4Ws for Week 51, 16 – 22 Dec 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. **The Candy Cane Pick Up Game**
   Supplies: Candy canes, basket or tray or bowl.
   Place a pile of candy canes on a table and provide a tray or basket for each player. Give each player a candy cane to put in his mouth with the hook end down. The player must use the candy cane hook to pick up the other candy canes and move them to the basket. The player with the most candy canes in their basket after one minute wins! You can watch the video on how to play the game via this link:
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kh5f6GQfUSI&app=desktop

2. **Christmas Find Out Who Game**
   Supplies: List of holiday questions to get answers for, pen, and paper.
   The Goal of "Christmas Find Out Who" is to see if you can find someone at the party who would be the answer to the question / fill in the blank. You can use it as a competitive game with a prize or just for fun. Do note that if there isn't anyone at the party who matches the question it is okay. You can make the game harder by restricting the use of one guest's name for one answer. This makes sure you cannot use one person to answer 5 different questions.

   Sample Questions:
   Guest's Name _____
   1. Never had a "White Christmas" _____
   2. Has celebrated Christmas in another country_____
   3. Returned a gift she/he received last Christmas_____
   4. Has seen a real, live reindeer _____
   5. Believed in Santa Claus until she/he was 10 years old_____
   6. Has all of her/his Christmas shopping done_____
   7. Has been to Bethlehem_____
   8. Went Christmas carolling last year_____
   9. Has peeked at a present before Christmas_____
   10. Still gets his/her own stocking filled each year_____

Transition to Worship:
Father God, thank You for Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Jesus so that we can be reconciled to You. This is where You showed Your great love to us. We are thankful that because of the birth of Jesus we are able to worship You as our Father and Lord. You are indeed an Awesome God.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following suggested worship songs:
1) Forever (D)
2) Majestic – Lincoln Brewster (A)

3) Deeper In Love (C)
4) What A Beautiful Name (D)

Be still and wait upon the Lord for the gifts of the Holy Spirit - words, visions, tongues and interpretation of tongues - to minister to the people who are present.

Transition to Word:
Lord Jesus, thank you for setting us free. You are indeed our living Hope. We pray that You will send the Holy Spirit to teach us all things as promised in Your word. As we read and study Your word today, allow it to truly touch our hearts and change our lives. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

WORD (45minutes)

Memory verse of the week: Ephesians 4:2
"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love."

Sermon Title: New Zeal
By Rev Poh Wee Long **14 and 15 Dec 19**

Scripture Texts: Rev 2:1-7
"1 "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:
These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. 2 I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. 3 You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. 4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. 6 But you have this in your favour: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.
7 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God."

Introduction
According to Bible teachers, the Book of Revelation shows how God's redemptive plan for the earth will be brought to fruition and the Greek title means "Unveiling", "Disclosure" or "Revelation". The Book of Revelation tells of events of tomorrow, like a newspaper of tomorrow (Jack Hayford); these events have implications of how we should live our lives, therefore it is a handbook for living today. The Book was written to challenge complacent Christians to stop compromising with the world and the end time events have meaning and relevance to the spiritual lives of all succeeding generations of Christians. This book is applicable to us as believers today.

Revelation Chapter 1 tells of Apostle John's encounter with Jesus in a vision. Chapters 2 to 3 tell of the messages of God to His 7 churches in Asia, beginning with the church of Ephesus, the most prominent, and continue in a clockwise direction until Laodicea is reached. *(Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia are the other 5)*

The focus for last weekend's sermon is on one letter in Revelation 2 written to the church in Ephesus because God wants to rekindle in our hearts, a new zeal for Him as we end 2019 and enter into 2020. This church in Ephesus has the signs of a healthy church:

1. Hardworking
2. Persevering
3. Morally upright
4. Doctrinally sound and discerning

But Jesus had one thing against them. They had lost their first love. They had lost their zealous love for the Lord, even though they were doing all the right things. God wants us to have a new zeal for Him today so that we do not end up like the church in Ephesus. So, how do we have a new zeal for the Lord, which means coming back to our first love for Him?

A new zeal for God comes when we:
1. REMEMBER from where we have fallen
2. REPENT quickly
3. RETURN to our first works

Discovery & Understanding Questions:

Q1. What was one thing that Jesus had against the Ephesus church despite them showing signs of a healthy church?
A1. In Rev. 2:4, the one thing that Jesus had against the Ephesus church was that they had lost their first love for God.

Revelation 2:4 (NKJV)
4 Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have **left your first love**.

Q2. What must we do to have our first love or a new zeal for God?
A2. In order to have a new zeal for God we need to:
1. REMEMBER from where we have fallen
2. REPENT quickly
3. RETURN to our first works

Revelation 2:5
5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.

Q3. Why is it important to have God as the first love of our lives?
A3. When the first love is lost, Christ is no longer foremost on our mind. And if God is not supreme or foremost in our lives it is no longer about Christ in all we do. Then we will eventually fall away from God.

Application Questions:
Break into smaller groups share and minister to one another

Q1. Reflect on your life for the past year and grade yourself from 1 to 10 in regards to your first love you have for Christ when you first became a believer. (1 = very little zeal/first love, 10 = the same kind of zeal/first love)

Q2. List the specific changes you need to make to get back your first love for Christ. Then pray for each other to make the changes immediately.

Transition to Works:
*Let us finish strong as we end this year in a few weeks' time, knowing that what matters most are the souls of lives. As the late Reinhard Bonnke used to say: "We are to **Plunder Hell** to Populate Heaven for Calvary's sake."*

WORKS (15minutes)

1. **Happiness Group (幸福小组)**
   Press on with the consolidation of your BESTs. Continue to build relationship and encourage them to attend our weekend Services. Challenge them to get baptized and sign them up for the next baptism. To download baptism forms, click on this URL link: www.fcbc.org.sg/pastoral-care/baptism.

2. **XFXZ Wave 3 – Starting mid Feb 20**
   Let's start preparing our hearts for Wave 3 of XFXZ and praying for our potential BESTs.

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 Christmas Services – 21 & 22 Dec**
   Use the Christmas Invitation Cards to invite pre-believing friends to our Christmas 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. **Consolidation of New Converts**
   Assimilate them! Let them have a sense of belonging with our faith community! Connect with them via phone calls; meet up with them over a meal; make home visits; introduce them to cell members and invite them to fellowship with our faith community in cell and in church.

Announcements:
Please visit https://www.fcbc.org.sg/bulletin/ or our FCBC App for more details.