

# Youth Worship

BETHANY INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*God's kind of church, where God is touching lives, and people care for people.*

## WELCOME TO YOUTH WORSHIP ON-LINE!

We are glad that you have chosen to worship God with us today. Let us prepare our hearts and be conscious to come before the Presence of our Lord. May the Word of God enliven your spirit today!

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# COME AND WORSHIP

Pilgrimages in ancient days were long and arduous journeys. It would take one who is true and faithful to undertake the challenge in order to fulfil God's requirement to travel to Jerusalem for worship at appointed times of the year.

*“As they pass through the Valley of Baca,  
They make it a spring;  
The rain also covers it with pools.  
They go from strength to strength;  
Each one appears before God in Zion.”*

## PSALM 84:3-4

### 1. Challenges of a pilgrim's journey

#### a. “Valley of Baca”

- i. This is not referring to a geographical location
- ii. It is a symbolic reference
- iii. The word “Baca” means “tears”
- iv. The pilgrims faced challenges that brought tears to the eyes

#### b. Finding water for survival

- i. It would not have been feasible to carry all the supplies needed to last the whole journey
- ii. The pilgrims would need to find water along the way
- iii. They remained undeterred and would find a solution to this problem
- iv. They dug the ground and found springs of water that refreshed them!

# COME AND WORSHIP

2. The assurance of God's blessings
  - a. The pilgrims experienced help from God
  - b. Physically, He led them to find springs and gave rain
  - c. Spiritually, they grew from strength to strength
  - d. Their endeavour to keep God's commandment was blessed with success
  - e. They safely appeared before God in Zion (Jerusalem)

While such a journey is not required of us today, we can translate the experience of ancient pilgrimages to our life on earth. Earth is not our final destination. We journey through our life here until we arrive in Heaven.

In this life, we will face challenges that bring sorrow and tears, but we need not let the problems of life bring us down. We can find solutions to our problems. As much as God allows for these challenges, He will also provide all that is needed for us to overcome and succeed. He will be with us through this journey and supply the strength we need.

We can turn life's challenges into opportunities to exercise our faith by seeking God's help and blessings. Let us hold fast to our faith in the living God, and grow from strength to strength!



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE - 17 JUL 2021

Call to Worship

Pastor Charles Tan

Opening Prayer

Message:

Pastor Charles Tan

“Abraham journeyed”

Genesis 20

Closing Prayer



# REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

Let us review what we have learnt at Youth Worship last week!

## **YWS MESSAGE - 10 JULY 2021**

### **“MOAB AND AMMON” GENESIS 19:30-38**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

##### 1. Moab and Ammon

- a) They became the sworn enemies of Israel
- b) They harassed Israel constantly
- c) Moab, Ammon and Amalek oppressed Israel
- d) Moab dominated Israel for 18 years

Judges 3:14

##### 2. Important questions to ask

- a) What was the origin of Moab and Ammon?
- b) How did they become so oppressive?

#### **A QUICK REVIEW OF LOT'S LIFE**

##### 1. He was the nephew of Abram

##### 2. He had followed his uncle Abram

They left Haran for the land of Canaan

Genesis 12:5

##### 3. Lot split from his uncle and chose

the plain of Jordan, in the vicinity of Sodom

Genesis 13:10-11

##### 4. He dwelt in Sodom and had a family there;

they were delivered by angels when

Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed

Genesis 19:1-29

## THE CITY OF ZOAR

1. Lot asked permission to stay in Zoar Genesis 19:20-22
  
2. He did not want to go to the mountains as the angels had advised  
“Escape to the mountains” Genesis 19:17
  
3. It was still quite near to Sodom and Gomorrah Genesis 19:20
  
4. Zoar was spared because of Lot’s request Genesis 19:21
  - a) “I have favoured you”
  - b) “I will not overthrow this city for which you have spoken”
  
