

4Ws for Week 52, 26 Dec 2022 -1 Jan 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. Most Memorable Christmas

Get everybody to share how they celebrate Christmas 2022 and also what was their most memorable Christmas.

2. Thanksgiving for 2022

As we come to the last week of 2022, share what we can thank God for in 2022.

3. Guess the Bible Characters

<https://youtu.be/YaDropzHaJA> - Enjoy this Bible character emoji bible trivia quiz with answers.

Everyone is given 10 seconds to answer each emoji name quiz.

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) Glorious Day (G)
- 2) Worthy - Elevation Worship (D)

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: SP Daniel Khong

Scripture Passage: Psalm 145:18, Luke 19:2-10

Sermon Title: Immanuel: The God Who's Near

Introduction

Christmas is a sweet reminder that God is not a far-off God. He left the wonders of heaven and laid aside the glory He had with His Father to dwell among us; He came close to us; He is Immanuel, the God who's near. Like the story of Zacchaeus, we must choose to draw near to Him. Yet the mystery and the wonder of Christmas is this: Since God is a holy God, why would He choose to be near us? Aren't we objects of His wrath since we are all sinners?

There are two reasons why God chooses to draw near to us :

1. We matter to God
2. We are loved by God

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. How does the story of Zacchaeus illustrate the point that we matter to God?

A1. Zacchaeus, a chief tax collector, was abhorred and despised by his fellow Jews but not Jesus. It was, in fact, Jesus who took notice of Zacchaeus on the tree and invited Himself to be a guest at his home. In the eyes of the Jews, they weren't too pleased that Jesus would associate with such

a person, let alone be a guest of a sinner! But Jesus was not worried about how others viewed Him. He knew that His mission from God is to reach out to us despite our sins, because we matter to Him.

Q2. How did Jesus show He loved Zacchaeus and us?

A2. Jesus had compassion for Zacchaeus who climbed a tree to try to catch a glimpse of Him. He even called Zacchaeus by name. Jesus loves every one of us regardless of our outward appearance. He transforms our lives with His love, mercy, and forgiveness. The reason Jesus came to earth was to seek and save those who are lost (Luke 19:10). The good news is, He did not come just for “good” people, but also for those who were truly lost and in need of His healing.

Application Questions

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

Q1. In what way does the story of Zacchaeus touch you, and how can you identify with Zacchaeus?

Q2. Are there doubts or inadequacies that stop you from drawing near to God who desires to draw close to you?

WORKS (15 minutes)

Focus on *edification, equipping* and *evangelism*. In every CG gathering, encourage members to reach out right where God has placed them. Give members time to share their outreach efforts. Press on in praying together for Bests and pre believer contacts.

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