

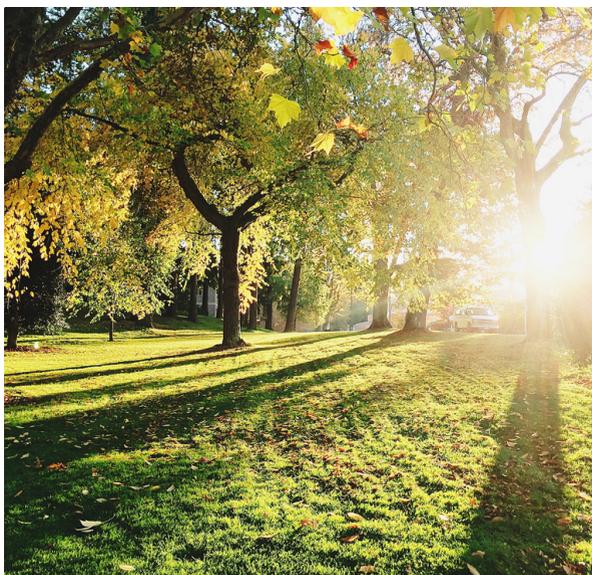
Youth Worship

BETHANY INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

A WARM WELCOME TO YOUTH WORSHIP ON-LINE!

Thank you for joining us to worship the Lord today. May the Lord and His Word refresh our hearts and revitalise our faith this afternoon!



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COME AND WORSHIP

One of the ministries of the sons of Korah was to offer intercessory prayer on behalf of their people and king. We can learn vital lessons from their example of prayer and emulate their commitment to seek God in prayer.



***“O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
Give ear, O God of Jacob!
O God, behold our shield,
And look upon the face of Your anointed.”
(Psalm 84:8-9)***

1. An intercessory prayer was offered
 - a. The nation could be in danger
 - b. The sons of Korah pleaded with God for protection and deliverance
 - c. They did not take prayer for granted

2. Addressing God in prayer
 - a. O LORD God of hosts
 - i. This was a formal military title used to describe the God of Israel
 - ii. God is the Commander of the entire host of powerful angels
 - iii. He is to be greatly revered and feared
 - b. O God of Jacob
 - i. The name “Jacob” refers to the original individual, son of Isaac
 - ii. Jacob’s pre-converted life had been marked by deceit and cunning
 - iii. But the Lord had mercifully saved him and turned his sinful life around
 - iv. He is a God of wonderful grace, compassion and hope!



3. Content of their intercessory prayer

a. Behold our shield

- i. They appealed to God to grant His favour upon the nation's army
- ii. The nation needed God's divine protection

b. Look upon the face of Your anointed

- i. The "anointed" here refers to their king
- ii. They pleaded for God's blessing to be bestowed upon their king to lead and defend the people

Prayer is a prized privilege. We should draw near to our Gracious and Loving God with a heart of humility and gratefulness. We should bow before His throne of glory in reverence of His Might and Power. Our prayers are meant to be meaningfully uttered with a deep sense of consciousness of who God is.

We draw encouragement in learning to be people of prayer. As we return to Phase 2 Heightened Alert this week, let us be thankful for the government's concern for the nation in calling this decision. As God's people, we ought to continue to seek the Lord in fervent prayer and wait upon Him in faith and trust. Let us be committed to pray for God's favour and protection to be upon our nation, leaders and churches in the Bethany family!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE - 24 JULY 2021

Call to Worship

Pastor Charles Tan

Opening Prayer

Scripture Text: Genesis 20

Message:
"He is a prophet"

Pastor Charles Tan

Closing Prayer



REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

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

YWS MESSAGE - 17 July 2021

"ABRAHAM JOURNEYED"

GENESIS 20

INTRODUCTION

1. The significance of the life of Abraham

What is the significance of the life of Abraham, that so many chapters were dedicated to describing his movements?

