

4Ws for Week 46, 15 - 21 Nov 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. Seasons

Now that Singapore has launched VTL (vaccinated travel lanes) to many nations, share which nation and what season you would love to travel to – spring, summer, autumn or winter?

2. Scramble word game

Click on this link: https://youtu.be/jXic_pdcT-0 to play the Scramble word game, and let members guess the scrambled 5-letter words in the video.

3. Bible quiz game

Click on this link: <https://youtu.be/6DhynsaTkic> to play the Bible quiz game, and have fun with the 20 easy questions with your members.

Transition to Worship:

"Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous deeds among all peoples" (Psalm 96:1-3).

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following worship songs:

1. Glorious Day (E)
2. Beautiful Savior (E)

Let's pause to wait upon the Lord for the ministry of the Holy Spirit. And let's use this time to exercise the gifts of the Holy Spirit – if you have a word of knowledge, a vision, or tongues and interpretation of tongues – release it to minister to each other.

Transition to Word:

Thank you, Father, for making yourself known to us, and showing us the way of salvation through faith in your Son. We ask you now, to teach us through your word, so that we may be ready to serve you, for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen!

WORD (45 minutes)

Memory verse of the week: Job 28:28 (NIV)

²⁸ "The fear of the Lord—that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding."

Sermon Title: Seasons

By Rev. Roland Lee

on 13-14 Nov 2021

Scripture Passages: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NIVUK)

¹There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: ²a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, ³a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, ⁴a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, ⁵a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, ⁶a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, ⁷a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, ⁸a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

Introduction

Like nature, life is full of seasons. Every season brings change, just as different times of the year bring different seasons. What that means is that in life, we will always have to face changes. With every season, we must learn to embrace the changes that come with it, lest we miss out on what God is doing in the season of our lives.

We are now living in extraordinary times and seasons. As a church, we must take time to seek God and discern the season we are in. But the truth of the matter is that we don't like changes, and quite often we avoid change. We want to remain where we are. But we need to understand that God specifically leads us to new seasons so that we can grow and be brought in our spiritual walk or journey to a new destination that He has in store for us. As long as God as our anchor is leading us, we can be secure and need not fear amidst the shifting seasons of our lives.

The two truths which we can anchor our lives and be secure amidst the shifting seasons of life are:

1. God is Unchanging – We are secure
2. God is In Charge – We are safe

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. Why is it not wise to anchor our lives on the things of this world – money, success, fame, relationships?

A1. When we anchor our lives on the things of this world such as money, success, fame and relationships, then our lives will always be unstable. These things don't last; they are unstable — we can lose our money, success, fame, and relationships can also change. If we anchor our lives on things that don't last or will change, then our lives will never feel stable, safe, or secure.

Q2. How can the unchanging nature of God enable us to be secure in the midst of life's changes?

A2. When we encounter changes and uncertainties in our lives, we need a solid anchor which God alone qualifies because He is eternal and He never changes. Our God is a God who leads us into change, but He Himself does not change. This is exceptionally important because if we anchor ourselves to something unstable, then we too are unstable. But when anchored to something incredibly stable, then we can be stable regardless of what life throws at us.

- **Ecclesiastes 3:14 (NIVUK)** — ¹⁴I know that everything God does will endure for ever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.

- **Hebrews 13:8** (NIVUK) — ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
- **Hebrews 6:17-19** (NLT) — ¹⁷ God also bound himself with an oath, so that those who received the promise could be perfectly sure that he would never change his mind. ¹⁸ So God has given both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie. Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. ¹⁹ This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. It leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary.

Q3. What does this verse: “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens” mean?

A3. This verse means God has ordained a time and season for everything that happens to us. It tells us that God is in charge of every event in our lives and in human history. There is nothing that happens without His knowledge. In this, we can feel safe because God is in charge and we don't have to be fearful regardless of the circumstances or seasons we are in, whether good or bad.

- **Ecclesiastes 3:1** (NIVUK) — ¹ There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.
- **Revelation 1:8** (NLT) — ⁸ “I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end,” says the Lord God. “I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One.”
- **Ecclesiastes 3:14** (NIVUK) — ¹⁴ I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Share which season of your life are you in now. Are you going through a season of change?

Q2. Share in what ways God has taught you or is teaching you to continue to put your trust in Him through the challenging seasons in your life?

- **Luke 6:47-49** (NIVUK) — ⁴⁷ As for everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, I will show you what they are like. ⁴⁸ They are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock. When the flood came, the torrent struck that house but could not shake it, because it was well built. ⁴⁹ But the one who hears my words and does not put them into practice is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation. The moment the torrent struck that house, it collapsed and its destruction was complete.'

Transition to Works:

Heavenly Father, as we begin prayerfully to usher in new seasons with anticipation of what you will do, I pray for peace. I pray we would have a perspective that sets our eyes on you and not on the world. Lead my heart to experience you more deeply, help me seek you more intentionally, and grow my faith as I trust in you confidently. Help us to give our pre-believing friends the reason for the hope that we profess. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen!

WORKS (15 minutes)

1. 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.

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/programmes.

3. 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. 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
- 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.