



CELL GUIDE 2015

Theme	Jubilee – Year of Compassion
Topic	For the Foreigners In Our Land
Speaker	Ps Daniel Koh
Date	6 th and 7 th June 2015

Message Summary

Compassion For the Foreigners In Our Land

Today, almost 30% of Singapore's total population are foreigners, of which 46% belong to the lower income group. Many of them are of different races and cultures, and they speak different languages. However, these barriers should not deter us from reaching out to this group pre-believers: to share the Gospel and to give them the opportunity to be saved.

This message is about our call to approach the foreigners in our land with compassion and confidence so that they may, one day, receive salvation and eternal life.

The Call to Make Disciples of the Foreigners

The Great Commission (*Matthew 28:18-20*) is all about making disciples; it is about following Jesus and seeking to live our lives the way He did. We, as believers, are called to fulfil the Great Commission, failing which we will be disobeying God.

In Singapore, many of us are guilty of complaining about the foreigners as a result of the high influx. However, have we ever pondered about the positive things that they have brought us? For example, the creation of good jobs for the locals and more importantly, for Christians, the opportunity to go and make disciples. All these things did not happen by chance; they are the result of Jesus' compassion on the multitudes (*Matthew 9:35-38*). Ephesians 2:19 and Leviticus 19:33-34 tells us that through Christ, we are reconciled and no longer strangers. We should treat the foreigners as our native neighbours and love them as ourselves. The parable of the Good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37 adequately illustrates the definition of "neighbour" - anyone who is in need in front of us. In the following, we look at the three Cs that Ps Daniel Koh discussed with regards to the call to reach out to the foreigners in Singapore.

The three C's

1. **Crowd** – Who is the Foreign Crowd in BBTC?

From Matthew 9:35-38, we know that Jesus always went into the crowd to heal and to preach. Similarly we have to go to the crowd in order to make disciples. In BBTC, we have several ministries that cater to specific group of foreigners like the Indonesians, Filipinos and Telugu. Ps Daniel Koh shared about his personal walk with several groups of people in Indonesia and India and especially about God's amazing work in their lives. At some point in time, we may have felt God urging us to reach out to the foreigners but we did not respond due to the lack of confidence in our abilities. However, always remember that we do not act on our own but in God's presence and with His Spirit. So when God speaks to us, do not worry but respond in simple obedience to His calling for He will do the rest of the work.



CELL GUIDE 2015

2. Compassion – How do we get this Compassion?

We need to “see” and “catch” the Compassion – a strong feeling of sympathy and sadness for the suffering of others and a desire to help them with mercy and kindness. A good example goes back to Matthew 9:35-38 where God was moved with compassion because the people were weary and scattered. We can also sense compassion when we look at Moses in Exodus 2:1-11a who went out to his brethren and looked at their burden. By faith, he chose to suffer affliction with God’s people rather than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin (Hebrews 11:24-26). We also looked at Paul the Apostle who was a man filled with compassion by going out to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles (foreigners) (see *Galatians 2:8; Romans 15:18-19*). As we look at the three examples above, let us too be filled with compassion and take the initiative to spread God’s Word to the foreigners.

3. Call – Will you respond to the Call?

God calls for us to reach out to the foreigners in our land, to disciple them so that they can spread the Gospel to others. The call to make disciples has been mentioned many times in the Bible (*Matthew 9:37-38; Matthew 28:19a; Acts 1:8*). God is telling us not to be afraid for He, who has all authority, is giving us this call and He will be with us till the ends of the earth. He will empower us and fill us with the Holy Spirit. With such a promise from the Almighty God, there is no reason for us to ignore His calling. Hence, start by praying to the Lord. Respond to Him and offer yourself. Pray, share the gospel message with the foreigners, and serve in the Ministry as instructed by the Lord and He will bless you abundantly.

Conclusion

One of the greatest commandment that we are familiar with is to “love your neighbour as yourself”. We love because God first loved us. In the same way, we should also love the foreigners in our land. Their existence gives us the opportunity to preach the Gospel and to make disciples who will in turn make more disciples. The truth is that when the Lord invites us, He already has a plan for us and know what He would do (*John 6:4-6*). All He is looking for is our obedience. We just need to “see” and “catch” the call in faith and obedience, and be willing to offer the little that we have to the Lord because He will definitely multiply it.

Questions

1) What are some things about the foreigners in Singapore that you can thank God for?

(Fill In Answer Here)



CELL GUIDE 2015

2) According to the Word, how should we act towards foreigners in our land? What was your attitude towards foreigners in Singapore prior to the sermon and how has that attitude changed after listening to this sermon?

(Fill In Answer Here)

3) What are some steps you can take to show compassion and share the gospel with the foreigners in your midst?

(Fill In Answer Here)
