

4Ws for Week 15, 12-18 Apr 2021

(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. Guess the country

Play the YouTube video link below and allow members to guess the Country by emojis. You can divide your group into 2 or 3 teams depending on the size of your group. They can discuss via WhatsApp and the leader can type the answer on Zoom chat. The team that gives the correct answer first is the winner or when individual members type the correct answer on the Zoom chat.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aP2JTrcFMU0>

If there is time, leader can ask members which country they would like to visit if all borders are open and travel is resumed, and why?

2. Guess the Bible Character

Play the YouTube video links below to let members guess the Bible characters from the emojis shown. You can choose to use part 1 of the quiz and then proceed to part 2 only if you have time.

Part 1 – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YaDropzHaJA>

Part 2 – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6558cBU3kpY>

If there is time, leader can also ask members which Bible character they would like to meet and why.

Transition to Worship:

Before we enter into worship, let's take some time to share one experience that God has been good to you this week. Praise God for He is a good, good God! Let us worship Him and declare His goodness. He is our peace; our joy, and we can run to Him at any time of the day. For His presence is with us, and He will never leave us or forsake us.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following worship songs:

- 1) Forever Reign (E)
- 2) Worthy Is The Lamb (E)
- 3) Great Are You Lord (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:

Dear Lord, thank You for Your love, Your Hope and for giving us life. We pray for Your presence to be among us as we discuss Your word that was given to us last weekend. In Jesus name! Amen.

WORD (45 minutes)

Memory verse of the week: Exodus 4:11

¹¹ The Lord said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord?”

Sermon Title: Finding Forgiveness

By Senior Pastor Daniel Khong

on 10-11 April 2021

Scripture: Mathew 18:21-35 (NIVUK)

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, ‘Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?’

²² Jesus answered, ‘I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ ‘Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him.

²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ ‘At this the servant fell on his knees before him. “Be patient with me,” he begged, “and I will pay back everything.”’ ²⁷ The servant’s master took pity on him, cancelled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ ‘But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. “Pay back what you owe me!” he demanded.

²⁹ ‘His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, “Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.”

³⁰ ‘But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt.’ ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² ‘Then the master called the servant in. “You wicked servant,” he said, “I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to.”’ ³³ ‘Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ ‘This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

Introduction

The week before, we remembered and celebrated the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we look at the cross, it reminds us of God’s forgiveness for us and that even though we were sinners, Christ died for us on the cross. This week’s message is about finding forgiveness at the cross, not only for ourselves but also as an example for us to follow. Just as God has forgiven us, we too must learn to forgive others.

Relationships are complicated because people are complicated, and people are complicated because we all make mistakes. God teaches us how to begin the process of uncomplicating things through forgiveness. As when we learn to forgive, then we can obtain freedom for our lives.

How then can we find the strength to forgive? There are 2 things that we must do:

1. Sacrifice our rights
2. Surrender our pride

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. What does it mean to sacrifice our rights in order to forgive?

A1. It means to give up and lay down what we are entitled to and forgive the unpardonable when someone did something wrong towards us. Sometimes we are unwilling to surrender our rights because we feel we are entitled to be angry. But when we remember that God has forgiven us first when we do not deserve it, then, we too need to forgive others and lay aside any reason to hold on to anger or demand that the other person apologize.

Matthew 18:33 (NIVUK)

³³ Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?

Q2. What does it mean to surrender our pride?

A2. Pride is really a fixation and focus on oneself. It means that we put ourselves on a higher priority, and choose our lives, our feelings, our thoughts, etc, above all else. By holding on to anger, hurts, and even unforgiveness, we often expect the other person to be the one to initiate the apology. To surrender our pride is to have the humility to forgive just like Jesus who forgave us out of His spirit of humility.

Philippians 2:5-8 (NLT)

⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

Application Questions

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

Q1. "Forgiving someone may cost you your pride, but not forgiving them will cost you your freedom." Do you think this is true? Share your thoughts.

Q2. If you have someone that you need to forgive, do take the initiative to forgive. If you do not, then ask yourself which of these is more difficult for you to do in order to forgive:

- 1. Sacrifice your rights**
- 2. Surrender your pride**

Share and pray for each other to give up your rights or pride in order to forgive.

Transition to Works:

We want to thank God for His love for us and for forgiving us. Let us bring this Good News to our pre-believing friends. Let's seek to reach out to them by connecting with them. Make time to meet them and share with them.

WORKS (15 minutes)

1. Welcome Home!

Praise God we are going onsite for Service!

Remind members to practice Philippians 2:3-4 – ³ **Do nothing from selfishness or empty**

conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not *merely* look out for your own personal *interests*, but also for the *interests* of others.

- a) Reserve seats only for yourselves and your family members. Don't mass book. Don't double book to secure more chances of getting a seat.
- b) Turn up for service after getting your seats. Don't cancel *last minute* – every *last-minute* cancellation deprives someone else of an opportunity to attend the onsite service.
- c) Obey Covid-19 safety procedures to safeguard yourself and others – e.g., stay in your zones; don't turn up if you are sick, etc.
- d) Be patient and calm if there are delays in admitting you because of Covid-19 safe entry processes. Don't abuse the Staff or volunteers on duty.
- e) Honor God – have a worshipful attitude.
- f) Be punctual – build in extra time so that you will be seated already when Service starts.
- g) Dress appropriately.
- h) Recognize that there are many others also worshipping with you online.
- i) Continue to invite your pre-believer friends.
- j) Etc...

For more information on our resumption of on-site services at Touch Centre, please visit www.fcbc.org.sg/welcomehome.

2. Consolidation of Visitors/New Converts from your outreach

Assimilate them! Let them experience a sense of belonging to our faith community! Connect with them via phone calls; introduce them to cell members via WhatsApp and invite them to join in our livestream services and your online cell group meetings. Start inviting them to onsite services and do the seats reservation on their behalf.

3. Continue to Connect

a) With cell group members

1. Hold your cell members accountable to watch the Livestream Service. Suggest CG Members to meet in different homes to view the online service together or for CG gatherings. Adhere to 8 guests per group. You could also meet in one group of 8 (not counting the host/s) in one household, and get the rest to Zoom in. CG Members should limit visits to households to 2 per day.
2. Seek ways and means to stay connected with each other. For example:
 - 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
 - e. Arrange get-togethers of no more than 8 people.
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.fcbc.org.sg/connectwithus
 - For Chinese -- www.fcbc.org.sg/zh/connectwithus

Encourage 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.

3. Organise activities for your CG members to connect face-to-face with their contacts, e.g. go for a nature walk, meet together for meals, etc. Keep to safe distancing guidelines and limit to no more than 8 per group and do not intermingle between groups.

4. 3x3 Prayer

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the strongholds that bind the people in captivity. 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.

For more announcements, please visit www.fcbc.org.sg/announcements or our social media platforms – we can be found on Facebook and Instagram @fbcsg.