

4Ws for Week 39, 25 Sep - 1 Oct 2023

WELCOME (15 minutes)

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

Suggested icebreakers:

1. Faith Journey Timeline

Ask everyone to prepare a piece of paper and create a timeline of their faith journey, marking significant events or moments where their faith may have been tested and strengthened. Once completed, take turns sharing their timelines with the group, and during the sharing, encourage members to focus on discussing one event from their timeline.

2. The Tree of Faith

To begin, draw a large tree on a poster or whiteboard and divide it into roots, a trunk, branches and leaves.

- For the roots: Brainstorm ideas or activities that individuals or the group can do to nurture and grow in faith (e.g., reading or doing a book study together).
- For the branches and trunk: Connect each root with ways in which the group can express what they have learned from these “root activities” (e.g., engaging in a book study together might lead to a better understanding of God’s heart for missions).
- For the leaves: List the expected outcomes or results of these activities (e.g., adopting and praying for a nation together).

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

(Ensure to pause and allow the Holy Spirit to minister through the members. Encourage everyone to share a word, vision, tongues or interpretation of tongues to minister to one another.)

Suggested worship songs:

- 1) Battle Belongs – Phil Wickam (E)
- 2) Gratitude – Brandon Lake (E)

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: Senior Pastor Daniel Khong

Scripture Passage: Matthew 25:14-30 (NIVUK)

Sermon Title: God’s Search for Faithfulness

Introduction

Continuing from last week’s sermon on faithfulness, SP elaborated on the type of faithfulness that God seeks. In Matthew 25:14-30, Jesus emphasized the importance of faithfulness over success. The servants were praised as “good and faithful,” not “good and successful.” God’s focus is not on success but rather on faithfulness. One of God’s expectation of us is faithfulness. As servants of God, we are entrusted with talents, and it is our duty to be faithful stewards of His kingdom.

God is searching for faithfulness that is

1. Unconditional
2. Unceasing

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. My life is currently filled with challenges and uncertainties. How can I cultivate unconditional faithfulness in my relationship with God?

A1. Unconditional faithfulness in our relationship with God demands unwavering commitment to His ways, regardless of our circumstances or personal feelings. In times of adversity or doubt, trusting God's wisdom and plan for our lives can be challenging.

To nurture this faithfulness, we must deepen our understanding of God's character through consistent prayer and studying His word. Seeking guidance from spiritual leaders, pastors, and engaging in a faith community can further strengthen our faith. Through these practices, we can rely on God's strength to remain faithful until the end.

Q2. One of my greatest fears is that my faithfulness to God may not remain unceasing. How can I sustain unceasing faithfulness even in the face of doubt and struggle?

A2. In the pursuit of unceasing faithfulness, time plays a crucial role. It requires a lifelong commitment, not just a single moment of faithfulness. While a healthy reverence for God, rather than overwhelming fear, is beneficial, maintaining unceasing faithfulness demands deliberate and intentional effort.

Understanding God's character, as mentioned earlier, helps us grasp His intentions and heart. Consistent prayer and studying His word enable us to reflect on His faithfulness throughout history and apply it to our lives. Being part of a faith community provides mutual support, encouragement, and companionship as we navigate doubts and challenges, nurturing our faith.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Have you established a consistent routine of prayer and scripture reading? What steps can you take today to strengthen your spiritual foundation and deepen your faith?

Q2. Are you currently grappling with doubts or facing challenges? How actively are you engaging in discussions with your leaders and pastors to confront and overcome these challenges?

Q3. Reflect on a recent situation where your faith was put to the test. Consider how you responded and what could have been improved in your response?

WORKS (15 minutes)

Focus on *edification, equipping and evangelism*.

Press on in your efforts for the Celebration of Life (COL) outreach event, which runs from 10-26 November. In addition, pray for COL, book tickets, and explore ways to expedite your invitations, such as arranging transportation for your invitees or planning a meal together before the show, etc. For more information, go to <https://www.fcbc.org.sg/COL2023>.

For announcements: visit www.fcbc.org.sg/announcements or our social media platforms – Facebook and Instagram @fbcsg.