

4Ws for Week 51, 14-20 Dec 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. Taboo

Facilitator will private message each CG Member a guess word and get each Member to describe the word without saying the word directly, so that the others may guess what the guess word is.

Suggested Words: coffee machine, weighing scale, park, pillow case, tree trunk, pond, river, Merlion, Texas Chicken, waterfall, jacket, guitar

Suggested Words (Christian): manger, Queen Esther, The Great Commission, the Twelve Disciples, 5 loaves and 2 fishes, Word of God, sin, redemption, Alpha and Omega, church, Holy Spirit, angel

2. Name, place, colour, thing

Facilitator will share the Zoom Whiteboard and draw a simple table with the headers – Name, Place, Colour and Thing. Facilitator will start by calling out a random letter of the Alphabet, followed by a Name that starts with the letter. The next person will need to name a Place that starts with the same letter. The third person will name a Colour that starts with the same letter. The fourth person will name a Thing that starts with the same letter, and calls out the next random letter, and the cycle starts again.

Example:

Name	Place	Colour	Thing
Andy	Antarctica	Amber	Apron
Noah	Norway	Neon green	Necklace
Pamela	Punggol	Pink	Plate

Materials Needed: Zoom whiteboard.

Transition to Worship:

Lord Jesus, You are a God of absolute wisdom; You know all things and in Your faithfulness to us, You have caused Your Holy Spirit to indwell us to guide us into all Your wisdom. We worship You, for You are Faithful, Amen.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following worship songs:

- 1) Faithful – Chris Tomlin (D)
- 2) What A Beautiful Name (D)
- 3) Cornerstone (G)

Let us pause to wait upon the Lord for the ministry of the Holy Spirit. We 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:

Lord Jesus, You are indeed our Waymaker. Your Word guides us in Your ways and gives us confidence that gives us confidence that You will always make a way for us. Speak to us through Your Word. In Jesus' name Amen.

WORD (45 minutes)

Memory verse of the week: 1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Sermon Title: The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

By Senior Pastor Daniel Khong

on 12 & 13 Dec 2020

Scripture Passage: Matt 1:18-25

¹⁸This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. ²⁰As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All of this occurred to fulfil the Lord's message through his prophet: ²³"Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" ²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. ²⁵But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.

Introduction

Christmas is the occasion we celebrate the birth of Christ. It is a wonderful time of the year as we remember:

1. God's Promise Fulfilled
2. God's Presence Given
3. God's Passion Revealed

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. Christmas is God's promise fulfilled. Meditate on the verses. What do they speak to you of God's character?

A1. It shows that God is a faithful and trustworthy God. He had promised to send His Son, and at the right time, He fulfilled this promise, keeping to His Word and promise.

Isaiah 7:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

Matthew 1:22-23 (NLT)

²² All of this occurred to fulfil the Lord's message through his prophet: ²³ "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

Hebrews 6:18-19 (NLT)

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.

Q2. Christmas is God's presence given. When God gave His Son on that first Christmas morning, what was the message He was communicating to the world?

A2. God wanted to communicate to us that Jesus is His Son and that He has come to be with mankind. Jesus is God with us! With this, God also wants to give us the assurance that just as He gave His Son to be with us, He will never ever leave or forsake us.

Matthew 1:23 (NLT)

²³ "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

John 1:1, 14 (NIVUK)

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Deuteronomy 31:6 (NIVUK)

⁶ Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.'

Psalms 27:10 (NLT)

¹⁰ Even if my father and mother abandon me, the Lord will hold me close.

Psalms 94:14 (NIVUK)

¹⁴ For the Lord will not reject his people; he will never forsake his inheritance.

Q3. Christmas is God's passion revealed.

A. What is God's passion?

B. How is it revealed in His Son at Christmas?

A3. A. God's passion is to save the world.

B. The coming of His Son is God sharing His heart with us - It is His message of His intense, undying, unconditional love and providence of a Saviour for the world! It is His telling us we are precious in His sight and special to Him.

Matthew 1:21 (NLT)

²¹ And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will **save his people from their sins**.

John 3:17 (NIVUK)

¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

1 John 4:9-10 (NKJV)

⁹ In this the **love of God was manifested** toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

Romans 8:32 (NLT)

³² Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else?

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Use this coming week to meditate on God's promise fulfilled; God's presence given and God's passion revealed.

Q2. How will you allow this Christmas message to impact your attitude (desire) towards reaching out to prebelievers; and your participation in IBHFC?

Spend time praying for each other.

Transition to Works:

Thank You God for showing us what a wonderful time of the year Christmas is. As You have fulfilled Your promise, cause us to fulfil Your great Commission; as You have given Your Son, cause us to share this gift of love to others; as You have revealed Your passion of saving souls, grant that this same passion will also be in us. May our hearts beat with Your heartbeat as we continue to connect with others to share the Christmas message, for Your glory! 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. Suggest CG Members meet in the separate homes of some of the CG members to view together the online service. But keep to 5 guests per household.
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
 - e. Arrange get-togethers of no more than 5 persons.
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.

4. Plan your Christmas Outreach (Watch Parties)

- a) Organize your CG members into smaller groups for this outreach. As you do so, bear in mind the safe distancing guideline of no more than five guests per household/location, excluding the members in the same household. Allow each smaller group to update on action taken.
- b) Pin down the details of your outreach – date/s, time/s, venue/s, etc.
- c) Continue praying for your guests. Allocate during the CG time to pray for your guests. Update on the guests coming.
- d) Finalise the logistics planning – catering of meals; ICs for the various parts of the program, etc.
- e) Get members to go into youtube.com/fbcbsg from 18 Dec onwards to view the Christmas programme. Ensure that you have gifts prepared for guests, for this is part of the IBHFC video.

- f) Organize your small groups to meet together prior to your Christmas party to be praying together or to decorate the place, etc.
- g) Start inviting your guests for the Watch Parties

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.