



CELL GUIDE 2015

Theme	Jubilee – Year of Deliverance and Freedom
Topic	The Fear Factor (Hebrews 2:14-15)
Speaker	Mr Jeffrey Goh
Date	4 th and 5 th April 2015

Message Summary

We need not fear death because there is Hope in Him

As humans, we all have to face the reality of death someday. When the time comes, even the most influential, richest, and respected will pass on. But what exactly is the fear of death?

Everyone fears death for a different reason. Some do not wish to leave behind their loved ones and things of the world, some are afraid of the possible pain and suffering leading to death, while others carry with them an uncertainty about life after death.

Hebrews 2:14-15 reminds us that by the death of Christ on the cross, we are freed from the fear of death. It is by Him that we find hope – The resurrection of Jesus serves as a divine response to the power of death.

The Four Candles

1. Peace

While we all want peace, the truth is that there is none in the world. Some among us are struggling to be at peace with themselves, and with God. The flame that burns from the candle of Peace can therefore be diminished.

2. Faith

Christians sometimes lose faith because they are disappointed or angry with God. They find their prayers unanswered, and expectations not met. Others, on the other hand, feel condemned as a result of their mistakes. The Faith's flame will then be put out.

3. Love

There are many forms of love – Eros (romantic) love, phileo (friendship) love, kinship love, and even love for oneself. However, human love is imperfect and fails. None of these can compare to the love of our Father that is perfect. The flame burning from the candle of human love is never sustainable.

4. Hope

The foundation of our Christian faith is that of Jesus Christ dying on the cross for our sins, and rising on the third day. In His resurrection, He has given us hope that we may, too, resurrect with Him. The flame of Hope can reignite the candles of Peace, Faith and Love. This is the Hope that Jesus gives us.



CELL GUIDE 2015

Questions

1. The fear of death is one of the most common fears that almost all human beings experience. Why is that so? In what way do we as Christians not fear death anymore?

(Fill In Answer Here)

(Leader's notes)

The aim of this question is to help members recall the main issue discussed during the sermon. However, we should not stop short of just acknowledging the problems. Encourage members to recall what God's word says about this issue and how we as Christians should approach this matter.

2. Is there currently a candle in your life that needs restoration or to be rekindled? Share how this "candle" can be restored with the hope that we have in Christ.

(Fill In Answer Here)

(Leader's notes)

This question prompts members to reflect and to identify any areas in their lives that need to be made right before God. Encourage members to look into God's word to find promises of hope that they can cling on to. Members can also share from their past experiences and how they have overcome those struggles so as to encourage those who are presently struggling.



CELL GUIDE 2015

3. Think of one person you know who is currently struggling with one of the four “candles” mentioned in the sermon. (e.g. someone who constantly has no peace, shipwrecked faith, who can’t experience God’s love or who is currently facing the fear of the death). How can you bring hope to this person’s life this coming week?

(Fill In Answer Here)

(Leader’s notes)

Fear of death and struggles with having peace, faith and love are very real problems to non-believers and even to some Christians. This question encourages your members to put into action the Word of hope that they have embraced and lived by. Get members to share specific actions that they are going to take to help this person. It would be good to get the other members to cover each other and their respective oikos in prayer and if possible, to follow up together by providing tangible help such as house visit, inviting the oikos to church events, etc.