

Weekly Cell Guide

Leader's Copy

Series - Unprecedented: Living in Uncertain Times
Topic - Unshakeable (Hebrews 12:25-29)

Date - 29-Mar-2020
Speaker - SP Ben KC Lee

WELCOME [15 min]

You may want to look up the following websites for *icebreakers* suitable for your cell.

[Ice Breakers 1](#)

[Ice Breakers 2](#)

WORSHIP [15 min]

You may select songs like

1. Christ is Enough
2. God, I Look to You

WORD [45 min]

Spiritual Objectives

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. recognize what is temporal in their lives, let go of these, and hold tightly to what is eternal.
2. live out our calling as God's children and respond to Him in reverence, thankfulness and humility.

Sermon Summary

The following are the key points of the sermon:

1. God is shaking things up to wake us up to what is passing and what is permanent. His passion for us is to remove anything and anyone who keeps us from finding our complete satisfaction in Him alone.
2. God allows things in our lives to be shaken so that we will hold more tightly to things that cannot be shaken.

Sermon Recap (Full Summary)

God is shaking the affections of people - from affections for this world to the Kingdom of God. He will shake everything in our lives until all that is left is Him. Everything that is visible and physical relates to something invisible and spiritual. Today's scripture contrasts the visible created world with the invisible spiritual realm of God's Kingdom.

*"²⁵ See to it that you do not refuse Him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused Him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from Him who warns us from heaven? ²⁶ At that time His voice shook the earth, but now He has promised, 'Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.'²⁷ The words 'once more' indicate the removing of what can be shaken – that is, created things – so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our "God is a consuming fire." - **Hebrews 12:25-29***

The temporal world is passing away. That which is permanent will remain and continue forever. But, we often forget this. We are tempted daily to make the same foolish bargain that Esau and Demas made; trade what is eternal (our Kingdom in heaven) for what is temporal (this world). How do we guard our hearts to thrive in seasons of shaking? How do we live in a way that is unshakeable?

1. God is speaking. We do well to listen and obey (v25).

- One way God speaks is by allowing unpleasant circumstances into our lives and into our world. This is to get our undivided attention.
- The writer of Hebrews warns us not to refuse to listen to God when He is speaking. We must not treat God's Word lightly and we should pay careful attention (Psalm 95:7-8) when He speaks (through circumstances). God, like in the old covenant, will judge us in the new covenant as well.
- In the midst of these unpleasant circumstances, it is normal for us to be concerned and fearful. However, fear should not Lord over our lives.
- One possible thing God is speaking to us about is for us to set aside space in our lives and families for family and/or personal devotions - a dedicated and intentional time, regularly set aside for worship, prayer and Scripture meditation.

2. God is shaking things up. We can be sure that God is God and does what He says (v26-27)

- These perilous times, which comes in cycles throughout history, is God's way of showing us what is passing and what is permanent.
- This is not the Great Tribulation (Haggai 2:6). The start of the Great Tribulation is when God will literally shake up the heavens and the earth. Then Jesus will return; He will then make all things new and remove all that is sinful. God is God, He will do what He says.
- Things that seems permanent (e.g., technology, our achievements, wealth) will burn up before our eternal God. This future reality must inform how we live today. Do not live for this present world as it will all pass away. Now that we are in a season of shaking, we have come to see how weak these things are.
- There are two kingdoms. Recognise the difference between the temporary kingdom (like a hotel room which needs no furnishing) and the unshakeable Kingdom (our permanent home which we should invest in). God's Kingdom cannot be shaken.
- See the unshakeable. Keep looking to Christ. Seek the unshakeable. One cannot sink if one is standing on solid rock!

3. God is calling. We come and live as His children (v28-29)

- He is calling. Our response to His calling should be one of thankfulness, humbleness and reverence (Godly fear).
- God is Holy. His fire does not consume us but refines us. Everything changes when we let the love, joy, peace and hope of the Kingdom operate in our lives. What we do for the glory of God and the good of His people will endure forever.
- Are we worshipping the unshakeable God, or are we worshipping shakeable possessions? Learn to trust God in seasons of shaking. Dwell in Him; He is the secret place to minimise the shaking (Psalm 91:1).
- However, receiving the unshakeable Kingdom does not mean guaranteed safety in this world. It means the deep and abiding certainty that whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.
- Put your hand into the hand of God. God's purpose in this season of shaking is to raise us as pilgrims. Pilgrims travel light but with great purpose. They live a life totally surrendered to Him. They put their hands into the hand of God.
- God is better than money, power, sex or anything else this world can offer. He is better than life itself.

