

4Ws What I Have, I Give You | Acts 3:1-26

DGroup's Curriculum: Leader's Copy

WORSHIP

Consider reading **Psalm 137** together, taking turns reading a verse a time, or reading responsively with the leader reading a verse and the group responding with the next verse

Consider singing some of the songs on the sheets that were included in your packet if you have someone in the group that plays the guitar or can lead music and/or play the guitar.

WELCOME

Questions.

Have you ever given a gift that turned out to be 'just right'? How did it feel to be the 'giver' that day? Have you ever received a gift that was exactly what you wanted? How did it feel to receive it?

WORD

Discussion Questions.

1. During the message this morning we said it was not a coincidence when Peter and John ran into the lame man and we added that there are fewer coincidences in our lives than we think. What does this mean and how should we relate to this truth?

Answer:

Remind them that Peter and John arrived at the temple at the same time as the lame man. It looked as though this might be a coincidence, but Peter and John used the opportunity to share Christ with him. The same is true in our lives. We go to Walmart and run into someone, we sit on a plane next to a stranger, we 'happen' to be there at key times in the lives of our friends, but none of these things are a coincidence. They are often opportunities that the Spirit of God has orchestrated with the intention that we will share Christ. It is the Spirit of God who puts us into those situations and circumstances, but it is up to us to take advantage of the opportunity He has created for us. We need to think about how we can take part in what God is doing in us as well as through us.

2. In the message we pointed out that the key measure of the work of the Holy Spirit in my life is the power of my witness, not my ability to speak in tongues. What does this mean and what bearing does it have on my life today?

Answer:

Read Acts 1:8 together and point out Jesus promise that the disciples would receive power when the Holy Spirit arrived and the result of that empowering by God would be that the disciples would be witnesses of Jesus to everyone everywhere. We are often forced to 'argue' with others about the role that tongues play in the church in the 21st century. Every conversation we have about the gift of tongues is another conversation that is NOT about our witness for Christ. If we would spend more time witnessing about Christ to others and less time wondering about our spiritual gifts we would begin to have the kind of impact that God has designed us to have. Remind the people in your group to be polite and gracious as they have these discussions with others, but help them to stand their ground as they hold to the truth that the true measure of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives is the power of our witness.

3. In the message we mentioned that TAKING PART in something awesome and PLAYING A PART in something awesome are two very different things. What is the difference between those two things and how does that play out in our lives and the reward we hope to receive some day?

Answer:

Remind them again that church is not a spectator sport. We can 'sit and soak' each Sunday and that will be good for us, but it's not GOING to church or TAKING PART in church that brings us the greatest reward. The greatest reward is reserved for those who PLAY A PART, those who are involved in BEING the church in the community and around the world. Remind them of the principle that being a fan is awesome and when the team you cheer for wins, you have immense satisfaction, but the satisfaction that comes from WATCHING a team win is nothing compared to the satisfaction that comes from PLAYING on a winning team.

4. In the message we said that the church building is not the place where we run the play, the church building is the place where we hold the huddle. What does that mean for our lives today?

Answer:

Church is an awesome place and our time together on Sunday morning is refreshing and encouraging, but inside the church building on Sunday morning is not where the real work of the church gets done. The real work of the church gets done when we who follow Jesus are out and about in the community sharing our faith. Remind them that the team that only holds huddles and never runs a play will never win. We need and even want to get together every week, but if all we ever do is get together on a Sunday morning we will never have the impact we were designed to have on our community and around the world.

5. In the message we said that the church building is not the place where we run the play, the church building is the place where we hold the huddle. What does that mean for our lives today?

Answer:

Let them discuss this. Point out that Peter did not have silver or gold to give to the lame man, but the Spirit of God prompted them to reach out to him with something that they DID have. By the power of the Spirit they restored health to his body and then gave him the good news that Jesus died for him and rose again. Peter and John knew the story of Jesus and his finished work very well and they were able to witness to the lame man and lead him to Christ. We have to be sure to know the story of Jesus and his finished work, and that needs to be a truth that is well established in our hearts. We have to be clear in our testimony and able to share our personal story with other people. If I don't have the truth deep within me I can't give it to someone else never have the impact we were designed to have on our community and around the world.

WORK

Remind them that we've just been discussing the fact that the true measure of the work of the Spirit in our lives is the power of our witness. That means that the greatest evidence that we are following the Spirit's lead comes at those times when we are reaching out to others in our community and around the world. This serves as an example for us and we could be part of sharing Christ with others and being a witness just like the first followers were. Help them to understand that this could easily begin by inviting the people around them to come to Life Group with you. Ask them to discuss this and then suggest that you start a list as a group of people you will begin praying for each week. We will pray for these people tonight and each night we're together until they come to Life Group, or come to Christ through some other means. Have each couple/individual share the name of one couple/person to pray for and then ask one of the other people in the group to pray for them.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Singapore Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Core, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Singapore Facilities

- CCF Singapore Center
- Equipments

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends

Close your time together in prayer.