- 1) Discuss last Sunday's Family Bible Study in the Living Life journal, or
- 2) Review your children's take-home materials from GKidz, or
- 3) Review and discuss this week's memory verse, or
- 4) Have one person read John 10:10-13, another read John 10:14-18, and another, 1 Samuel 17:32-37.

With reference to the **Introduction** and the **Discovery and Understanding Questions** of the **WORD** segment above, lead in the following discussion.

Question: What is a shepherd and what are his main responsibilities?

[Let your family members answer spontaneously. A shepherd is a person who looks after sheep. His main responsibilities include caring for the sheep, providing for their physical needs like food and water, protecting them from harm and danger, e.g., the wild animals that prey on them, and leading them so they do not go astray and missing.]

Question: With reference to the passages we have read in John 10 and 1 Samuel 17, what are some characteristics of the heart of a good shepherd?

[Let your family members answer freely. With reference to the attitudes and actions of Jesus in protecting us and David in fighting for God's people, some answers include – protective instinct, sense of responsibility, willingness to make sacrifices and actually doing so, caring for his sheep and knowing them well. Then explain that in his message last weekend, DSP Daniel spoke about three characteristics of a shepherd's heart - not being selfish but sacrificial; not Intimidated but courageous; not indifferent but compassionate.]

Question: Who do you think needs to have the heart of a shepherd?

[Let your family members respond freely. Then highlight that not only do pastors and leaders need to have a shepherd's heart, all of us Christians need to imitate Christ and his shepherd's heart, especially to those who are in need (see Jesus' reply to the lawyer's question on who is our neighbor, in Luke 10:28-37, which basically tells us it is not a matter of who our neighbor is but a matter of showing ourselves to be neighbours of those who are in need).]

Question: What characteristic of Jesus' shepherd heart do you most need to develop? How can you develop this characteristic?

[Let your family members share freely and take note of the answers when closing in prayer.]

End by praying for each other that you will develop the characteristics of a shepherd's heart so others will be blessed and God will be glorified. Pray also for the salvation of pre-believing family members, relatives and friends.

Transition to Works:

God has promised in His Word that He will be with us and will empower us for His work, so that we can do the impossible through His power. He is a faithful God and will fulfil as He has promised in His Word. Let us now move with the confidence of His Word and His faithfulness to establish His Word in our lives as we reach out to our 3x3 and as we embark on running XFXZ or Alpha groups.

WORKS (15minutes)

1. 幸福小组 (XFXZ) – Week 5/Topic 5: When the Lord comes knocking (25 - 31 Mar)

- Review last weekend's training and improve on this week's XFXZ session.
- Continue praying in unity for your 'Best' to experience the power of the gospel and to know God.
- Re-confirm attendance of your 'Best' as early as possible.
- Pre-meeting: arrive earlier to prepare for the meeting. Pray half an hour before 'Best' arrive.
- Post-meeting: debrief with the XFXZ members on this week's meeting.
- Continue to build relationship with your 'Best' and follow up after the session. Look for practical ways and find an opportunity to express care and encourage them to come for next week's XFXZ.

2. 3x3 Prayer

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the strongholds that bind the people. Ask Him to set divine appointments for us to minister His power over them (words of knowledge, healing, helps, etc.). Pray for one another for boldness, courage and obedience to follow through.

3. Inviting Friends to our Services

Continue to encourage one another to invite pre-believing friends to our weekend Services. Make time to listen to 'The Voice of God' for prophetic utterances that speak to our pre-believing friends' circumstances as a prelude to inviting them. In addition, take some time to discuss, plan an activity and pray toward achieving the goal you have set as a cell.

4. Connecting with your pre-believer friends

Create opportunities to do so - invite them for lunch/dinner/to go for a show; offer to babysit; buy groceries for them; buy them birthday gifts; do special things to make them feel loved and honored.

5. Consolidation of New Converts

Consolidate those who have accepted Christ - contact them via phone calls; meet up with them over a meal; make house visits; introduce them to members of the cell and invite them to fellowship with the faith community during cell meetings and celebration Services. Make them feel belonged.

Introduce them to **LifeClass**. **LifeClass** is an exciting package of equipping that guides new believers through the foundations of their faith and leads them into a life-transforming encounter with Jesus. It does this through nine weeks of personal study, combined with fun and interactive classroom sessions of Bible teaching and an Encounter Weekend. It replaces the former Pre-Encounter Class, Encounter Weekend and Post Encounter. Please check out the Equipping page at our website or Mobile App. Visit <https://fcbc.org.sg/equipping/event-listing> for more details.

Announcements: _

Please visit <https://www.fcbc.org.sg/bulletin/> or our FCBC app for more details.