

# FBC TODAY

UNLEASHING THE GOSPEL

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Youth Ministry/

NECF: 40 days Fast and

Prayer 2023

# FBC

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
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### MAIN SERVICE

| Physical & Youtube |

Sundays 8:45am / 11:15am

### YOUTH SERVICE

| Physical |

Sundays 9:00am

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

For Ages 3 to 12

(Preschool to std 6)

Physical Classes

8:45am / 11:15am

# Key Facilitation Skills

## Do LG, small groups (like bible- study) leaders need facilitation skills?

At one LG leaders' discussion on how leaders can be more effective shepherds, the general consensus was that leaders need good facilitation skills. In fact, it was agreed that all leaders need to be skilled facilitators.

## What then are facilitation skills?

Facilitation skills refer to a set of abilities and techniques used to guide and enable effective group processes and interactions. A facilitator is responsible for creating a supportive and productive environment where participants can collaborate, communicate, and achieve their desired outcomes.



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## Here are some key facilitation skills:

**1. Active listening:** Facilitators must listen attentively to participants, demonstrating empathy and understanding. They should be able to grasp the underlying concerns, ideas, and emotions expressed by individuals and the group as a whole.

**2. Communication:** Effective communication is crucial for facilitators. They must convey information clearly and concisely, using verbal and non-verbal cues. Facilitators should encourage open dialogue, manage conflicts, and ensure that everyone has an opportunity to express their thoughts.

**3. Neutral stance:** Facilitators should maintain a neutral position, remaining impartial and non-judgmental. This helps create a safe space where participants feel comfortable sharing their opinions and ideas without fear of criticism.

**4. Problem-solving:** Facilitators should possess problem-solving skills to help groups identify and address challenges or obstacles. They can use various techniques to encourage creative thinking, generate ideas, and facilitate decision-making processes.

**5. Time management:** Facilitators must manage time effectively to ensure that discussions and activities stay on track. They should set clear agendas, establish time limits for different activities, and gently guide participants to stay focused on the topic at hand.

**6. Flexibility and adaptability:** Facilitators should be flexible and adaptable, as group dynamics and needs can change during a session. They may need to adjust their approach, methods, or techniques to accommodate unforeseen circumstances or meet the evolving requirements of the group.

**7. Empowerment:** A skilled facilitator empowers participants by fostering a sense of ownership and engagement. They encourage active participation, delegate tasks, and promote a collaborative atmosphere where everyone feels valued and included.

**8. Conflict resolution:** Facilitators should be adept at managing conflicts and facilitating constructive resolution. They can help participants understand differing perspectives, facilitate open dialogue, and find common ground or mutually acceptable solutions.

**9. Questioning skills:** Facilitators must be able to formulate interesting thought-provoking yet relevant questions to draw participation from members and promote learning.



Recently, we engaged Pastor Joshua Tan to conduct a mini-workshop on facilitation skills for 11 of us with special emphasis on questioning skills. We learned to employ the EPICA model of formulating effective questions which we found to be extremely useful.

- E** Evaluate. Questions to bring out the “why” of the topic at hand.
- P** Practice. Questions to draw out “how to” rather than just “what to” apply lessons in our life.
- I** Integrate. Questions that “add on ideas” to promote understanding especially when dealing with difficult topics.
- C** Conceptualize. Questions that help participants see the big picture so they don’t miss the forest for the trees.
- A** Analysis. Questions that help participants dissect the topic at hand.

We found the sessions so useful that some of us will be happy to share what we learned if there are enough interested leaders.



**by David Ng**  
*David attends Tanamera Life Group.*



## Prayer for Youth Ministry

### 1. Youth Leaders Retreat

- a. Thankful and grateful to God that we've grown from no youth leaders to partnering with youth leaders. Pray for the youth leaders to fall in love with the Gospel and His ministry during the upcoming youth retreat.
- b. Pray for guidance on Grace and Pastor Joash as we prayerfully consider what SOS vision, goals and values & SOS internal ministry vision, goals and values.

### 2. Spiritual Health of Youth

- a. Pray for the many youths who lack the urgency to live out the Christian faith.
- b. Pray for the leaders to be filled with the Spirit when ministering to them.

### 3. Youth Camp 2023

- a. Pray for the upcoming youth camp on December. Pray for God to use this event to soften the hearts of unbelievers and struggling youths. That they may see the beauty of the Gospel, the beauty of God, and the beauty of God's community.

### 4. Parents and SOS

- a. Asking for forgiveness as we tried to run Youth Ministry without considering the parents who raised the youths we now care for as well.
- b. Pray for guidance, lots of wisdom, and love to partner with parents. Pray that God will bless all with lots of grace, patience and care.

### 5. Youth House Visitation and Hospital Care

- a. Thanking God for a few youths who have a large capacity to care for people. Pray for God to show how He would like to use us to care for those at home and in the hospital.
- b. Submitting an important but a-starting-small-seed-of-passion service into God's hand.

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## Prayer for 27 August from NECF 40 Days Fast and Prayer 2023

- Heavenly Father, I confess my sin of compromising with the world. I submit to Your Word to not love the world or anything in the world. If I love the world, then the love of the Father is not in me. I desire to be awake to Your love, alive to Your purpose, and active for Your use. Help me build a strong prayer life to sustain my personal awakening and not fall into sleep mode again. Amen.
- Pray that couples, parents, and children would be greatly blessed under family programmes and ministries in their respective churches or para-churches. Pray also that the families of these ministry leaders would be built solidly upon godly principles and stand out as role models.
- Pray that the Judicial system and all Courts from the Federal Court down to the Subordinate Courts would function in a fair and just manner in handling criminal and civil trials. Pray that the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, the Prime Minister, and the Conference of Rulers would have wisdom in the appointment of the Chief Justice as well as judges at all levels. Pray for greater transparency in the process of selection of such judges.