

APRIL 2023

CHODAE COMMUNITY CHURCH

# FAMILY CELL WORSHIP

*Connecting Parent and Child Generation through a Spiritual Conversation*

*What is a  
genuine faith?*

READ MATTHEW 16:21-28

THEN JESUS SAID TO HIS  
DISCIPLES, "WHOEVER WANTS  
TO BE MY DISCIPLE MUST DENY  
THEMSELVES AND TAKE UP  
THEIR CROSS AND FOLLOW ME.  
(MATTHEW 16:24)

## FAMILY ACTIVITY

### "TRUE OR FALSE CANDY"

Prepare: foiled chocolates, two pairs of chopsticks, rubber band

1. put the two chopsticks together using rubber band to make a cross figure
2. prepare chocolates: Take half from the pile of chocolates, take out the chocolate, sculpt the foil back to its shape so it looks like it still has chocolate inside. Put these 'fake' chocolates back into the pile of 'real' chocolates.
3. Bring the chocolates and the cross chopsticks to people. Have people guess which chocolates are fake and which are real. Say these chocolates represent many teachings of church.
4. Take the chopstick cross and start poking the chocolates to find out which ones are the filled ones. Say that the chopstick represents the truth of Gospel. Truth of Gospel will help discern the false truth!
5. If a person guessed the true chocolate right, then that person may eat the chocolate inside. It is the taste of truth and salvation!

We live in the world of comfort and convenience. A main stream church makes sure the needs of every believer is met, and every program and event is designed to suit the believer's popular demands. Church seating, media system, restrooms, educational programs must be well maintained in order that the members of church are fully satisfied. It almost resembles a trend of consumer culture in a secular world and its structure. We have become so accustomed to this setting that we don't actually realize this in fact greatly contrasts with the culture of early church in biblical era. In these times, it wasn't the church that struggled to meet the needs of the believers. It was the believers who went out of their ways to meet the demands of the Gospel. People willingly gave in all their possessions. They cut ties with family members in order to follow Jesus. Comfort or convenience wasn't a term that described Jesus followers' life style. It was the opposite. Because they followed Christ, they were tortured, abandoned and persecuted. Instead of comfort, joy filled their soul. Instead of convenience, peace ran through their hearts. What makes a church a genuine church today? What is its quality? Does everyone who goes to church qualify as a genuine Christ follower? The church needs to set its bar high again. Does our church lift up the name of Christ? Do we set our hopes in the heavenly kingdom above? Do we encourage each other to walk the narrow path as we take up the cross and follow the path of Lord Jesus Christ? The Lord is calling churches to teach and lead His people in the right way. It is the way of the cross.





## TALK

1. Have you ever had an experience of coming across a wrong information? How did it make you feel?
2. What do you think it means to take up the cross and follow Jesus? Share thoughts freely.
3. Spend some time together praying for our church, so that our church will be teaching the genuine truth of gospel.



## CONCLUSION

The comfort and convenience culture of this world often lead us to desire and dream of such lifestyle to be the goal of our lives. We are led to think living a comfortable life will bring us happiness. But we have seen far too many people who were fooled by these myths and have fallen into a state of restlessness and emptiness. Churches are also being misled by this culture in the way they minister people. They carefully design everything they do within a boundary of comfort and convenience. They reluctantly challenge or reprimand because it is uncomfortable. But God is calling churches to stand up and start preaching Gospel in whole, not partially. Church should not have to try to impress or persuade people into faith. When Gospel in its entire truth is proclaimed and preached, people will turn to Jesus. They will pay whatever it costs to follow Jesus because they will know it is worth it.



## ENDING PRAYER

Dear God, help us come kneel before you as we recognize the truth presented by your death upon the cross. Help us not be misguided by offers of the contemporary culture that leads us away from your teachings. You are worthy of all of our lives, all of our commitments, and all of our sacrifices. When you call us to take up our cross and follow you, we will obey and do so. For we know, the glory belongs to you and you are worthy to be worshipped. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.