5. Lot did not stay long in Zoar Genesis 19:30
  - a) He was afraid of dwelling in Zoar
  - b) The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah was still fresh on the minds of the neighbouring cities (including Zoar)
  - c) Perhaps the people in Zoar were hostile

## GOING TO THE MOUNTAINS

1. Options for Lot to consider
  - a) Lot could make a fresh start
  - b) He could have asked the Lord for help
  - c) He could have also returned to his uncle Abraham

## 2. Choosing to go to the mountains

- a) The mountains were the opposite of the plains of Jordan
- b) The mountains idea
  - i) It need not be taken literally
  - ii) It represented something different from sinful Sodom

## 3. A Literal application

- a) Lot went up out of Zoar Genesis 19:30a
- b) And dwelt in the mountains Genesis 19:30b
- c) His two daughters were with him Genesis 19:30c
- d) He and his two daughters dwelt in a cave Genesis 19:30d

## **THE DEVIIOUS PLANS OF THE TWO DAUGHTERS OF LOT**

### 1. The reasoning of the firstborn

- a) The age of Lot  
“Our father is old” Genesis 19:31a
  
- b) No possible marriage in sight  
“And there is no man on the earth  
to come in to us as is the custom of all the earth” Genesis 19:31b
  
- c) A wicked plan conceived  
“Come, let us make our father drink wine,  
and we will lie with him” Genesis 19:32a
  
- d) Preservation of the line of Lot  
“That we may preserve the lineage of our father” Genesis 19:32b

2. Plan for Incest carried out

- a) Lot became intoxicated
- b) She lay with her father
- c) Lot was too drunk to understand exactly what happened

Genesis 19:33a

Genesis 19:33b

3. Plan for Incest repeated

- a) Advice given to the younger daughter
- b) To do what the older sister had done
- c) The two sisters made their father drunk
- d) He was oblivious of what occurred

Genesis 19:34

Genesis 19:35

4. The Results of their wicked incestuous Plan

- a) Birth of Moab

Meaning: "From the father"

- b) Birth of Ammon

Meaning: A builder or a teacher

## VITAL LESSONS TO LEARN

1. Relying on purely human reasoning is dangerous
  - a) The reasoning of Lot's firstborn
    - i) Flawed
    - ii) Erroneous
    - iii) Evil
  - b) The grim reality
    - i) The problem extends to the next generation
    - ii) The problem can perpetuate indefinitely

**“Trust in the LORD with all your heart,  
And lean not on your own understanding”  
Proverbs 3:5**

2. Sin can cause great deterioration
  - a) Lot began well
  - b) He departed from his Uncle Abraham
  - c) He chose wealth
  - d) He compromised badly
  - e) He literally lost everything
    - i) His wealth
    - ii) His dignity

3. The challenge to believe

**“And he (Abram) believed in the LORD,  
And He accounted it to him for righteousness”  
Genesis 15:6**

- a) Find Faith in the Lord
- b) Feed Faith
- c) Fruitful Faith can happen

# REFLECTION



Written by Tessa Kang

Last week at Youth Worship, we learned about the consequences of sin and the problems of the human heart after Lot and his daughters escaped from Sodom and Gomorrah.

## **Lot's family degradation**

Throughout Lot's journey, we see the poor choices that Lot made from the time when he left his uncle Abraham to dwell in the wicked twin cities, to the time when he chose to dwell in the mountains after his escape from the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. He had chosen to rely on his own human understanding instead of placing his trust in the Lord, and these choices led to grave consequences. He had lost everything. The sense of degeneration because of his sin led him to be almost unrecognisable - a dejected man who had faded out from Biblical history.

The degeneration was perpetuated by the wicked plan of Lot's daughters. They chose to commit incest with their father, giving birth to 2 sons, who would fail to grow up well and would become perpetual enemies of Israel.

## **To not lean on our own understanding**

Lot's family serves as a warning to us regarding the gravity of sin. When we choose to rely on our understanding, this can cause us to be vulnerable to the problems of sin. We face severe and devastating consequences if such sins continue to remain uncorrected. Sin can become such a fatal part of our lives, causing us to drift further from our walk with the Lord.

