

4Ws for Week 6 (5 - 11 Feb 2024)

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 Who

Have each cell member write the name of a famous person on a post-it-note and then stick it to the forehead of the person next to them. The fun is to see how quickly everyone can guess the identity of the person on their forehead.

2. Chin Ho Chiak (Very Good to Eat)

This game involves members going through their photo album on their phones and sharing a photo of interesting food, a café, or a restaurant that they would like to recommend.

3. Chinese New Year

Have each member share how they spend their Chinese New Year reunion.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

(Encourage members to allow the Holy Spirit to minister through them by sharing words, visions, tongues and interpretations of tongues.)

Suggested worship songs:

1. Look to the Son (Hillsong)
2. Living Hope

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: SP Daniel Khong

Scripture Passage: Jonah 1-4, Acts 16:1-10

Sermon Title: The Power of No

Introduction

In our Christian walk, we will experience times when God says 'no' to what we want. That is because He cares for us and often we don't realise that His plans are better than ours. Being told 'no' is necessary and essential for our spiritual growth. There is more power in God's 'no' than we realise.

Two reasons why God's 'no' is essential to our spiritual growth:

1. It is an opportunity for correction
2. It is an opportunity for direction.

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. Why did God have to correct His prophet, Jonah?

A1. God had to correct Jonah for several reasons:

1. Jonah's disobedience to God's call to go and preach to the city of Niniveh stemmed from his resentment against the Lord for giving the hated enemy a chance to repent.

2. He became upset with God when, finally, he went to preach, and the entire city repented and turned to God.
3. Jonah felt that the wicked Assyrians did not deserve mercy and should be destroyed.
4. God has more pity and compassion for the Assyrians than Jonah does.
5. God didn't allow Jonah to continue in his disobedience, sending a storm and a great fish to swallow him up.

Q2. How did God direct Paul in his missionary journey? How does it apply to us?

A2. God directed Paul by saying 'no' to his entering Bithynia (Asia Minor) and redirected him to preach in Macedonia instead. When God says 'no' to us, it doesn't necessarily mean we have done anything wrong; rather, it signifies that God is guiding us to where we need to go.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Share some moments or incidents from your life when God said 'no' to certain situations. Reflect on whether these instances were moments of correction or direction from God.

Q2. Are there currently any situations in your life where you require God's correction or direction?

WORKS (15 minutes)

Focus on *edification, equipping and evangelism*.

1. **Building on the momentum of your outreach efforts** – continue praying for your pre-believing friends and family, connect with them, and invite them to join cell and weekend church services.
2. **Consolidation of new believers** – Diligently pray for and reach out to friends and family who have decided to receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour, guiding and helping them grow in the faith.

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