

4Ws for Week 12, 16 - 22 Mar 2020

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. Eggs-clusive

Prepare: Bring a batch of eggs to boil and boil them till they are hardened (7-8 mins)

Cool the eggs before cell starts

- Everyone to sit in a circle and place the eggs in a basket in the middle
- Tell them that out of all the eggs in the basket, one of them is a raw egg. When the time is up, they will have to knock the egg in front of them.
- They will all get 30 secs to 1 minute to pick out one egg in the basket that they think is NOT the raw egg
- Get everyone to knock the egg together after the time is up

Were they fearful that they would be the one making a mess?

Possible responses: They already guessed all the eggs would be hardboiled – teaches that they trust the heart of the leader

They were fearful and trying their best to avoid being the one with the raw egg. Sometimes things that we do not want come to us unexpectedly.

2. Sharing on faith and trust

Get members to share on the following 2 questions:

- Who is someone that they really trust and put their faith in? And why?
- Have they ever felt betrayed/trust misplaced before? And what happened? (if the member is comfortable to share)

Cell leader might have to facilitate sharing and direct back should the sharing start to digress and divert.

Transition to Worship:

The cell group is a place where we learn how to edify and encourage one another by sharing what God has done for us! Let us now join our hearts as one to welcome the Holy Spirit into our midst as we enter into this time of worship.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following suggested worship songs:

- 1) Awesome In This Place – Hillsongs (D)
- 2) Forever Reign (D)
- 3) This Is Our God (E)
- 4) Living Hope (A)

Do give some time to wait upon the Lord for the ministry of the Holy Spirit. Encourage the release of the gifts of the Holy Spirit - words, visions, tongues and interpretation of tongues - to minister to the people who are present.

Transition to Word:

Heavenly Father, we thank You and acknowledge that You are Good. We thank You for Your presence in this place. And as we learn from Your word, may the Holy Spirit teach us and help us to grow into Your image more and more. In Jesus name we pray, Amen!

WORD (45minutes)

Memory verse of the week: Haggai 2:7 (NIVUK)

"I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD ALMIGHTY."

Sermon Title: Confident Faith

By Senior Pastor Daniel Khong

on 14 - 15 Mar 2020

Scripture Passage: Hebrews 11:1-4 (NIVUK)

¹ Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for. ³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen is not made out of what was visible. ⁴ By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

Introduction

We are living in times where crisis can manifest itself in different ways and it can be difficult for us to continue exercising our faith. However, we must remember that as Christians we can continue to have confidence and exercise our faith because the object of our faith is in God.

The reason for our confidence is not the belief in our own smarts or strengths. Neither is it that we are free of our troubles or that we will not face suffering. Rather, we can be freed from our anxiety and worries despite our troubles, because we have a God who will never fail us.

In times of trouble we know where to place and find our confidence because we have:

- 1. Confidence in God's Provision**
- 2. Confidence in our Position**

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. Recession is coming and the economy is doing really badly. I feel the need to save up, is it necessary for me to still give my tithes to the Lord?

A1. When we choose to give to the Lord, we must decide in our hearts to give. Not under reluctance or under pressure, but cheerfully.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (NLT)

⁶ Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. ⁷ You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."

Oftentimes, when we have difficulty giving, it is due to a lack of confidence that God will provide rather than having a lack in itself. While we do not give under compulsion, we must take note and remember that God is the one who will provide and He will look out for us.

2 Corinthians 9:8-10 (NLT)

⁸ And God will generously **provide** all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. ⁹ As the Scriptures say, “They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever.” ¹⁰ For God is the one who **provides** seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, **he will provide and increase your resources** and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

Let us learn to be like Abel who gave with an excellent spirit – he picked the best of his flock and gave it to the Lord unhesitant and willingly. He showed great confidence in God’s provision.

Q2. It is easy to have confidence with God’s provision when you have no lack in your life. That is a position of privilege that some of us do not have.

A2. We might not always have the privilege of possessions in our earthly lives, but we cannot give up or lose confidence in our position as a child of God.

Galatians 4:6-7 (NLT)

⁶ And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, “Abba, Father.” ⁷ Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.

Matthew 7:9-11 (NLT)

⁹ “You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? ¹⁰ Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! ¹¹ So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him.