2. Positive things we have discovered about Abraham:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| a. He discovered God and followed Him | Genesis 12 |
| b. He rescued Lot, risking his life | Genesis 14 |
| c. His faith was confirmed and blessed | Genesis 15 |
| d. He was given a Covenant | Genesis 17 |
| e. He prayed for Sodom and Gomorrah | Genesis 18 |

3. Negative things we have discovered about Abraham

- | | |
|---|------------|
| a. He lied when he went to Egypt | Genesis 12 |
| b. He listened to Sarai and had Hagar as his second wife | Genesis 16 |

4. Wonderful truths we have discovered about God

- He is gracious
- He is merciful
- He is faithful
- He is patient (longsuffering)
- He is generous
- He is powerful
- He is truly God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth Genesis 14:19

THE JOURNEYS THAT ABRAHAM MADE

1. Why did he journey so much?

He had left Haran for Canaan

Genesis 12:5

2. God promised to give Canaan to Abram

a. "To a land that I will show you"

Genesis 12:1d

b. "Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are"

i. Northward

ii. Southward

iii. Eastward

iv. Westward

Genesis 13:14

c. "For all the land which you see

I give to you and your descendants"

Genesis 13:15

d. "And Abraham journeyed"

Genesis 20:1

3. Journeys of necessity

a. Pasture for his flocks and herds

b. New pastures must be found again and again

Many lessons were to be learned along the way.

APPRECIATING THE JOURNEYS OF ABRAHAM

1. Journeys of Faith

a. Abraham did not have the written Scriptures to guide him

b. He was going to learn lessons of faith along the way

c. Lessons of Faith learned through Journeying

- i. Human knowledge and Experience
- ii. Relating to God in worship (setting up altars)
- iii. Making mistakes
- iv. Sinning sometimes
- v. Problems
- vi. Valorous deeds (rescuing Lot)

d. God's Revelation

- i. Word revealed (unspecified)
- ii. Visions
- iii. Manifestation (Visits of the angels)

e. Lessons of faith learned

- i. Life-changing lessons
- ii. Maturing faith

2. Journeys of Discovery of the land God had promised

a. The land of Canaan cannot be discovered theoretically

- i. Where were the boundaries?
- ii. What was the land like?
- iii. How would the land be utilized?

b. Abraham would have to do the following:

- i. Find the courage
- ii. Obtain the strength
- iii. Exercise his faith
- iv. Use his intelligence
- v. Cultivate his relationship with God as he journeyed

- c. Many lessons learned as the Land was slowly discovered
 - i. Knowledge of boundaries
Egypt was not part of Canaan Genesis 12
 - ii. Some places were sin-filled
 - iii. God would be there as Abraham journeyed
and discovered Canaan Genesis 19

3. Journeys and their Lessons for the sake of his descendants

The lessons learned were to be passed down to the next generation

- a. "I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him" Genesis 18:19a
 - i. God was teaching Abraham many lessons
 - ii. The lessons learned were meant to be passed down to his children

- b. "To keep the way of the LORD" Genesis 18:19b
 - i. The way of the Lord was made known
 - ii. His way was to be kept

- c. "To do righteousness and justice" Genesis 18:19c
 - i. This is what God desires
 - ii. God approved of the rescue of Lot
 - iii. Thus, He gave Abraham the victory over the Northern Alliance

CONCLUSION

1. How do we appreciate our parents and grandparents?
2. What lessons are we learning from them?
3. How well are we learning these lessons?

REFLECTION

A photograph showing a spiral-bound notebook with a brown cover and a silver pen lying on a white surface. A small green plant with long, thin leaves is visible in the top right corner.

Written by Bethany Toong

Over the past few months at Youth Worship, we have been following Abraham along the vast distances he covered, starting from his departure for Canaan (Genesis 12). Last week, we reviewed these journeys that Abraham made.

