

4Ws for Week 21 (20 – 26 May 2024)

WELCOME (15 minutes)

(If there are first-time guests, begin with a round of introduction and warmly welcome the new visitors.)

Suggested icebreakers:

1. Encounter

Everyone to take turns sharing in the group:

- Have you ever had a personal encounter with the Holy Spirit?
- What was your experience, and how did God reveal His love to you?

2. I've got your 6!

"I've got your 6" is a slang in military and law-enforcement that means "I've got your back" or "I'm protecting you from behind." Everyone in the group takes turns sharing one gesture that makes them feel that the community has got their back.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

(Encourage members to allow the Holy Spirit to minister through them by sharing words, visions, tongues and interpretations of tongues.)

Suggested worship songs:

- 1) Praise – Elevation Worship
- 2) Champion – Bryan and Katie Torwalt

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: Rev Daniel Khong

Scripture Passage: John 14:16-18 (NIVUK)

Sermon Title: Getting to Know the Holy Spirit

Introduction

Originally a celebration of the Law given by God, Pentecost has also become a celebration of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which led to the birth of the Church. While the church may seem to function with all other aspects of faith, it lacks power without the Holy Spirit. We need the Holy Spirit in our churches and in our lives. We need to know the Holy Spirit.

What must we know about the Holy Spirit?

1. The Holy Spirit is a Person
2. The Holy Spirit is God
3. The Holy Spirit is God in the Now

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. How is the Holy Spirit, whom we call a Spirit, also a Person?

A1: When we refer to the Holy Spirit as a Person, we emphasize that the Holy Spirit is not merely an invisible force. Rather, the Holy Spirit possesses characteristics of personhood:

- Intellect: "He will teach you all things and will remind you" (John 14:26).
- Helper: "Another advocate to help you and be with you" (John 14:16).

- Emotions: “Do not grieve the Holy Spirit” (Ephesians 4:30).
- Personal relationship: “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all (2 Cor 13:14). He longs to be in a personal friendship with you!

Q2. Is the Holy Spirit God? How is that the case? Are there 3 Gods?

A2. This falls under what is commonly known as the Doctrine of the Trinity. In this doctrine, we believe that God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit exist as three Persons but are also One God. Unity and community are intrinsic to the very nature of God.

There is no single earthly analogy that can perfectly explain or capture the mystery of the Trinity. It is a mystery of faith that cannot be fully comprehended by human understanding but is based on the revelation found in Scripture. This revelation is seen when we cross-reference scriptures describing God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

Q3. What does it mean that the Holy Spirit is God in the now?

A3. It means that the Holy Spirit is active and present in the lives of believers in a real way and immediate way. He is not a distant God who does not intervene in our lives. Instead, He desires a personal relationship with us. He wants us to sense His Presence and know that He is with us, providing guidance and spiritual Gifts. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can grow to become more Christ-like and carry out God’s work in our lives.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Do you feel that God is distant, or is God real and living to you?

Q2. Do you exercise the gifts of the Holy Spirit? Do you believe that the Holy Spirit has been given to you and lives in you?

Q3. Is the Holy Spirit just an accessory in your life, or is He your life?

WORKS (15 minutes)

Focus on *edification, equipping and evangelism.*

1. **Build on the momentum of all your outreach efforts** - continue praying for your pre-believing friends and family, connect with them, and invite them to your Cell and our Weekend Services.
2. **Consolidation of new believers** – Diligently pray for and reach out to your friends and family who have decided to receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, guiding and helping them grow in the faith.

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