

4Ws for Week 24, 10 Jun - 16 Jun 2019

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. **Love Your Neighbour**

Place chairs in a circle according to the number of people in the cell minus one. Everyone to sit in the circle and have one person stand in the middle. That person will go up to someone and ask, “(name), do you love your neighbour?”. If the answer is:

- “NO”, then those on either side of the one who answered will have to quickly switch seats. As they try to switch seats, the one in the middle of the circle will try to sit in one of their seats as well. Note: the person who answered “NO” stays still while all this is going on around him/her. One person will be left without a seat.
- “YES”, then those on either side of the one who answered will remain in their seats. But the one who answered must continue to say: “Yes, I love my neighbour, but I would love them even more if they wore blue jeans.” Next, everyone with blue jeans will quickly switch seats, but the one in the middle of the circle must then try to find a seat so that a new player will take his/her place in the middle. This game can get very intense, but it is a fun way to get both kids and adults laughing and enjoying a splendid time together.

2. **Salt and pepper**

For this game, come up with pairs of items like ‘salt and pepper’, ‘sun and moon’, etc. Separate the pairs by writing only one of the item (e.g. either ‘salt’ or ‘pepper’) in a piece of paper, and stick them on each other’s back. Everyone will then walk around asking ‘yes’ or ‘no’ questions to find out what is the item written on their backs. The final step is to find those with the other item in their pair (e.g. ‘salt’ to find ‘pepper’, or vice versa), and the pair will then sit down together to learn three facts about each other.

Some suggested pairs: ‘fork and spoon’, ‘cats and dogs’, ‘father and mother’, ‘boy and girl’, ‘hand and leg’, ‘day and night’, ‘lock and key’, ‘pen and pencil’, ‘coffee and tea’, ‘black and white’, etc.

Materials needed: pen, paper, and scotch-tape.

Transition to Worship:

What a great time we had with the ice-breaker. Praise the Lord! Now let us prepare our hearts to enter into a time of celebration and to worship our Great God who deserves all glory and adoration!

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following suggested worship songs:

- 1) Glorious Day (G)
- 2) Forever Reign (D)
- 3) Great Are You Lord (D)
- 4) There Is None Like You – Lenny Leblanc (E)

Worship Leader to be sensitive in waiting upon the Lord for the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Do not rush but allow the Holy Spirit to work among us by encouraging the release of the gifts of the Holy Spirit – words of knowledge, visions, tongues and interpretation of tongues.

Transition to Word:

Lord Jesus, we love You, and we love Your ways. Thank You for Your Presence and ministry among us tonight. There is none like You, Lord! We praise Your great love for us. Be exalted in us! And now Lord, teach us Your word, as we open our hearts and incline our ears to Your instructions.

WORD (45minutes)

Memory verse of the week: Jeremiah 15:16 (NIV)

When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, Lord God Almighty.

Sermon Title: Amazing Grace

By Rev Daniel Khong

on 8-9 Jun 19

Scripture Passage: Titus 2:11-14 (NKJV)

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³ looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

Introduction

Last weekend's sermon is entitled "Amazing Grace". God's grace is really something that our whole faith is based on. And the one thing that makes God's grace so amazing is this thing called "Repentance". In essence, repentance is both the act of acknowledging and owning our sin, as well as recognizing that Jesus has saved us from our sin and empowered us to live according to His standards. The Greek word Paul uses for repentance is "metanoeo", which is to think differently, to reconsider, to change one's mind, heart and life for the better with an abhorrence towards one's sin.

As believers, the truth is that repentance is something so foundational in our faith that we cannot talk about grace without talking about repentance. And this is the reality: the fact that we get the chance to repent of our sins is in itself an act of the amazing grace of God.

There are two reasons why God's grace is so amazing. And it is because we have:

1. A Compassionate God in a Careless World
2. A Committed God in a Chaotic World

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. Why is repentance something so foundational in our faith?

A1. Both John the Baptist and Jesus Himself started their ministry with the message of repentance. They both felt the urgency to call people to repentance and live a life according to God's standards.

Matthew 3:1-2 (NKJV)

³ In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Matthew 4:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Q2. In what way is God a compassionate God even when we are careless towards His command?

