

4Ws for Week 47, 16 Nov 2020 - 22 Nov 2020

(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. Travel Bubble

As we prepare to enter into Phase 3 of our Circuit Breaker measures here in Singapore, we are beginning to hear more and more about travel bubbles that our government is forming with other countries. First with Hong Kong and potentially with other countries.

Which country do you hope that a travel bubble can be formed? And why?

Travel bubbles are exclusive travel partnerships between 2 countries that have demonstrated considerable success in containing the Covid19 pandemic. Have we formed “spiritual bubbles” with a trusted community?

We need to have a trusted community in our battle against the pandemic of sin.

2. Nutrition

There have been different types of theories as to the different kinds of diets. From Vegan all the way to Keto. We are not here to debate on the different kinds of diets as there are definitely the Pros and Cons of the various diets.

The key point of any diet is really the management of nutrition to our bodies. What do you think would be an ideal healthy meal (lunch) for you? (On a normal occasion)

Transition to Worship:

We all need food to survive. It fuels our body, and it is highly unlikely we can go for days without food and don't feel anything about it. Have you gone for days without spiritual food? How do you feel about it? How hungry are you for the word of God today? As we enter into a time of worship, let's turn our hearts towards God and let's allow the Holy Spirit to renew us as we desire to grow into a more intimate relationship with our Heavenly Father. Let us look towards Him and praise Him.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following worship songs:

- 1) Forever Reign (E)
- 2) Goodness of God (G)
- 3) You are Good – Kari Jobe (G)

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:

Heavenly Father, we long for Your kingdom to forever rule and reign in our lives. We know and declare that You are a good God. May You first work through our lives and teach us how to be a blessing to those around us. Help us desire to be more and more like You. Amen!

WORD (45 minutes)

Memory verse of the week: Daniel 2:20

“Praise be to the name of God forever and ever; wisdom and power are his.”

Sermon Title: The Lord’s Prayer (Part 2)

By Rev. Roland Lee

on 14 & 15 Nov 2020

Scripture Passages: Matt 6:9-13 (NKJV)

⁹In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹Give us this day our daily bread. ¹²And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Introduction

In the previous week, Senior Pastor Daniel Khong started this sermon by sharing on what we should desire for when we pray. He shared how prayer was an important key that helps us connect deeply with the heart of God and enter into the Rest that He has intended for us – and this in turn blesses our lives.

While this is true, the blessings of God is not the end in itself. Prayer is not a certain formula for us to get what we want for our lives – instead, prayer is about our desire for God’s kingdom to reign in our lives, bringing glory to Him.

There are 3 truths we need to embrace in order to have the right heart in our prayer lives. In our prayer life we must:

1. Desire for God’s Purity
2. Depend on God’s Presence
3. Declare God’s Power

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. Isn’t the fundamentals of prayer just about talking to God, telling Him about my day or presenting to Him my difficulties and needs? Why the need to over-complicate matters?

A1. We have learnt that the Lord’s Prayer is a model of prayer that Jesus gave to His disciples and it started and ended with two major declarations.

Matthew 6:9-10 (NKJV)

⁹In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6:13b (NKJV)

¹³ ...For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

We have to understand that the context behind the heart of the Lord's Prayer is the Kingdom of God. When we pray for God's Kingdom to come, we are not only declaring His power and authority, but we are also releasing His power.

Prayer should not be confined to that of a personal wish-list or a ventilation session – God DOES want to hear our lamentations and cries to Him – instead, the focus here is our relationship with God. It is in our prayer life that we grow this relationship with Him.

Q2. Agreeably prayer is intended to help us grow in our relationship with God, but I have been a Christian for many years and I do pray. However, I do not see the difference. How does this growth happen?

A2. The Lord's Prayer teaches us that as we ask God for the forgiveness of our own sins, we too are to forgive those who have sinned against us. The key focus here is a deep desire for cleansing. When and if there is unconfessed and unrepented sins in our lives, our relationship with God is affected.

Psalms 51:10-12 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Does our prayer life accurately reflect the desire for God's kingdom to reign in our life and bring Him glory? Do we desire to restore to our lives the joy of our salvation, or is it a form or formula that we use to get God to give us what we want in our lives?

One of the keys to growing a deeper and more intimate relationship with God is to spend time to deal with the issues of sin and purity in our lives. If we want to grow a deep relationship with God, we need to be brutal in dealing with areas of our lives. And this includes forgiving those who might have wronged you!

Forgiveness is in the very heart of God. Your desire for purity and intimacy is linked directly to the desire to be more like God.

Q3. It is easy to say "live in purity" or "forgive others like Jesus" – But it is really difficult for me to do so.

A3. If we admit that it is difficult – maybe even possible for you to do so – then great! We are on the same page! The reality is that there are many human vulnerabilities and if we try to face them using our own strength, we are setting ourselves up for a hard time.

Matthew 6:13a (NLT)

¹³ And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.

We are taught in the Lord's Prayer to have an absolute dependency on God. When we come before God in prayer and allow the Holy Spirit to once against cleanse and fill our lives, we will receive the

ability to overcome temptation from the evil one. In our moments of weakness, we need to grow in our hunger for the Presence of God in our lives.

In the face of our temptation and struggles, let us run to God and to His presence and trust that we can be renewed to live victoriously for Him!

Application Questions

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

Q1. Inspect and Reflect on your attitude when coming to God in prayer. Is there something that you should do differently today?

Q2. Are you struggling in an area of purity? Be it in the area of personal sin or unforgiveness? Come before God and depend on His cleansing power today.

Q3. Is God's Kingdom the key priority in your life? Is there something you would need to give up or to start doing in order to make fulfilling the Kingdom of God your focus?

Transition to Works:

Heavenly Father we are grateful that You desire to walk in a close relationship with us. We are thankful that Your mercies never come to an end and that they are new every morning. We believe that as we live out Your truths in our everyday lives, we are declaring Your power and making an impact in the world today! Amen.

WORKS (15 minutes)

1. Continue to Connect

a) With cell group members

1. Hold your cell members accountable to watch the Livestream Service or download the message to listen later.
2. Seek ways and means to stay connected with each other. For example:
 - a. Synchronize prayer times
 - b. Share devotional thoughts through WhatsApp. Encourage your members to post 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 that you like on Instagram by leaving these in your cell group hashtag as a comment. Everything that has been tagged with your cell group hashtag will be available for the entire group to see!
 - 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

Encourage 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.

3. Organise activities for your CG members to connect face-to-face with their contacts, e.g. go for a nature walk, meet together for meals, etc. But please keep to social distancing guidelines and limit to no more than 5 per group.

2. 3x3 Prayer

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the strongholds that bind the people. Ask Him to set up divine appointments for us 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.

3. Consolidation of New Converts

Assimilate them! Let them have a sense of belonging with our faith community! Connect with them via phone calls; introduce them to cell members via WhatsApp and invite them to join in our livestream services and your online cell group meetings.

Announcements:

For more announcements, please visit www.fcbc.org.sg/announcements or our social media platforms – we can be found on Facebook and Instagram @fbcsg.