

## **4Ws for Week 16, 19-25 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. I feel ....**

Get members to think of a word to describe their current mood. Each person will take turn to type the word in the Zoom chat window, with the word jumbled up for the rest to guess it. Once the correct answer is given, the person will explain why he/she is feeling this way. This goes on until every member has had a go.

Note: Facilitator can give some examples of jumbled up adjectives to describe feelings for participants to guess as warm up:

Paphy = Happy

Thericlag= lethargic

#### **2. Celebrity Interview**

Each member will take turn to be the “celebrity” to get interviewed by the group. The rest will get to ask one question each (or more if the group is small). The celebrity can choose to pass any insensitive or personal questions.

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

*Lord Jesus, You are aware of our every state and everything about us. All that we have shared in the icebreaker, You already know. In fact, You know us very intimately, even the number of hairs on our head. Jesus, we adore You for Your perfect knowledge of us and Your acceptance of us, despite all our blemishes. This is because of Your amazing grace towards us.*

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

You may use the following worship songs:

1. This Is Amazing Grace (D)
2. How Great Is Our God (D)
3. Goodness of God (G)

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:**

*Thank You, Lord for your goodness towards us. In Your goodness, You gave us Your indwelling Holy Spirit and Your Word to guide us and lead us in Your perfect ways. Speak to us now and cause us to be obedient to Your Word.*

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

### Memory verse of the week: Exodus 7:4 (NIVUK)

<sup>4</sup> he will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites.

### Sermon Title: True Worship

By Rev Poh Wee Long

on 17-18 April 2021

### Scripture: John 4:23-24 (NIVUK)

<sup>23</sup> Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.

### Introduction

To worship is to adore and honour, and to express the worth of someone. As believers, we worship the one true God. This one true God desires worship that is expressed

a) In *spirit*

b) and in *truth*

In this message we explore what it means to worship God in spirit and in truth.

### Discovery and Understanding Questions:

**Q1.** What do the Scripture teach about worshipping God in spirit?

**A1.** To worship God in spirit means that it is not the location of worship but the attitude in worship that is important; and this attitude is one of putting our whole heart, and soul and mind and strength (our total being) into our worship. It is not just our outward expressions but also our inward appreciation in our soul and spirit for the person of God. Its focus is on Him and not on us. Singing songs to Him is only one form of worship. When we truly worship Him in spirit, we will give our all to Him – our time, our energies, our possessions, our families, our desires, etc., to Him.

### John 4:19-21

<sup>19</sup> “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.” <sup>21</sup> “Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

### John 4:23-24

<sup>23</sup> Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

### Philippians 3:3 (NASB)

<sup>3</sup> for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and take pride in Christ Jesus, and put no confidence in the flesh,

### John 3:30-31

<sup>30</sup> He must increase, but I must decrease. <sup>31</sup> “He who comes from above is above all; the one who is only from the earth is of the earth and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all.

### **Luke 10:27-28**

<sup>27</sup> He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’” <sup>28</sup> “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

**Q2.** How do we come before and worship God in truth?

**A2.** Worshipping God in truth denotes that our lives are in tandem with Him and with our worship of Him – We are walking right and living in His truth. This means also that our relationship with Him and with others is right. We are careful to treat each other correctly when we come together in corporate worship. Our actions follow what we say to Him in our worship – this is manifested in our posture in worship, e.g., when we sing “I lift my hands up to You”, we must follow this with the same posture of lifting our hands to Him. Otherwise we are just mouthing the lyrics and not meaning what we sing in worship. Similarly, when we worship Him in “All to Jesus, I surrender”, our lives and total being must be surrendered to Him. Otherwise, we are not worshipping Him in truth.

### **Romans 12:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your *true* and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

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### **Hebrews 12:28-29**

<sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup> for our “God is a consuming fire.

### **Matthew 15:7-9**

<sup>7</sup> You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: <sup>8</sup> ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. <sup>9</sup> They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.’

### **1 Corinthians 11:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. <sup>18</sup> In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it.

### **Hebrews 10:24-25**

<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

### **Application Questions**

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

**Q1.** Go back through your life in the past year when we went livestream, and when cell meetings go online. How has that affected your worship of God? How has your attitude to God and worshipping Him changed for the better or for the worse?

**Q2.** What are some things that you are doing during livestream worship or Zoom Cell meetings that you know are not honouring to God? What is one thing you want to do to change NOW!

**Q3.** When we come to cell, do we honour our fellow CG members – like being punctual, listening when someone is sharing, participating fully and wholeheartedly in every aspect of the CG meeting, doing the necessary preparation when we are asked to anchor any part of the CG meeting, etc. What must change?

### **Transition to Works:**

*Lord, You have spoken to us. Change our hearts; turn us back to You to give You the due reverence You deserve in our lives, in our services and in our cells. As we go onsite, continue to renew us whether it be our worship onsite or over livestream. May Jesus regain His rightful place of honour in our lives!*

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

#### **1. Welcome Home!**

Praise God, we have gone onsite for Service! Remind members to practice Philippians 2:3-4 – **<sup>3</sup> Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; <sup>4</sup> 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 procedures. Don't abuse the Staff or volunteers on duty.
- e) Honour 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](http://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](http://www.fcbc.org.sg/connectwithus)
  - For Chinese -- [www.fcbc.org.sg/zh/connectwithus](http://www.fcbc.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.**
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](http://www.fcbc.org.sg/announcements) or our social media platforms – we can be found on Facebook and Instagram @fbcscg.