

4Ws for Week 47, 21-27 Nov'2022

WELCOME (15 minutes)

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

Suggested Icebreakers:

1. Guess the Destination

Get each Member to share a photo of one of their overseas trips. The rest of the group Members will have to guess the place. Present a gift to the one with the most number of correct answers.

2. Christmas Memories

Christmas is around the corner. Share a memory you have of Christmas.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

(Remember to pause for the Holy Spirit to minister through the Members. Encourage Members to release a word, a vision, tongues and interpretation of tongues, to minister to each other.)

Suggested Worship Songs:

- 1) Worthy of It All (D)
- 2) Make Room - Community Music (E)

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: SP Daniel Khong

Scripture Passage: 2 Corinthians 9:6-10 (NIVUK)

Sermon Title: Cheerful Giving

Introduction

We are experiencing rising inflation and higher costs of living; it is difficult to give cheerfully to the Lord. Yet in these uncertain times, it is more crucial that we give to the Lord, and give cheerfully.

Jesus talks directly about money and financial stewardship in one third of all His parables. Giving to God is not just about obeying the rule of tithing (Leviticus 27:30) and offerings. Each of us should give what we have decided in our heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7). How we use our money speaks a lot about our hearts. "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). God sees the condition of our heart in giving.

We must continue to give cheerfully to God regardless of our circumstances because

1. **Giving demonstrates our Faithfulness to Him – God is Priority!**
2. **Giving demonstrates our Faith in Him – God is Powerful!**

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. How does giving to God in difficult circumstances demonstrate our faithfulness to Him and reveal our heart?

A1. If God is our priority, we will faithfully demonstrate it by our tithing and offerings, regardless of the circumstances we are facing. It shows where our heart is. (Matt. 6:21). However, if we

make wealth our priority, the Bible tells us that we will “pierce ourselves through with many sorrows” (1 Tim. 6:10).

The widow who gave two mites (Mark 12:42) revealed that God is her priority - She chose to give faithfully to God despite her poverty, and *gave all that she had*.

Q2. How does giving in challenging times reveal our faith in a powerful God?

A2. Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when instructed by God - he believed that God is powerful and able to raise Isaac even from the dead.

The poor widow who gave the two mites believed that her physical needs for survival would be provided. We are to live by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7); **without faith, it is impossible to please God** (Heb. 11:6).

Application Questions

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

Q1. “Don’t give God what’s left but give God what’s best.”

Honour the Lord with your wealth, with the **first fruits** of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine (Prov. 3:9-10).

Share a personal testimony of how you have demonstrated faithfulness in giving to God even in challenging circumstances.

Q2. Decide now to take a step of faith to test Him and “bring the whole tithe in the storehouse” (Malachi 3:10-12). Share how you intend to apply this.

WORKS (15 minutes)

Focus on *edification, equipping and evangelism*. In every CG gathering, encourage members to reach out right where God has placed them, and give them time to share their outreach efforts. CGs running XFXZ Wave 6 should press on in their 3x3 prayers as a cell group.

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