Conclusion:

- God is shaking things up to wake us up to know what is passing and what is permanent. His passion toward us is to remove anything and anyone that keeps us from finding our complete satisfaction in Him alone.
- God is speaking to us today. He has appointed a great final shaking that would mean the end of the world. There will be more calamities in increasing frequency that will lead up to the great end.
- Let us worship God with reverence and awe. May we never trade the unshakeable Kingdom for the crumbling sandcastles of this world.
- Give thanks that this pandemic does not own you. God owns you. This is a time for full-time Christians, not casual Christians. What is God shaking in your life today? What must you put aside and what must you become?

Discussion Questions

1. **Now that we are having more time at home, we have more opportunities to meet God daily. Share about your times with the Lord during this season of shaking. What has changed? Has there been more intimacy than before as a result of less activity in your life? (Recap)** [15 min]

Leader's Notes:

This question allows members to reflect if they are intentionally drawing closer to God during this season. It is good to hear from each other how they have been meeting God each day. However, note that members who are not consistently seeking God should not be judged. Rather, they should be spurred on to make full use of this season to grow in their relationship with God - to establish habits and a reliance on God.

Transition (Wrapping Up & Moving to The Next Question)

Many of us have extended time at home. We spend less time at work and going out because of this COVID-19 situation. We must make full use of this season to establish

healthy spiritual patterns in our lives so that when things return to the normal rush, these habits will be firmly anchored in our lives!

- 2. In this season of shaking, what are some areas in your life that you come to see as temporal, and therefore, weak and unreliable? Upon recognising all that is weak in this present world, what are the things that you can do to invest and build on the eternal? (Relate, Reflect) [15 min]**

Leader's Notes:

Now is the opportunity to reflect on what is temporal. What are some of the things in our lives that we have been pursuing relentlessly but discovered, due to this situation, that they are of no importance. For example, even if you have money, it cannot buy you face masks and hand sanitisers when supplies run out. Or having a big car does not protect you from the virus. All these will fall away from our lives in seasons of shaking, and we come to realise that they are futile pursuits.

In the sermon, Senior Ps Ben said that what we do for the glory of God and for the good of His people will endure forever. Now is the time to re-evaluate our pursuits and how we can better use our time by redirecting our energies and focus to doing things for Kingdom purpose and for His glory.

Transition (Wrapping Up & Moving to The Next Question)

We cannot depend on this present world. Only God can provide us with the security and peace in seasons of uncertainties. Seek God, for He is the only solid foundation we need when everything else around us is crumbling. Let us continue to pray and encourage each other daily.

- 3. In the sermon, Ps. Ben shared this statement - "Pilgrims travel light but with great purpose." In this season, what are some things that God is asking you to put aside so that you can "travel light"? Also, what kind of disciple do you seek to become so that you can travel with great purpose? (Response) [15 min]**

Leader's Notes:

This is an application question – to take the message and make it practically relevant in our lives. Travelling light can mean a lot of things - letting go of sinful habits, unforgiveness, time-wasting practices, ungodly goals, etc. Now is a good time to reflect if one is carrying more than what God wants him/her to carry.

"Travelling with great purpose" means to know the significance of your life in light of the kingdom of God. In the words of Rick Warren - "What on earth are you here for?" All of us have a unique calling and purpose here on this earth designated by God from the moment we are created. The goal of every disciple must be to walk in this purpose and calling. If there are members in your midst that do not know their ultimate purpose in life, now will be a good time to reflect and to seek God concerning it. A life that is not lived for God will always be a life wasted (e.g. Samson).

Transition (Wrapping Up, Vision Casting to Cell & Closing the Discussion)

Many people are eager to see life returning to normal. But perhaps, there is a blessing for us being in this season. God is calling on His church to "pause" and realign our hearts towards His - to travel light and with great purpose. Let us not waste these few months when things are at a standstill! Let us seek God intentionally so that when we emerge

from this season, we will emerge stronger and more mature than when we first entered.

WORKS [10 min]

Let's pray:

1. for our nation and the nations in the world as we continue to fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Pray for the various governments to have wisdom on how to navigate their countries through this pandemic and to make the right call at every juncture.
 2. for ourselves that we will not waste this season but to allow God to mould us during this season of "pause".
 3. that we do not waste your life on that which is temporary and will be destroyed. Pray that we will invest in eternity.
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Church Vision

"A radiant disciple-making church catalysing Kingdom transformation in our communities and the nations."

Mission

We exist to make disciples who behold Christ and reveal Him.