

4Ws for Week 18, 2 - 8 May 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. Find 16 hidden books of the Bible

Cell leader to share screen (for Zoom) or show the write-up below (in black fonts first), and get members to find the names of the 16 books of the Bible. When done, reveal the answers (in red fonts), and reward members who are able to find the answers in the shortest time.

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible (merely by a fluke). It kept people looking so hard for the facts and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the name of the books were not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now. There really are sixteen names of books in this story.

2. Where Have You Been?

Cell Leader to have members take turns to share three places they have visited recently — two of which are true, and one is false. Challenge the other members to guess which is false, and then share how they were able to guess it correctly. To make it more interesting, show some photos, receipts, or tickets, etc. of countries or places visited.

Transition to Worship:

Thank you everyone for your sharing and participation in the ice-breaker. It is fun, isn't it? Through the games, we get to know each other and I would like to encourage all of us to continue to get to know each other more. At this time, let's get close to God by worshipping Him who created us, knows us and loves us! He alone deserves all our praises and adoration. Hallelujah!

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following worship songs:

1. Battle Belongs- Phil Wickhan (E)
2. Sing- Metro Church (E)

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 thank You for your presence here with us today. We bless Your Name - You are Mighty God, the Risen King, the Bright Morning Star. Let us never stop praising You and worshipping You. Thank You, Lord, that You are also our Friend and Your love for us is never ending. Lord, we love You, and we want to know You more. Lord, we open up our hearts to You and as we study Your word, reveal Yourself to us, teach us and work in us. In Jesus name! Amen

WORD (45 minutes)

Memory verse of the week: 1 Corinthians 2:12

¹² What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.

Sermon Title: Living with Doubt
By Senior Pastor Daniel Khong

on 30 Apr- 1 May 2022

Scripture Passages:

Matthew 28:16-17 (NIVUK)

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted.

John 20:27 (NIVUK)

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.'

Mark 9:14 (NIVUK)

¹⁴ When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them.

James 1:6-8 (NIVUK)

⁶ But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

Introduction

SP Daniel shared the previous week about struggling with doubts in our lives. His message was entitled "Zhun Bo?" Struggling with doubts is very real, and perhaps we will face doubts throughout our lives. Last weekend, SP continued with the same topic to help us overcome doubts in our lives.

In the New Testament, there are 3 references on doubt with specific Greek words used to express different doubts. While they convey some similar meanings, there are specific nuances to each term which gives us a broader and deeper understanding on the word doubt. There are 3 types or subcategories of doubt using different terms.

The three ways that doubt manifests itself are:

1. Uncertainty- Not sure; not definite
2. Undecidedness- To not make a decision
3. Unbelief- The refusal to believe

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. Where do we see the aspect of doubt expressed in uncertainty in the Bible?

A1. Being uncertain is one of the most straightforward manifestations of doubt, and the Greek word used in the Bible is διστάζω (Distazo), which means to hesitate or waver in opinion.

Matthew 28:16-17 (NIVUK)

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him; **but some doubted.**

Some were uncertain that He was really Jesus; they were unsure. It could be an imposter or even a ghost. Essentially, some believed and worshipped Him, though some doubted and did not worship Him. It is important to recognize that it is a very innocent aspect of doubt. Such doubt is neutral, neither positive nor negative, good nor evil. However, it is what we do with the doubt that matters.

Matthew 14:25-31 (NIVUK)

²⁵ Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. 'It's a ghost,' they said, and cried out in fear. ²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.' ²⁸ 'Lord, if it's you,' Peter replied, 'tell me to come to you on the water.' ²⁹ 'Come,' he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came towards Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, save me!' ³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' he said, '**why did you doubt?**'

When Peter saw the storm he became afraid and realised how much he did not understand the whole situation and started to become uncertain, hesitate and start to sink.

Q2. Undecidedness manifests in difficulty with making decision — when we have two very good options, how do we choose between them?

A2. Being undecided is another possible manifestation of doubt, and the specific Greek word used for undecidedness is διακρίνω (diakrinō), which means to waver between decisions.

Matthew 21:21 (NIVUK)

²¹ Jesus replied, 'Truly I tell you, if you have faith and do not **doubt**, not only can you do what was done to the fig-tree, but also you can say to this mountain, "Go, throw yourself into the sea," and it will be done.

James 1:6-8 (NIVUK)

⁶ But when you ask, you must believe and not **doubt**, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Such a person is **double-minded** and **unstable** in all they do.

Joshua 24:15 (NIVUK)

¹⁵ But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then **choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve**, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.'

The above passages teach us that we have to make a decision. Often we are stuck in making decision because we want to have the best of both worlds. However, we need to choose either to have faith in God or faith in the world, not both.

Q3. What does having unbelief mean?

A3. Another Greek word for doubt is ἀπιστος (apistos), which means unbelieving or unfaithful, especially about the things of God. Unbelief is the refusal to believe, and is different from disbelief. Disbelief is when something is so incredible that we feel like we cannot believe it. But unbelief is the lack of belief, and refusal to believe in something.

John 20:27 (NIVUK)

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop **doubting** and believe.’

Referring to Thomas, it was not a situation of disbelief but unbelief. Thomas had witnessed Lazarus raised from the dead. So when the other disciples told him that they saw Jesus, Thomas refused to believe. Not only did he refuse to trust what Jesus had done, he refused to trust the closest people around him.

Mark 9:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my **unbelief!**”

The father of the child acknowledged that there is a part of him that refused to believe. He cried out to Jesus that he needed Him to help overcome his unbelief.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Share what are some doubts you have and how you want to overcome them?

Q2. Share how you want to apply the 3 truths about God (in bold) that can help us face doubt:

1. Doubt bring uncertainty, but **GOD IS SOVEREIGN.**
2. Doubt brings undecidedness, but **GOD IS FAITHFUL.**
3. Doubt brings unbelief, but **GOD IS GREAT.**

Transition to Works:

Lord Jesus, we thank You for blessing us with Your Word. Help us to apply Your Word daily in our life. Lord, keep us faithful in our assigned tasks as we live a life of faith, and be a blessing to others around us. In Jesus name. Amen!

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/programs.

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 or in-person. Ensure that none of your members fall through the cracks. Continue to monitor the attendance of your 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

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.fcbc.org.sg/announcements or our social media platforms – we can be found on Facebook and Instagram @fbcsg.