

4Ws for Week 9 (26 Feb-3 Mar 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. So Blessed that I've got to give it away

Everyone in the group to take turns to share:

- What is one skill or gift that God has empowered you with? **Or**
- What is something that you feel you have an abundance of?

It does not necessarily have to be something tangible (e.g., abundance of joy in your life). The group can respond together in affirmation of what this person has shared. Prayerfully, as the spirit leads, provide suggestions on how they can share this gift to bless more people.

2. Heart Treasure hunt

Everyone in the group to think of all three questions and then take turns to share.

- 1) Every day when you wake up, what are the first three things that you do?
- 2) You just received your monthly salary/allowance. Besides using it to pay bills, what do you do with it?
- 3) How much time per week do you spend on prayer/reading the word of God?

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Sometimes, it is entirely possible that we are so busy with the rigor of life that we do not realize we have misplaced the treasures of our heart.

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) You Deserve - Hillsong
- 2) Make Room

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: Rev Roland Lee

Scripture Passage: Matthew 6:19-21, 24

Sermon Title: Materialism

Introduction

God has nothing against wealth, money or other material things. However, when we adopt a worldly mindset, these things can become problems in our lives and rob us of our love for God. If our hearts are filled with love for earthly treasures, we will not be able to receive the true heavenly treasures and blessings that comes from God. Let us examine our hearts and keep our lives free from materialism.

To keep our lives free from materialism, we must:

1. Expel the lies of false blessings in Materialism
2. Enjoy the life of true blessings in God

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. I am not a rich person, I grew up poor and worked hard to get to where I am. How does materialism affect me? I think I am the last person in the world who will indulge in materialism.

A1: Materialism impacts everyone, irrespective of whether you are rich or poor, but it is more related to the mindset you have regarding your possessions. It does not imply that God cannot and will not bless us with more, but are you content with what you have? Or do you always desire to have more things? Does your happiness or security rely on accumulating more? We need to find our sense of happiness and security in eternal things.

Q2. How can I tell if I am truly trusting and enjoying the blessings of God and living a life freed from materialism?

A2. Scripture teaches, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”. Living a life free from materialism involves examining where we invest our prime resources and time. Putting God first doesn’t mean embracing poverty but learning to lean on Him and finding our worth in Him. When we cannot give away something God instructs, it reveals that we don’t own it; it possesses us.

Endless comparisons with others’ wealth fosters a mindset of greed, leading to temptations and detrimental decisions, robbing us of God’s intended blessings. Choosing a materialism-free life enables us to recognise Jesus as the true treasure of our hearts.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Are you satisfied and content with what you have, or do you find yourself constantly desiring more?

Q2. Do you tithe 10%? If not, what’s preventing you?

Q3. Would you say that Jesus is the true treasure of your heart, or are there things you’ve told God “not to touch” in your life?

WORKS (15 minutes)

Focus on edification, equipping and evangelism.

- 1. Build on the momentum of all your outreach efforts** - continue praying for your pre-believing friends and family, connect with them, and invite them to your Cell and our Weekend Services.
- 2. Consolidation of new believers** – Diligently pray for and reach out to your 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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