

4Ws for Week 9, 1 - 7 Mar 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. Who's that baby?

As the meeting host, gather baby photos of each cell group member. Have members try to guess who their friends are when shown a baby picture. The person who guesses the most photos correctly wins!

2. Biblical Person Encounter

If you were able to visit heaven, which biblical person would you talk to besides Jesus? For example, the Apostle Paul would be someone from the New Testament era that would provide hours of dialogue and inspiration.

Transition to Worship:

Let us quieten our minds and still our hearts to worship the Lord and seek His living ways. Dear Lord, strengthen our lives and inspire our spirits as we dwell in Your living waters that flows with endless grace. This is Your day! We shall praise You! This is Your day! We shall worship our everlasting God.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

You may use the following worship songs:

- 1) Everlasting God (G)
- 2) Goodness of God (G)
- 3) Waymaker (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 there is a word, a vision, tongues and interpretation of tongues – release it to minister to each other.

Transition to Word:

Bless us as we meet together, dear Lord we pray. Bless the singing of Your praises, the reading of Your Word, the sharing of our fellowship, and the prayers that will be heard. Bless us as we meet together, dear Lord we pray. Amen!

WORD (45 minutes)

Memory verse of the week: Matthew 19:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Sermon Title: Staying Strong
By Senior Pastor Daniel Khong

on 27-28 Feb 2021

Scripture Passages: 2 Samuel 11:1-4; 6-8; 14-15; 26-27 (NLT)

¹ In the spring of the year, when kings normally go out to war, David sent Joab and the Israelite army to fight the Ammonites. They destroyed the Ammonite army and laid siege to the city of Rabbah. However, David stayed behind in Jerusalem. ² Late one afternoon, after his midday rest, David got out of bed and was walking on the roof of the palace. As he looked out over the city, he noticed a woman of unusual beauty taking a bath. ³ He sent someone to find out who she was, and he was told, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴ Then David sent messengers to get her; and when she came to the palace, he slept with her.

⁶ Then David sent word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." So Joab sent him to David. ⁷ When Uriah arrived, David asked him how Joab and the army were getting along and how the war was progressing. ⁸ Then he told Uriah, "Go on home and relax." David even sent a gift to Uriah after he had left the palace.

¹⁴ So the next morning David wrote a letter to Joab and gave it to Uriah to deliver. ¹⁵ The letter instructed Joab, "Station Uriah on the front lines where the battle is fiercest. Then pull back so that he will be killed."

²⁶ When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. ²⁷ When the period of mourning was over, David sent for her and brought her to the palace, and she became one of his wives. Then she gave birth to a son. But the Lord was displeased with what David had done.

Introduction

In the previous weekend, SP Daniel talked about staying hopeful. In order for us to stay hopeful, we must confront not just the depravity of this world, but the evil that exists within our hearts as well. We learned two hard truths that can keep us hopeful:

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

Last weekend, SP Daniel continued to share about staying strong in our holiness and purity. This is a difficult thing to do as it is by the grace of God that we can stay strong. Regardless of who we are and what we do, we are all imperfect beings who need God and we need one another to live a righteous life. Another factor is that we have an enemy who wants to destroy us with sin. Thus there is a need for us to understand how we are predisposed to sin in our lives and the 3 problems we must solve in order to overcome sin:

1. Problem #1: Sin happens when We're Isolated.
Solution: Surround Ourselves with Godly People
2. Problem #2: Sin happens when We're Idle
Solution: Set Ourselves on God's Ways
3. Problem #3: Sin happens when We're Indifferent
Solution: Surrender Ourselves to God

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. Why is it difficult for us to stay strong in our holiness and purity?

A1. By nature we are sinful and have weaknesses that plague us. We also have an enemy who wants to destroy us with sin. However, by the grace of God we can stay strong, and we need one another to live a righteous life. Consider 1 John 1:8-10, Genesis 4:7b, and John Piper's quote.

1 John 1:8-10 (NLT)

⁸ If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. ⁹ But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

Genesis 4:7b (NLT)

Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master.

John Piper's quote:

"Sinning is any feeling or thought or speech or action that comes from a heart that does not treasure God over all other things."

Q2. What are the 3 problems we must solve in order for us to overcome sin?

A2. The 3 problems we must solve in order for us to overcome sin are:

1. When we are isolated, sin happens. So, we need to surround ourselves with Godly people.
2. When we are idle, sin happens. So, we need to set ourselves on God's ways.
3. When we are indifferent, sin happens. So, we need to surrender ourselves to God.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Share which of the 3 problems (i.e. isolated, idle, and indifferent), you need to work on so that you can keep yourself away from sin?

Q2. What is one thing that you can do this week to help you overcome sin?

Spend some time to pray for each other so that God will help you stay away from sin in your life as you resolve to: surround yourself with godly people, set yourself in God's ways, or surrender yourself to God.

Transition to Works:

Let's now spend some time to discuss how we can share the gospel with others before Easter and Good Friday.

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
 - 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 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.

4. Holy Communion on 6/7 March 2021

While preparing the elements, you may use the closest you can find to our usual elements:

- Prepare the Bread: A small piece of plain biscuit, plain cracker, or plain bread will do.
- Prepare the Cup: A little bit of red-coloured juice or drink will do.

Have the elements ready before the start of service. If you are joining in as a family, ensure that the elements have been distributed to everyone. Prepare our hearts by: (a) Turning to God – commit our hearts afresh to God and repent of any sins; (b) Thanking God – come before God with a heart of thanksgiving for Jesus' sacrifice.

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