

4Ws Persecution: Setback or Setup? | Acts 8:1-25

WORSHIP

Consider reading **Psalm 130 and 131** 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 had the privilege of delivering good news to someone? What was the news you delivered and how did the other person react?

WORD

Discussion Questions.

1. What are the different forms of persecution? What is common among them? Will every believer experience persecution at one point in their life? Why do you say so? Read (John 15:18–16:4).
2. What lessons about persecution can we learn from the following passages?
 - a. Read Acts 6:8–10
 - b. Read Acts 8:1-4
 - c. Read John 15:18-21
3. After learning from the believers who were scattered to Judea and Samaria, how should we respond to persecution? Give at least 2 ways to respond to persecution and share your experience about it (if any). Read Romans 8:36-39. What is the ultimate promise of God for all the believers specially if you are going thru persecution or trials?

4. We learned that many of our brothers and sisters in restricted countries are experiencing persecution because of their faith. Some are being imprisoned, sexually harassed and even killed. How can we pray for them?

5. We learned that the promise of God is only true to those who truly surrendered their life to Jesus. Why did Peter rebuke Simon in Acts 8:9-25? What is wrong with Simon?

WORK

We have talked often about the risks we face when we talk to someone about Jesus. This would be a great opportunity to challenge the group with the thought that the first followers faced far greater risks than we ever will, but they continued to tell everyone everywhere about Christ. If you're leading this group make sure that you are listening to the challenge yourself. There is no better way to motivate others to do the right thing 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.

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.