# REFLECTION

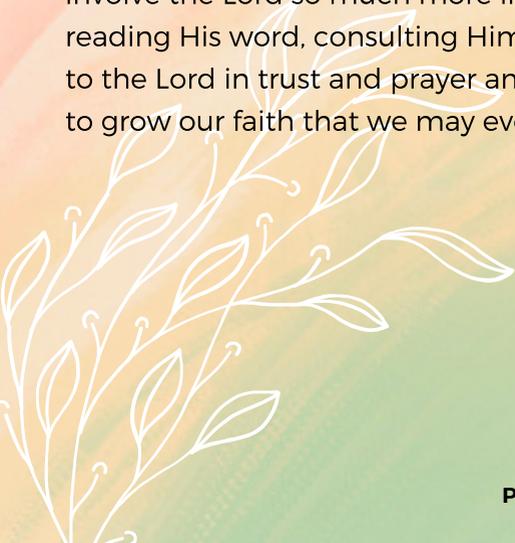


However, we can rejoice in the knowledge that the Lord will be there for us along the way, and such sins can be corrected when we choose to go back to the Lord and His Word. We can learn to place our trust in the Lord and not lean on our understanding as we continue our journey in life (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Contrary to Lot, Abraham chose to place his trust in the Lord and not to rely on his human understanding. Though there were times when he faltered, he continued to press on in his faith and to depend on the Lord for much strength throughout his journey to the promised land of Canaan.

## **The challenge to believe**

Let us learn to understand and see with eyes of faith at the crossroads of life, and as we go through difficult situations. Our human knowledge is limited and it can fail us, which drives us to seek the Lord's guidance. As we enter into the new week of school or work, may we continue to choose faith and not to descend on the path of sin. We can strive to involve the Lord so much more in our lives, by starting the day with reading His word, consulting Him in our decisions and learning to turn to the Lord in trust and prayer amidst the difficulties of life. Let us seek to grow our faith that we may eventually bear fruit in due time!



# POETRY CORNER

## ALL THE LAND WHICH YOU SEE I GIVE TO YOU

It would seem that Lot had chosen the better land;  
The plain of Jordan was within what Lot planned.  
He left his uncle Abram as soon as possible;  
His dream of becoming rich was irrepressible!

In the quiet of the moment the Lord spoke to Abram;  
“Lift up your eyes now and look... at all the Land!”  
There was so much more to see and discover;  
Abram must see beyond all Sodom’s glitter!

God’s plan was far greater than anyone could see;  
Abram need not desire that which is full of iniquity.  
God would graciously give to Abram all the land;  
This was in the Lord’s great and divine plan.

Abram was deeply moved by what God had said;  
He chose not to grieve, but built an altar instead.  
He had learned many deep and wonderful lessons;  
The LORD had promised blessings to his descendants!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Genesis 13:14-18

# ANNOUNCEMENT

## Youth Worship (On-Line)

We thank God for the faithful AVA team and all who are involved in maintaining the Bethany website. May we be diligent in devoting time to worship God and feed on the pure milk of His Word!

The Youth Worship Video Message will be available on our website from 2:45pm on Saturday.



# YWS NEXT WEEK



**24 JULY 2021**

Message: "He is a prophet"

Text: Genesis 20

Some sins that plague our lives are deep-seated and long-standing. They could dominate and influence us again given an opportunity.

The problem of deceit in Abraham resurfaced. Abraham and Sarah journeyed on and dwelt in Gerar, which was ruled by King Abimelech. Abraham resorted to the old ploy of pretending to be siblings, for fear of losing his life. Lacking in full knowledge, Abimelech added Sarah into his harem. He was sternly warned by God through a dream. Abraham's lie could have resulted in God's judgment upon Abimelech and his kingdom!

Abraham had made good progress in his walk with the Lord. However, he needed to battle these sins and strengthen his faith. May we learn these lessons well and pursue further growth in our faith!



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