

4Ws for Week 8 (19-25 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. Chinese New Year

On 24th Feb, we mark the 15th and final day of the CNY celebrations. Please share one specific blessing or incident that has touched and warmed your heart during this Lunar Year of the Dragon. It's time to testify and encourage one another.

2. The Power of One

The world we live in is currently burdened with countless conflicts and ecological and climactic issues, along with the wasteful loss of human lives in nonsensical wars. Share how you, embodying "The Power of One," can contribute to making our planet a safe and beautiful place to live in.

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) God is for us - Citylight
- 2) From the inside out – Hillsong

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: SP Daniel Khong

Scripture Passage: Matthew 22:35-40 (NIVUK)

Sermon Title: Outward Faith

Introduction

All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments (Matt. 22:40), simply summed up as: 1. Love God, and 2. Love People. Everything that God ever wanted us to do ultimately boils down to the essence of these two commands. It is not to be inward-focused on ourselves but, rather, beyond us. Our faith has to be one that is outward, demonstrable for others to see and know.

Our true love for God must be foundational, holistic and complete. Similarly, our love for others (our neighbour) calls us to prioritize their interests above ours.

SP Daniel shares two principles we must live by to turn our faith outward:

- **God Above All** (Love God)
- **Others Before Self** (Love People)

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. What does the Bible teach about how we are to love God?

A1. The Bible tells us to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind (Deut. 6:5, Matt. 22:37). Jesus emphasizes that this is the first and greatest commandment (Matt. 22:38), signifying its foundational

importance in all our actions. To genuinely love God, we must devote our entire being to Him, placing Him above all else in our lives.

Q2. What does Jesus teach about how we are to love our neighbour?

A2. Jesus' second command is to love your neighbour as yourself (Matt. 22:39). The Christian life is not centered on self-love but on denying ourselves (Lk. 9:23) and learning to love God, thus gaining the ability to love others. 1 Jn. 3:16-18 provides us an example of how we are to love people—love through action, prioritizing others over ourselves.

Application Questions

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

Q1. What is standing in the way and preventing you from loving God above all, both holistically and completely? Reflect on and share your thoughts.

Q2. Is prioritizing the interests of others something that comes naturally to you? If not, what steps can you take to cultivate a greater sense of love and concern for those around you?

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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