

## 4Ws for Week 13, 23 - 29 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. WHO AM I?

This is a fun icebreaker game. Write the names of Biblical characters on index cards. When guests arrive, tape an index card on to their backs. They are not allowed to see who the characters written on their cards are. They must mingle with the other members and ask questions to try and figure out the Biblical characters written on the index cards taped on to their backs. Play until everyone guess correctly their Biblical characters.

Materials Needed: Index cards and scotch tape.

#### 2. BIBLE PASSWORD

Write down at least 20 Bible words such as Ark, Priest, Tabernacle, Moses, Temple, Sacrifice, Cross, Apostle, Disciples, Abraham, David, Goliath, Love, Peace, Joy, etc. on slips of paper. These are "Passwords". Fold all the "Passwords" up and put them in a bowl. Divide the cell into pairs of members and visitors. Every pair goes one at a time. One person from that pair picks a "Password" and try to say one word and get the other player to guess the "Password", of course he/she can't say the "Password" or any derivatives of it. After their partner makes a guess and if the "Password" is wrong, he/she offers another one-word clue. They keep doing this until the person guesses the "Password" correctly and next team takes over.

Materials Needed: slips of papers with "Passwords" and a bowl.

#### Transition to Worship:

*What a privilege it is for us to come together, break some ice, enjoy a good laugh and put a smile on our faces. We know that our God is always in control and nothing escapes Him; He will neither sleep nor slumber. Let us prepare our hearts to worship the Lord our God who watches over us. At the count of 3, let us give God a standing ovation to welcome Him in our midst.*

### WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following suggested worship songs:

- 1) Forever (D)
- 2) Majestic – Lincoln Brewster (A)
- 3) Amazing Grace (D)
- 4) Build My Life (D)

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:

*Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for Your love and Your grace which is sufficient for us in times of trouble. Teach us Your word and minister to us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen!*

## WORD (45minutes)

### **Memory verse of the week: Deuteronomy 2:7 (NIV)**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He has watched over your journey through this vast wilderness. These forty years the LORD your God has been with you, and you have not lacked anything.

**Sermon Title: Studying God's Word of Hope**

**By Senior Pastor Daniel Khong**

**on 22 - 29 Mar 2020**

### **Scripture Passages:**

#### **Ephesians 6:13-17 (NIVUK)**

<sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

<sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

#### **Acts 17:11 (NIVUK)**

<sup>11</sup> Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

### **Introduction**

Last weekend, SP Daniel brought us back to the basics of why it is important for us to study the word of God and how we should study it, so that we can find hope as we apply God's word in our lives. In Ephesians 6, Paul tells us why we must put on the full armour of God. He describes the various aspects of our faith we must have using a soldier's equipment as an analogy. For a soldier to be effective, he must be knowledgeable on how to use his equipment. Similarly, Christians must be knowledgeable in the word of God in order to be effective. Consider the Berean Jews who received the words with eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day.

### **Why is it important to study the Bible?**

1. To Handle God's Word Accurately
2. To be Spiritually Nourished
3. To Develop Personal Biblical Convictions

### **3 Steps to Bible Study:**

1. Observation – What does God's Word say? Look out for key words, phrasing, and repetitions.
2. Interpretation – What does God's Word mean? Consider definitions, language, and congruence
3. Application – How do I live out God's Word?

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

**Q1. Using Psalm 23, each member to read two verses and then share 2 observations.**

#### **Psalm 23 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. <sup>2</sup> He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. <sup>3</sup> He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. <sup>4</sup> Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Q2. King David wrote, “The Lord is my Shepherd” in Psalm 23:1. What is your interpretation of the word ‘Shepherd’?**

**A2.** In the original Hebrew text, the word ‘Shepherd’ refers to a Herdsman, Shepherd, Leader, Companion, Friend. As such, I can trust the Lord who leads me and cares for my needs.

**Q3. In our study of God’s word, why is it important to end with applications?**

**A3.** Consider James 1:22.

**James 1:22 (NKJV)**

<sup>22</sup> But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

When we apply God’s word in our lives, not only will our lives be transformed, but we can also see that God’s word is a word of hope.

**1 Corinthians 2:9 (NLT)**

<sup>9</sup> That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.”

**Romans 5:1-5 (NKJV)**

<sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> and perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

### **Application Questions:**

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

**Q1.** “Don’t wait for a better time to make God’s Word a regular part of your life. Start your commitment today” – Pastor Rick Warren. Discuss and share.

**Q2.** Pray and minister to members who are going through the valley of darkness at this point of time in their lives.

### **Transition to Works:**

*Dear Lord Jesus, we know You care for us and we acknowledge Your sovereign will in our lives. We pray that we will always look to You instead of looking at the circumstances around us. Help us to focus on Your heartbeat to bless our friends and family members who has not yet known You. In Jesus’ Name we pray. Amen!*

### **WORKS (15minutes)**

Give cell members some time to share on their prayer walk last weekend. 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. At least once a month, arrange for the cell group to meet to view live streaming together. 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 members who are quarantined, on Stay-Home-Notices, or suspected to be exposed to those who are close-contact cases:
  - 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 Potential BESTs / 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 and spur other 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 live-streaming links are:
  - For English -- [www.fcfc.org.sg/connectwithus](http://www.fcfc.org.sg/connectwithus)
  - For Chinese -- [www.fcfc.org.sg/zh/connectwithus](http://www.fcfc.org.sg/zh/connectwithus)
 Please 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 XFXZ 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. XFXZ 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.fcfc.org.sg/pastoral-care/baptism](http://www.fcfc.org.sg/pastoral-care/baptism)

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

#### **3. XFXZ Wave 3 – (Topic 4 – Happiness Connection)**

Continue to make as many connections as possible and pray for all our potential BESTs. Remember to synchronize prayers daily for your Bests and for your XFXZ 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.