

## 4Ws for Week 48, 27 Nov-3 Dec 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. Emoji Challenge

Get Members to use their phones to select an emoji that depicts their feelings when they are:

- Sad
- Confused
- Excited
- Happy
- Extremely Happy

Then allow each Member to share their emojis.

#### 2. Sparking Joy

Get Members to share one thing that sparks joy in them. It could be a memory, a hobby, a joke, or even the disposing of unwanted/pre-loved belongings.

### 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) Friend of God
- 2) I Worship You Almighty God – Don Moen

### WORD (45 minutes)

**Preacher:** Rev. Daniel Khong

**Scripture Passage:** Galatians 5:22-23, Philippians 4:4-7

**Sermon Title:** Practising Joy

#### Introduction

The message two weeks ago focuses on the *pursuit* of joy; last week's message goes beyond to focus on the *active and deliberate practice* of joy.

Joy is an outcome of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We can choose today to practise joy by:

1. Being *Contented* with *God's Provision*
2. Being *Confident* with *God's Purpose*
3. Being *Comforted* by *God's Promise*

#### Discovery and Understanding Questions:

**Q1. Ponder over Psalm 23:1 and Philippians 4:6-7. How can we be joyful when we lack many things in life?**

**A1.** The Lord is our Shepherd; we lack nothing! The Word of God promises this; we must believe that He will provide our every need. Let's believe and claim this!

We need to discern if our sense of lack stems from an unmet need, or from a comparison of what others possess, which we do not have. When we are always craving for more and are not contented with what we have, we will find it difficult to be grateful and satisfied with what we already have.

It is not wrong to desire things; but when we allow this longing to rob us of our contentment, we find ourselves getting caught in a downward spiral of wanting more and more.

**Q2. It is very difficult for us to feel joy as the situation we are facing now is very tough and overwhelming. What can we do?**

**A2.** There will always be situations in life that are overwhelming, and we are unable to see the end of the tunnel. In spite of this, we can remain joyful by holding on to the truth and confidence that God has a special purpose for us - there is a reason God permits the circumstances we are experiencing. (Jeremiah 29:11)

The Apostle Paul was able to go through multiple hardships in his life not because he had an easy time (2 Corinthians 11:22-28), but because his focus was on God. Apostle Paul remained confident that even in the worse of situations, God is faithful. (2 Corinthians 4:8-12)

The Word of God says that He will be with us and He will never leave nor forsake us. (Deuteronomy 31:8). He is our peace in the worst of times; let's continue to trust in God alone. Will we look to Him in our times of sorrow? (Psalm 23:4-5; Psalm 16:11; 34:18; Philippians 1:6)

**Application Questions**

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

**Q1.** Share a situation when you felt sorrowful, overwhelmed and unable to practise joy? How can you overcome in this situation?

**Q2.** Share a testimony to encourage others about how you went from despair to being joyful. What is one lesson you learnt from this experience?

**WORKS (15 minutes)**

Focus on *edification, equipping and evangelism.*

1. Build on the momentum of COL - continue to pray for your pre-believing friends and family; connect with them with the view to inviting them to your CG/services and your CG Christmas Celebrations.
2. Invite to your cell group those who raised their hands during the salvation altar call. Encourage them to fill in the econsol form ([fcbc.org.sg/connectwithus](http://fcbc.org.sg/connectwithus); [fcbc.org.sg/zh/connectwithus](http://fcbc.org.sg/zh/connectwithus)).
3. Check in with those who did not respond during the altar call. Continue to invite them to our other outreach programmes.
4. Use the next four weeks of GKidz outreach programmes to invite pre-believing families with children

*For FCBC announcements: visit [www.fcbc.org.sg/announcements](http://www.fcbc.org.sg/announcements) or our social media platforms – Facebook and Instagram @fbcsg.*