

4Ws for Week 43, 23-29 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. New Experiences

Our lives a collection of both new and repeated experiences. To have a new experience, we must be willing to try new things. Share the thrill of something new you have recently tried.

2. Your Childhood Ambition/Dream

Science suggests that only 8% of people achieve their ambitions or goals. An ambition or goal without action is merely a dream. However, as children, we inhabit a world of boundless imagination and audacious dreams. Share your childhood dream.

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) Everything That Has Breath - Hillsong
- 2) Come Holy Spirit

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: Senior Pastor Daniel Khong

Scripture Passage: Matthew 24:3-14

Sermon Title: Ready Yourself

Introduction

Amid the on-going conflict in Israel, it is crucial that we pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6-9) and maintain impartiality. Recent pandemics, wars and earthquakes have sparked many conversations about the End Times. Jesus called these crises in Matthew 24:6-8, the beginning of sorrows (birth pains), signalling the end. John the Baptist, as he began his ministry, declared the nearness of the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 3:1-2). Thus, the Kingdom of Heaven and Christ's imminent return draw closer.

Recognising the approaching End Times, it is important to **ready ourselves** as God's children and Christ's disciples. This readiness involves:

- Living the right way – God's way
- Doing the right things – God's things

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. How must we live our lives in God's way to ready ourselves for the Lord's coming?

A1. Jesus said, "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. Therefore, you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." (Matthew 24:42,44).

To prepare for Christ's return, John the Baptist stressed repentance and reconciliation with God (Matthew 3:1-2), which involves forsaking our old ways and living in holiness. The parables in Matthew 24 and 25 emphasize the significance of readiness, as seen in the parable of the Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:8-10), highlighting the wisdom of those who readied their lamps and lived in righteousness, eagerly awaiting the Bridegroom.

Q2. What are the “God’s things” we should do to ready ourselves?

A2. Being ready for Christ means fulfilling the tasks He entrusted us to do, so that when He returns, He will find us doing them (Matthew 24:45-46). Like John the Baptist, we must preach the gospel (Matthew 24:14), urge all to repent and believe in Christ. This gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world, and then the end will come.

Application Questions

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

Q1. When we see the signs such as “nation rise against nation, famines, pestilences and earthquakes,” do we ready ourselves or find ourselves speculating about the timing for Christ’s return? Share.

Q2. What changes do you intend to make in your life to better prepare for Christ’s return?

WORKS (15 minutes)

Focus on *edification, equipping and evangelism*.

Celebration of Life (COL) 10 - 26 November.

1. Pray at every CG gathering.
2. Book tickets.
3. Explore ways to expedite your invitations, e.g., arranging transportation for your invitees or planning a meal together before the show, etc.
4. Challenge members to each bring at least one pre-believer.
(NOTE: This is not an event for you or the CG to enjoy together; encourage everyone going to bring at least a pre-believer.)
5. Update status of CG Members’ Invitees List.

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.