

4Ws for Week 44, 31 Oct - 5 Nov 2023

WELCOME (15 minutes)

(If there are first-time guests, begin with a round of introduction and warmly welcome the new visitors.)

Suggested icebreakers:

1. Circle of trust

- Each person shares an incident from their life where they placed their trust in someone, only to have that trust broken.
- Describe the feelings experienced during that time and why they believed the trust was shattered.
- How did the situation eventually resolve? Was there a restoration of trust?

2. Note of love

- Cell leader: prepare a small page of paper for all in the group, with their name on it.
- Everyone begins by holding the page. When instructed, pass the page clockwise.
- The recipient of the page writes a note of love or encouragement for the person whose name is on the paper.
- Allow a short time (e.g., 30 seconds) for this task, and continue passing the paper clockwise.
- Eventually, the page returns to the named person with the note of love and encouragement.

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

(Remember to pause for the Holy Spirit to minister through the members. Encourage members to release a word, a vision, tongues and interpretation of tongues, to minister to each other.)

Suggested worship songs:

- 1) Battle Belongs – Phil Wickam
- 2) I Worship You Almighty God – Don Moen

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: Senior Pastor Daniel Khong

Scripture Passage: Matthew 3:13-17 (NIVUK)

Sermon Title: A New Adventure

Introduction

Baptism weekend is always a heart-warming and wonderful time when family and friends gather to pray and support the baptism candidates. Baptism is more than just a Christian ritual; it is a divine commandment and the commencement of an exciting new journey with the Lord. There are 2 fundamental aspects of our Christian journey:

1. It is an Adventure of Obedience
2. It is an Adventure of Love

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. Why did Jesus need to undergo baptism?

A1. Before starting His ministry, Jesus underwent baptism. If you find yourself puzzled about the reason behind His baptism, you are not alone. Even John the Baptist, the one whom Jesus asked to baptize Him, was equally puzzled.

Baptism signifies a public declaration of faith and a commitment to holiness and communion with the Lord. Jesus, already the embodiment of holiness, sought baptism, a seemingly unconventional choice. However, through this act, Jesus exemplified a fundamental truth in our Christian journey: the power of obedience in fulfilling the Father's will. God doesn't compel us into His purposes but empowers us to choose obedience, shaping our lives according to His design, turning the journey into a wonderful adventure.

Q2. While baptism is a commandment from God, it's important to know that not being baptized doesn't diminish God's love for us. So, why is this act necessary?

A2. Perhaps you might be grappling with the idea of obeying the call to baptism, which can bring up many questions. It's important to know that God is a God of love, and in Him, we find a path of love. Whether it is you or Jesus, God already loved you before the creation of the world!

Yet, when Jesus underwent baptism, He experienced God's love in a new dimension. Even though He personified holiness and righteousness, Jesus, out of both obedience and love for the Father, chose to be baptized. The result? The Spirit of God descended on Him like a dove, proclaiming, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." While the love between Jesus and the Father was unmistakable, His act of obedience and love in the waters reaffirmed what was already true, bringing great joy to the Father's heart.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Have you been baptized? If not, what is holding you back?

Q2. Have you or someone you know ever been baptized? What is your or their story?

Q3. Can you confidently say that you know God loves you, and do you love God? Do your actions and way of living reflect this belief?

WORKS (15 minutes)

Focus on *edification, equipping and evangelism*.

Celebration of Life (COL) 10 - 26 November.

1. Pray at every CG gathering.
2. Book tickets.
3. Explore ways to expedite your invitations, e.g., arranging transportation for your invitees or planning a meal together before the show, etc.
4. Challenge members to each bring at least one pre-believer.
(NOTE: This is not an event for you or the CG to enjoy together; encourage everyone going to bring at least a pre-believer.)
5. Update status of CG Members' Invitees List.

For more information on COL, go to <https://www.fcbc.org.sg/COL2023>.

For FCBC announcements: visit www.fcbc.org.sg/announcements or our social media platforms – Facebook and Instagram @fcbcsq.