A2. The fact that God even bothers to give us opportunities to repent is clearly a demonstration that He is a compassionate God. God deliberately withholds His judgment so that we can have a chance to repent. When we sin, God is definitely not happy but He has compassion on us and His desire is that none should perish. He knows we are prone to sin, but He chooses to demonstrate His compassion by being slow in getting angry and being filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.

2 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

⁹ The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.

Romans 6:23 New Living Translation (NLT)

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalm 86:15 (NLT)

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are a God of compassion and mercy, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.

Q3. It is said, "God is more committed to our repentance than we are". Do you think this statement makes sense?

A3. Consider the following:

Matthew 24:12,14 (NKJV)

¹²And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold... ¹⁴And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations..."

Jesus' purpose here on earth.

Luke 19:10 (NLT)

¹⁰"For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost."

And even towards the end, God still did not cease to seek and to save the lost. In the book of Revelation, in writing to the church at Laodicea for being lukewarm, God could have spat them out of His mouth. Instead, God chose to warn them first.

Revelation 3: 15-16 (NIVUK)

¹⁵"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶So, because you are lukewarm- neither hot nor cold- I am about to spit you out of my mouth."

And even though they might have forsaken Him, He still takes His commitment not to leave or forsake them. God would delay His judgement and He would raise up men and women to draw others to repentance.

Application Questions:

Break into smaller groups, share, pray and minister to one another.

Q1. As we reflect on the amazing grace of God in saving us from our sin, share what are some areas in your life that you need to confess and repent in order to “live soberly, righteously and godly in the present age”?

Q2. Quote: “*Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ, living and incarnate*”. - Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Discuss how we can stand firm in our faith against the teachings of cheap grace.

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 any of the icebreakers in the WELCOME segment above, or any other appropriate icebreaker, and select worship songs that are meaningful to your family. If they are old enough, ask your children to select the songs and lead the 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 to read Titus 2:11-12 and another person, Titus 2:13-14.

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

Question: What is an undeserved gift or favour that you received, which you appreciate very much? Tell us what it is, why you appreciate it, and how you felt about receiving it even though you did not deserve it.

[Let your family members respond spontaneously. State that these are examples of grace, which means a gift, favour or goodwill that is freely given, even though the recipient does not deserve it.]

Question: In what way does God give us grace?

[Let your family members answer this spontaneously. Some examples include the gift of life, being born into this family, Jesus’ coming into the world and dying for our sins, salvation and eternal life, the privilege of knowing Christ and of becoming a child of God, God’s mercy and forgiveness of our sins... We may not think of it this way, but even the opportunity to repent is God’s gift of grace to us!]

Summarise DSP Daniel’s message about how truly amazing God’s grace is, because He shows compassion even though the world does not care about living godly and righteous lives, and He is committed to the world and continues to be patient and to give us chance after chance to repent even though the world is in a chaos because of sin and unrighteousness.

Question: In view of the amazing grace of God, why might we not want to repent?

[Let your family members respond honestly and take note of their answers for prayer later. If we do not repent, it will be because we still want to live in sin and rebellion or because of the shame and guilt that we are carrying. Reinforce the idea that the amazing grace of God frees us from guilt and shame.]

End by thanking God for His amazing grace and pray that we will cultivate a lifestyle of daily repentance. Pray also for the pre-believing family members, relatives and friends, that they too may come to repentance and turn to Christ.

Transition to Works:

As the grace of God compels us to be more and more like Him, let's continue to share the love of God with those around us. Let's continue to follow up on the following:-

WORKS (15minutes)

1. COH – Harvest of Souls

- Continue to pray for the follow-up processes for all the new converts and those who have rededicated their lives at the rallies.
- Pray also for all the converts and guests to be invited to our weekend services, so that we can consolidate them into our church and cells.

2. 幸福小组 (XFXZ)

- Continue to build relationship with your 'Best' and encourage them to attend our weekend Services.
- For those who have not done so, encourage your Best from the pilot launch to get baptized and sign them up for the next baptism.
- To download baptism forms, click this URL link: www.fcbc.org.sg/pastoral-care/baptism

3. 3x3 Prayer

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

4. 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.

5. 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 honoured.

6. 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.