When we feel disgruntled and start to compare with others who seem to have more than we do, we start to lose sight of our special position as a child of God. Although we might have earthly parents who are not perfect, we need to understand that God is the perfect Heavenly Father who constantly reaches out to us even when we are struggling or fall away. He constantly demonstrates His love and grace to us.

Let us not allow a spirit of comparison to turn us away from who God is. Let us instead chase God and give Him our best. Not because we need His approval, but because we love Him.

Application Questions:

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

Q1. I genuinely struggle in the area of giving. I do not earn a lot and I struggle to make ends meet every month. I know that God wants us to give cheerfully, but I struggle to be cheerful when I give. On months that I am not able to give, I feel very guilty.

Q2. Do you tend to complain and compare a lot with others? Do you need to be able to find peace and confidence in what God has given to and provided you?

Q3. Have you made God too small in your eyes? God is the perfect Heavenly Father who constantly loves and pursues us. Reflect and think about how awesome it is that this magnificent God has called us to be His children.

Transition to Works:

Heavenly Father, we thank You that You love us and called us to be Your children. We are sorry that at times we do not know how great You are. Despite all of the negative situations that is happening around us, teach us to trust You and set our sights on You. Amen.

WORKS (15minutes)

Give cell members some time to share on their prayer walk. As they prayer-walk, encourage and challenge them to include their neighbours as their Bests. Get the cell group to do the following:

1. Continue to Connect

a) With cell group members

1. Hold your cell members accountable to go into live streaming or download the service message to listen to it.
2. Occasionally you may wish to arrange for the cell group to meet to view live streaming together. Note: This should not replace your weekly cell group gathering. [Currently FCBC encourages cell group gatherings to continue as much as is possible. Cell group gatherings should be a time of spurring members on to faith & good works. Seek ways & means to help each other, especially those who are impacted by COVID-19 either directly or indirectly.]
3. The cell group can continue to connect with their members who are quarantined, on Stay-Home-Notices, or suspected to be exposed to the virus & hence cannot attend cell meeting.
 - a. Synchronize prayer times together.
 - b. Discuss devotional thoughts through WhatsApp.
 - c. Create a cell group hashtag - Post uplifting messages, sermon videos and notes, or even bookmark pretty verse images that you like on Instagram by leaving these in your cell group hashtag as a comment. Everything that has been tagged with your cell group hashtag will be available for the entire group to see!
 - d. Video call each other. [Note: This is not meant to be a replacement for cell group gatherings.]

b) With Pre-Believers

1. Continue to encourage evangelism. Evangelism need not take a back seat with live streaming or COVID-19. Either as an individual, as a family or as a cell group, you can still invite your pre-believer friends/Bests/3x3 contacts (depending on their comfort level) to join you in watching the live stream service. You should still try to continue connecting with them & spur your cell members to do so.
2. When the salvation altar call is made during live streaming, use the link (Response Form) screened over the live stream for those who have responded or want to respond, to fill in. The link is:
 - For English live streaming - www.fcbc.org.sg/connectwithus
 - For Chinese live streaming - www.fcbc.org.sg/zh/connectwithusPlease encourage your pre-believer 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.
3. If your cell group is not running a XFXZ Group, check with your G12 leader to see if you can exercise the option of inviting your/your cell group members' pre-believers contacts to the

AFXZ run by the other cell group/s in your Tribe/Team. Encourage your cell group members to do so.

4. Be sensitive to, and meet the needs of those impacted by COVID-19 – e.g., offer them masks, alcohol swabs if they need them and don't have them; prepare meals to send over to those on Home Quarantine Order or Stay Home Notices, etc. [While you are doing this make sure you also do things to protect yourself so you don't get infected.]

2. AFXZ Group (幸福小组)

Press on with the consolidation of your BESTs. Continue to build relationships and inform them about the live streaming of our services. Give them the link and encourage them to go into the live streaming. Or you may wish to invite them to view the live streaming at your home.

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

[Baptism services are temporarily suspended. But submission of baptism forms is still open.]

3. AFXZ Wave 3 – (Session 3 – The Superstar of All Generations)

Continue to make as many connections as possible and pray for all our potential BESTs. Fix a time to synchronize prayers daily for your Bests and for your AFXZ sessions.

4. 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. 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 groups and through live stream services.

Announcements:

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