

## **4Ws for Week 1, 3-9 Jan 2022**

*(With COVID-19, this 4Ws is to be adapted for use at online meetings.)*

### **WELCOME (15 minutes)**

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. New Year Resolution**

Have each cell member share a resolution for 2022. If they don't have any resolution, ask them to share one thing they are hoping for in the New Year.

#### **2. Word Formation Game**

Ask members to get ready with a pen and paper. Write down the three words "Happy New Year". Ask everyone to form words from the three words in one minute. A three-letter word gets 1 point, a four-letter word gets 2 points and a five-letter word gets 3 points. The one with the highest point wins.

#### **Transition to Worship:**

*Father God, as we begin afresh this New Year; we acknowledge that your grace and mercy are new toward us with every new day. Thus, we can approach your throne in confidence knowing that you are a wonderful, gracious and faithful King; worthy of our devotion and worship.*

### **WORSHIP (20 minutes)**

You may use the following worship songs:

1. This is Amazing Grace (C)
2. King Of Kings (D)

Let us pause to wait upon the Lord for the ministry of the Holy Spirit. We would like to encourage everyone to exercise the gifts of the Holy Spirit – if you have a word, a vision, tongues and interpretation of tongues – release it to minister to each other.

#### **Transition to Word:**

*Lord Jesus, we are reminded that you are the Word Incarnate that came and dwelled among us. You are also the Light that has come into our darkened world. Through your sacrificial death on the cross, we have been transported from darkness into your wonderful light. You are the written and living Word!*

### **WORD (45 minutes)**

#### **Memory verse of the week: Luke 1:68 (NIVUK)**

*"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them."*

**Sermon Title: Thank God**

**By Senior Pastor Daniel Khong**

**on 1-2 Jan 2022**

### **Scripture Passage: Psalm 107:1-3 (NIVUK)**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. <sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story – those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, <sup>3</sup> those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.

### **Introduction**

SP Daniel's first sermon for the new year, taken from Psalm 107:1-3, is simply entitled "Thank God". It is evidently clear that this Psalm is about thanksgiving to God as reflected in verse 1 – "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

The two truths about how we can give thanks to God are:

1. Thank God for what He's done
2. Thank God for who He is

### **Discovery and Understanding Questions:**

#### **Q1. What are some reasons the Psalmist included in Psalm 107 that we can thank God for?**

**A1.** In Psalm 107, there are four distinct sections with specific examples of what God has done for us and others in a variety of scenarios: Lost are found (Psalm 107:4-9), Captives are freed (Psalm 107:10-16), Sick are healed (Psalm 107:17-22) and Sailors are safe (Psalm 107:23-32).

#### **Psalm 107:4-9 (NIVUK)**

<sup>4</sup> Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle. <sup>5</sup> They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away. <sup>6</sup> Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and **he delivered them** from their distress. <sup>7</sup> **He led them** by a straight way to a city where they could settle. <sup>8</sup> Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and **his wonderful deeds for mankind**, <sup>9</sup> for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

#### **Psalm 107:17-22 (NIVUK)**

<sup>17</sup> Some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities. <sup>18</sup> They loathed all food and drew near the gates of death. <sup>19</sup> Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and **he saved them** from their distress. <sup>20</sup> He sent out his word and **healed them; he rescued them** from the grave. <sup>21</sup> Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and **his wonderful deeds for mankind**. <sup>22</sup> Let them sacrifice thank-offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy.

#### **Q2. Why do we choose to thank God in all circumstances?**

**A2.** We choose to thank God for who He is. He is good (Psalm 107:1) regardless of our circumstances. The phrase: "Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind" is repeated in each of the four sections (Psalm 107:8, 15, 21, 31) as mentioned above.

Firstly, we are to thank God for His unfailing love, which refers to God's character and attributes. Secondly, to thank Him for the things that He has done.

He is a God of miracles. He is a God who cares. He is a God who provides. He is a God who is just. He is a God who delivers (Psalm 107:33-42). God is in control (Psalm 107:43) and He does not change — "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8).

