

4Ws The Church: God's Base For Missions

Acts 13:1-3

WORSHIP

Consider reading **Psalm 119:33-48** 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 been in a situation where you were faced with a task that seemed large or even impossible and, then after asking someone for advice you discovered that it was much simpler than you thought? Tell us the story!

WORD

Discussion Questions.

1. What was one of God's original purposes for the world, when he created the world? Think in terms of his 6-day work of creation, and what God did on the seventh day. Hebrews 4:1-10; Genesis 2:1-3. Have you entered into this blessing yet?
2. What was another of God's original purposes, when he created the world? Note: It was fulfilled by Christ through his resurrection (Matt. 28:19). Can you see that this purpose was what Hebrews 2:5-9 was talking about?
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Refer to Psalm 96: "Declare his glory among the nations." Do you see that this is the ultimate purpose of missions?

4. What are the three goals of the church? These goals are God-directed, internally directed and externally directed. They are all implied in I Peter 2:5-10.

How are you involved in each of these dimensions/goals of the church?

5. Where do we first meet Barnabas in the Book of Acts? What was his cultural and religious background? Did you also grow up in an island culture? Are you also a bicultural/multi-cultural person?

How might God use these factors in your life in the present and future for your ministry?

6. By chapter 11, what did Barnabas do? Note all the verbs in chapter 11. How do these acts apply today? Hint: "Follow up (discipleship) is the beginning of evangelism." for your ministry?

7. What are some of the offices (positions) in the church which Christ has appointed in Ephesians 4:11-16? What is the purpose of appointing pastor-leaders?

8. Christians need to (a) discover, (b) use and test, and (c) develop and hone their gifts. How are you involved in these three steps?

WORK

God is at work on planet earth and He often chooses to use one of us to get things done. God is passionate that our family, our friends, our relatives and our acquaintances have an opportunity to hear the good news about Jesus. God uses us to pass the truth along to other people, and He has chosen discipleship as the means for passing that truth along. We are all busy people and it takes time to share the Gospel with others and then disciple them, but discipleship is something that bears a huge yield with a little effort. The effort begins with sharing the Gospel with someone and then taking the time to walk with them as they grow. Remind the group that we'll be talking more about discipleship in the days ahead.

Those of us who lead should remember that there is no better way to motivate others to share the gospel than to set an example for them. Speak to others about Jesus when you have the opportunity and set an example of lifestyle evangelism for the members of your group. They will be much more likely to follow your example than they will be to simply do what you tell them to do. Ask the group to discuss this and then ask them to think through the list of people you have been praying for each week. Discuss how we can be more aggressively involved in sharing the good news with these folks for whom God has burdened us. We will pray for these people tonight and each night we're together until they come to Small 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.

Close your time together in prayer.

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