

## 4Ws for Week 8, 22 - 28 Feb 2021

*(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. Heroes

Ask everyone to name three persons they admire, past or present, and briefly share the reason for their choices. Alternatively, ask: "If you could interview anyone in history, who would you choose and why? What will be one or two questions you would like to ask?" Members may likely talk about people who have impacted their lives personally, so it may take longer than usual.

#### 2. "What am I?" Riddles

- a. You go at red but stop at green. What am I? (**Answer:** Watermelon. You start eating the red part, but stop at the green part).
- b. I am tall when I am young and short when I am old. What am I? (**Answer:** Candle)
- c. I help you from your head to your toe. The more I work, the smaller I grow. What am I? (**Answer:** A bar of soap)
- d. I can fly but have no wings. I can cry but have no eyes. Wherever I go, darkness follows me. What am I? (**Answer:** Clouds)
- e. I shave every day, but my beards remain the same. What am I? (**Answer:** A barber)
- f. I have branches, but no fruit, trunk or leaves. What am I? (**Answer:** A bank)
- g. A seed with 3 letters in my name. Take away 2 and I still sound the same. What am I? (**Answer:** A pea)
- h. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I? (**Answer:** Footsteps)
- i. I have 2 hands but I cannot scratch myself. What am I? (**Answer:** A Clock)
- j. I am the beginning of Everything, the end of Everywhere. I'm the beginning of Eternity, the end of Time and Space. What am I? (**Answer:** The alphabet "E")

#### Transition to Worship:

*Come, let's make a joyful noise unto the Lord; for the Lord deserves a mighty shout!! Hallelujah!! Praise the King! Jesus is the Victorious One! He is the Alpha and the Omega! His love endures forever and ever! Our hope is only in Jesus, All the glory evermore in Him!*

### WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following worship songs:

- 1) Every Move I Make – David Ruis (E)
- 2) Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me (A)
- 3) Cornerstone (G)

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

*Dearest God, thank You for Your presence and ministry among us. Lord, continue to work in and through us as we discuss Your word. We humble ourselves before You so that we may heed Your instructions and apply Your wisdom to live and walk in Your righteousness. In Jesus name, Amen!*

### **WORD (45 minutes)**

#### **Memory verse of the week: Matthew 16:24 (NIV)**

*“<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”*

#### **Sermon Title: Staying Hopeful**

**By Senior Pastor Daniel Khong**

**on 20-21 Feb 2021**

#### **Scripture Passages: Romans 3:23-26 (NKJV)**

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, <sup>26</sup> to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

#### **Introduction**

Last weekend SP Daniel commented about the situation concerning Ravi Zacharias, one of the most well-known Christian apologists of our time. The late Ravi Zacharias has been used in a powerful way to spread and present the gospel. It was with great sadness, disappointment and even anger that the Christian community learnt about Ravi’s sexual immorality and the attempts made to cover it up. It is never easy when someone we consider as a giant of the faith has fallen. And, naturally, our thoughts will be filled with all kinds of questions and doubts. To help us put things in perspective, SP Daniel summarised the situation as follows:

- a. Sin was committed
- b. There are consequences
- c. Good does not negate bad just as bad does not negate good
- d. There is a difference between a fallen preacher and a false preacher.

In addition, SP Daniel also shared that this is not the first time nor the last time we will hear of a man of prominence falling into sin. The question we need to ask ourselves is: “What can we learn from this episode and how can we remain hopeful in spite of what has happened?” Reflecting on the situation, SP Daniel then shared that there are two hard truths we can learn to keep us hopeful:

1. Humanity Is Corruptible, but God Is Our Redeemer
2. I Am Susceptible, but God’s Grace Is Sufficient

#### **Discovery and Understanding Questions:**

##### **Q1. Why is humanity corruptible? How can we have hope?**

**A1.** Humanity is corruptible in thoughts, feelings, spirits, culture, institutions, knowledge and so on. Given the technological advancement over time, we have become more civilised and better than what we used to be. Our living standard has improved, but our corruptible nature has not changed.

Despite the advancements in science, technology, medicine and societal progress, evil still exist; crime still exists; injustice still exists. Consider Romans 3:23 and 3:10.

### **Romans 3:23 (NKJV)**

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

### **Romans 3:10 (NKJV)**

<sup>10</sup> As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one;

However, our hope is in God because only God can make us righteous. This is what we call "Imputed Righteousness" - in that none of us have the ability to ever be righteous. But God gives us that righteousness. We will never be able to stay hopeful if we put our hope in people.

### **Romans 3:22 (NIVUK)**

<sup>22</sup> This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.

### **Romans 3:24-26 (NIVUK)**

<sup>24</sup> being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, <sup>26</sup> to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

### **2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)**

<sup>21</sup> For He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

### **Q2. Why did SP Daniel emphasize "I AM Susceptible" instead of saying "We Are Susceptible"?**

**A2.** This is to make us recognise that you and I are just as susceptible to sin and temptation. Often we guard ourselves by not facing certain hard truths but watering it down a little by saying "we are susceptible" or "people are susceptible", so that we don't own our shortcomings.

It's not enough to just know that humanity as a whole is corruptible. You and I need to face the truth that we are just as susceptible. I am just as susceptible as anyone. Paul was someone who knew this. When he said that no one is righteous and that all have sinned and fallen short, he knew beyond the shadow of a doubt that it includes him.

### **Jeremiah 17: 9 (NLT)**

<sup>9</sup> "The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?"

### **1 Timothy 1:15 (NLT)**

<sup>15</sup> This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all.

### **Application Questions**

Break into smaller groups (breakout rooms), share, pray and minister to one another. Let's be back in 15 mins.

**Q1.** Knowing that "Humanity is Corruptible", how should you and I respond when we hear or know of a local prominent Christian pastor/leader who has fallen into sin?

**Q2.** Recognizing that "I am Susceptible" to sin and also capable of watering down and rationalizing away sin, how can you keep your heart from self-deception and maintain a clear conscience before God?

### **Transition to Works:**

Let's now spend some time to discuss the outreach activities of our cell during this Chinese New Year period.

### **WORKS (15 minutes)**

#### **1. Consolidation of Visitors/New Converts from your outreach**

Assimilate them! Let them experience a sense of belonging to 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.

#### **2. 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 8 guests per group or 8 per day per household. CG Members should limit visits to households to 2 per day.
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 8 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](http://www.fcbc.org.sg/connectwithus)
  - For Chinese -- [www.fcbc.org.sg/zh/connectwithus](http://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 8 per group.

### **3. 3x3 Prayer**

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the strongholds that bind the people in captivity. 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.

For more announcements, please visit [www.fcbc.org.sg/announcements](http://www.fcbc.org.sg/announcements) or our social media platforms – we can be found on Facebook and Instagram @fbcsg.