**Psalm 107:8, 15, 21, 31 (NIVUK)**

Let them give thanks to the Lord for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind,

**Psalm 107:33-42 (NIVUK)**

<sup>33</sup> He turned rivers into a desert, flowing springs into thirsty ground, <sup>34</sup> and fruitful land into a salt waste because of the wickedness of those who lived there. <sup>35</sup> He turned the desert into pools of water and the parched ground into flowing springs; <sup>36</sup> there he brought the hungry to live, and they founded a city where they could settle. <sup>37</sup> They sowed fields and planted vineyards that yielded a fruitful harvest; <sup>38</sup> he blessed them, and their numbers greatly increased, and he did not let their herds diminish. <sup>39</sup> Then their numbers decreased, and they were humbled by oppression, calamity and sorrow; <sup>40</sup> he who pours contempt on nobles made them wander in a trackless waste. <sup>41</sup> But he lifted the needy out of their affliction and increased their families like flocks. <sup>42</sup> The upright see and rejoice, but all the wicked shut their mouths.

**Psalm 107:43 (NKJV)**

<sup>43</sup> Whoever *is* wise will observe these *things*, And they will understand the **lovingkindness of the Lord**.

**Hebrews 13:8 (NIVUK)**

<sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.

**Application Questions**

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

**Q1.** Share one struggle you've faced in giving thanks to God in all circumstances?

**Q2.** Using the template and example below, find a partner to practice sharing giving thanks to God.

A) Template (to share a thanksgiving):

1. State an attribute of God
2. List down your experiences which revealed that attribute of God.

B) Example:

I thank God for He is \_\_\_\_\_.

In this past year, I *(insert personal experience)* \_\_\_\_\_.

Throughout that, God moved by \_\_\_\_\_.

**Transition to Works:**

*Lord Jesus, you came to our world to do the Father's will. You obeyed even to the point of death so as to wrought salvation for mankind. Thank you for setting the example. We want to obey your commission to make disciple of all nations and teaching them to obey all that you have commanded.*

**WORKS (15 minutes)**

**1. Volunteering in the Church**

Provide an opportunity for each Member to consider, and share an area of ministry that he/she may want to go into. Perhaps as a CG, you may want to decide to go into an area of ministry in the Church. Get Members to go into the FCBC portal to volunteer. If possible, do it together

during the Cell time. But be careful that CG Members don't feel pressured to do so.

## 2. Focus on CG Outreach

The focus of CG meetings is *edification, equipping* and *evangelism*. In each CG meeting, spend some time to encourage your members to do personal outreach right where they are. Give some time each week during the WORKS portion for them to share their outreach efforts. Plan regular (monthly or quarterly CG outreach, either as a whole CG or in separate groups) into your CG roster, using the existing COVID-19 guidelines to plan your activities/programmes.

## 3. Pray over the COVID-19 situation

Consecrate some time each CG meeting to be praying for the situation; and to remain connected with one another.

## 4. Continue to Connect

### a) With cell group members

1. Hold your cell members accountable to watch the Livestream Service.
2. Stay connected with members via:
  - a. Synchronize prayer times
  - b. Share devotional thoughts through WhatsApp. Encourage your members to share their Quiet Time Reflections in your cell group chat.
  - c. Create a cell group hashtag - Post uplifting messages, sermon videos and notes, or even bookmark pretty verse images by leaving these in your cell group hashtag as a comment.
  - d. Video call each other
3. Continue with your cell group meetings online. Ensure that none of your members fall through the cracks. Continue to monitor the attendance of your online meetings.

### b) With Potential BESTs / Pre-Believers

1. Evangelism need not take a back seat with livestreaming. Invite pre-believing friends/Bests/3x3 contacts (depending on their comfort level) to join you in watching our livestream service. Connect online with them and spur other members to do so.
2. When the salvation altar call is made during livestreaming, a Response Form link will be screened over the livestream for those who have responded or want to respond, to fill in. The livestream links are:
  - For English -- [www.fcbs.org.sg/connectwithus](http://www.fcbs.org.sg/connectwithus)
  - For Chinese -- [www.fcbs.org.sg/zh/connectwithus](http://www.fcbs.org.sg/zh/connectwithus)

Get your pre-believing contacts to fill up the Response Form or you can help them fill it up. When filling up the Form, try to provide as much of the information needed as possible, and do so immediately after the livestream service.

### c) 3x3 Prayer

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the strongholds that bind the people in captivity. Ask Him to set up divine appointments for you 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.

For more announcements, please visit [www.fcbs.org.sg/announcements](http://www.fcbs.org.sg/announcements) or our social media platforms – we can be found on Facebook and Instagram @fbcsg.