

4Ws for Week 11 (10 –16 Mar 2025)

WELCOME (15 minutes)

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

Suggested icebreakers:

1. Needs vs Wants

The leader should prepare ahead of time by creating two lists: one of commonly desired items (e.g., concert tickets, the latest phone) and another of essential items needed for daily living (e.g., food, a place to sleep). On a piece of paper or whiteboard, draw three columns labeled “Needs,” “Depends,” and “Wants.”

The group will collectively decide where each item belongs. This will be followed by a discussion on whether there are people who lack access to the items in the “Needs” column. Use this moment for reflection, encouraging members to consider how blessed we are for the resources we have.

2. Role Models

Ask everyone in the cell to share who their role models are (aside from Jesus) and encourage them to elaborate on the following questions:

- What qualities do you admire about them?
- How have they influenced your life and choices?
- What is one key lesson this role model has taught you?

Having role models is a powerful way to learn, grow, and aspire to be like them. However, it’s important to remain mindful not to let healthy admiration turn into unhealthy comparison.

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
- 2) Holy Forever

WORD (45 minutes)

Preacher: Rev. Daniel Khong

Scripture Passage: Genesis 4:3-8

Sermon Title: Greener Grass

Introduction

Comparison is an inevitable part of life. From a young age, we are often surrounded by it, and when left unchecked, it can lead to a dangerous trap. While comparison may be unavoidable, it does not have to define us. We can rely on God’s grace to break free from its grip. The first step is recognizing how comparison negatively affects us.

Two Negative Ways Comparison Affects Our Lives:

1. Comparison feeds self-centredness, so humble yourself before God
2. Comparison starves contentment, so find your confidence in God.

Discovery and Understanding Questions:

Q1. How does comparison lead us to becoming self-centered?

A1: Constantly comparing ourselves to others shifts our focus away from celebrating their successes, leading to feelings of jealousy or even a sense of superiority. This mindset can lead us to feel that when things don't go our way, God is unfair. As a result, we may develop pride or insecurity, which can create divisions in our relationships.

This focus on comparison distracts us from the unique purpose and calling that God has for each of us. Instead of embracing the specific destiny He has planned for our lives, we allow comparison to rob us of our joy. To counter this, we need to learn to trust God, cultivate humility, and consider others as more significant than ourselves, lifting them up rather than tearing them down.

Q2. How does comparison prevent us from feeling content?

A2. Constant comparison prevents us from exercising gratitude. It makes us feel that what we have is never enough, and instead of appreciating our blessings, we become fixated on what others possess. This fosters a covetous spirit.

When we develop a covetous spirit, it leads to dissatisfaction and envy, which, in turn, breeds destructive behaviour. In Genesis, we see how Cain allowed his comparison with his brother Abel to consume him, leading him down a path of anger and sin. We must be careful not to harbour a covetous spirit and instead find our confidence in the knowledge that the God we serve is good. We should always choose to seek Him and His righteousness.

Application Questions

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

Q1. Have you ever felt superior or inferior due to constant comparison?

Q2. Can you distinguish between unhealthy comparison and healthy aspiration?

Q3. "The Grass will always be greener where it's watered." Have you been nurturing the grass where God has placed you?

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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