The God of Abraham is our God too

We have seen Abraham's highs and lows in his personal walk with God. Though there were points when he exercised faith and trusted in the Lord, there were also moments when he struggled and failed to do so. Not only have we learnt more about Abraham as a person, more importantly, we have also discovered more about his God. We have seen how the God of Abraham is truly 'God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth' (Genesis 14:19). The Lord's mercy, graciousness and power have all been evidently seen through Abraham's walk of faith.

Even as we recognise these attributes of God, may we also be able to recognise Him as our personal God. The God Most High whom Abraham learnt to believe in, is our God today as well. We can take comfort in the fact that He is unchanging and is still the same God to us. Our part is to cultivate a personal relationship with Him, just like Abraham.

Journeys of faith

Abraham's journeying saw him covering great distances, but it also taught him many deep and precious lessons about faith. Though we may not be

able to relate to Abraham in terms of physically travelling such lengths, we too have journeys of faith to make. The purpose of Abraham's journeys was not just because his flocks and herds needed pasture; they were not merely a logical move. Rather, God sought to teach Abraham precious and personal lessons of faith through his journeying.

A faith that must be applied

Abraham had to go through the physical act of journeying because it was through the experiences that he would learn how to apply his faith. Though he already had an initial faith when he obeyed the Lord and set out for Canaan (Genesis 12), this faith needed to be further strengthened and refined. This would require more testing and trials where Abraham would learn to trust in the Lord and not in his own human understanding.

Likewise, we too need to apply faith in real life. Though having a faith that is built on the Word is good, a theoretical faith is not sufficient. Like Abraham, we need to practise applying our faith practically in order for it to be a deeper and stronger one.

A desire to learn lessons of faith

How can we have this faith that is built on the Word and strengthened by personal application? The Lord seeks to teach us lessons of faith. Just as He patiently taught and guided Abraham in his walk of faith, He can and wants to do the same for us. Our challenge is to be conscious of the lessons that God wants to teach us and to learn them well. May we be able to discover more about the Lord as we walk with Him, and may the lessons we learn enable us to help others one day!

POETRY CORNER

BRAVE WARRIOR SERVANTS

Life in the ancient days, with danger, was fraught;
Kings formed alliances and weaker ones were caught.
The strong would seek to conquer those who were weak;
Where was the help that the weak ones might seek?

Abram knew that life in Canaan was challenging;
He had servants who were skilled in fighting;
These were his warrior servants in his clan;
They were loyal to him, to the very last man!

News that Lot had been captured stirred Abram's heart;
He could not desert Lot, though they had drifted apart.
He rounded up his servants, all who were willing to fight;
This would not be a battle for gain, but for what was right!

God was there with Abram as he pursued the enemy;
The warrior-servants were aware of the difficulties.
But they would fight for, and with, their master Abram;
They believed that they were serving a righteous man!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Genesis 14:1-17

ANNOUNCEMENTS



YWS ON-LINE

Given the worsening Covid-19 situation in Singapore and the latest government advisories, we will continue with our On-Line Worship until further notice. This is out of concern for the well-being of our nation as well as the health and safety of all worshippers.

Let us continue to exercise prudence and be driven to pray for the nation, and for one another.

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

YW NEWSLETTER

We thank God that He is patient and gracious in teaching us vital lessons on this journey of faith. What new discoveries have you made? In this week's Newsletter, Rayne Quek shares his new-found understanding of what it means to have a daily trust in God as an expression of faith.

Click or scan on the QR code to read this week's Newsletter:



YWS NEXT WEEK



31 July 2021

Message: "As He had said"

Text: Genesis 21

Do you remember all that we have learnt about God's promises to Abraham thus far? God's word to Abraham on various occasions contains precious promises that awaited fulfilment. Abraham had to actively exercise his faith in them as he journeyed along.

The long-awaited time had come! God would fulfil His word to Abraham and bless him and Sarah with a child of their own. Indeed, there is nothing too hard for the Lord! This momentous event showered Abraham and Sarah with joy, and they responded with understanding of what God had previously said to them.

Let us look forward to Youth Worship next week, where we will learn about our Promise-keeping God!



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