

Youth Worship

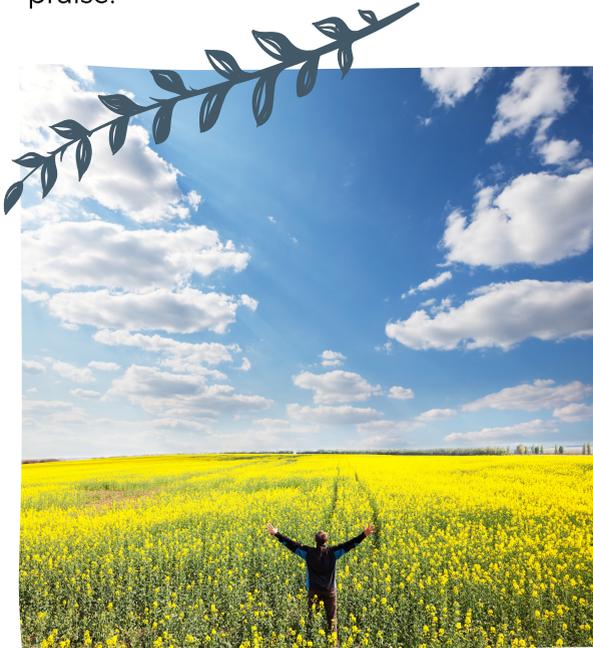


BETHANY INDEPENDENT-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

WELCOME TO YOUTH WORSHIP!

We thank God that we can return to the Lord's House to worship Him today. May we cherish every opportunity to enter into God's Presence and offer Him grateful praise!



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COME AND WORSHIP

Psalm 92 offers insights on how we ought to approach Worship meaningfully.

The Sabbath was a day of thanksgiving to the Lord. Musical instruments were well-utilised to bring forth beautiful and harmonious praise. Special reasons were also highlighted as personal reasons of praise.

***“To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning,
And Your faithfulness every night,
On an instrument of ten strings,
On the lute,
And on the harp,
With harmonious sound.***

***For You, LORD, have made me glad through Your work;
I will triumph in the works of Your hands.”***

PSALM 92:2-4

1. Reasons for thanksgiving to God
 - a. His lovingkindness
 - b. His faithfulness

2. How worship was conducted on the Sabbath
 - a. Use of musical instruments
 - i. Instrument of ten strings
 - ii. Lute
 - iii. Harp

- b. Music accompanied the singing of praises to God
- c. What music can do
 - i. It produces melodious harmony when skilfully employed
 - ii. It enhances worship
 - iii. It enlivens worship

3. Appreciating God's works

- a. Recalling His wonderful deeds
- b. Reflecting on His work of salvation
- c. There is every reason to rejoice in the works of God!

4. The Lord can enable us to live triumphantly!

In Psalm 92, praise to God is beautifully expressed in the form of singing or playing of musical instruments as accompaniment. There is every encouragement to cultivate and hone our musical gifts to offer new and inspiring songs of praise. When our hearts are truly moved by the Lord, we cannot but sing of God's lovingkindness and faithfulness!

Deeply meaningful praise can be rendered to God when we meditate on His marvellous works in our lives. God's works are seen everywhere! They are observed in His creations, recorded in the Scriptures and evidenced in our lives.

One of His works is found in His glorious plan of salvation to mankind. Through Christ Jesus our Saviour, we receive powerful redemption and restoration. By God's infinite mercies, He will unerringly lead us to victory and we can succeed in life. May our hearts overflow with gladness as we dwell on God's excellent works!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE 21 AUGUST 2021

Call to Worship

Pastor Charles Tan

Opening Prayer

Pastor Charles Tan

Scripture Reading:

1. Genesis 21:1-7
2. Genesis 21:8-13
3. Genesis 21:14-16
4. Genesis 21: 17-21

Chloe Tang, Tessa Kang,
Asia Tan and
Bethany Toong

Message:

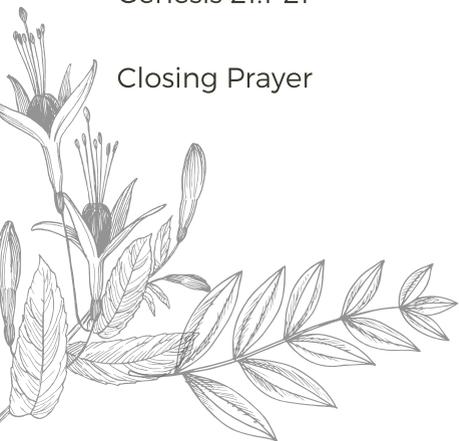
“Then God opened her eyes”

Genesis 21:1-21

Pastor Charles Tan

Closing Prayer

Pastor Charles Tan



MY NOTES

21 AUGUST 2021

"THEN GOD OPENED HER EYES"

GENESIS 21:1 - 21

REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

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

YWS MESSAGE - 14 AUGUST 2021

“DO NOT LET IT BE DISPLEASING IN YOUR SIGHT”

GENESIS 21:8-21

INTRODUCTION

1. The Problem that had become a Mess

a) Carnality

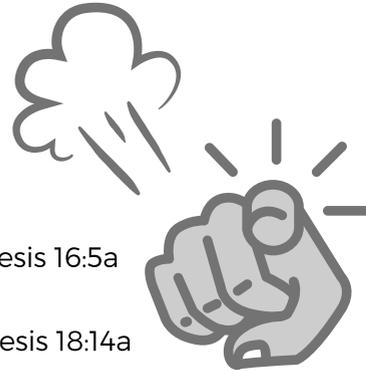
“My wrong be upon you”

Genesis 16:5a

b) Unbelief

“Is anything too hard for the LORD?”

Genesis 18:14a



2. The Demands of Sarah

a) “Cast out this bondwoman and her son”

Genesis 21:10a

b) “For the son of this bondwoman

shall not be heir with my son, namely with Isaac”

Genesis 21:10b

ABRAHAM COULD NOT RESOLVE THE PROBLEM

1. Abraham’s Response

a) The matter was very displeasing
in Abraham’s sight

Genesis 21:11a

b) Because of his son

i) Not because of Hagar

ii) This son was Ishmael

Genesis 21:11b



2. What he did not like:

- a) The demands of Sarah
- b) The consequences for Ishmael
 - i) No home
 - ii) No inheritance
 - iii) What kind of future would he have?



GOD'S SURPRISING ANSWER

1. A Surprising Answer

a) Displeasure

“Do not let it be displeasing in your sight” Genesis 21:12a

b) Reasons

i) Spoken

“Because of the lad” Genesis 21:12b

ii) Unspoken

“Because of your bondwoman” Genesis 21:12c

2. An even more Surprising Answer

a) Sarah's word

“Whatever Sarah has said to you,
listen to her voice” Genesis 21:12d

b) Isaac

“For in Isaac your seed shall be called” Genesis 21:12e

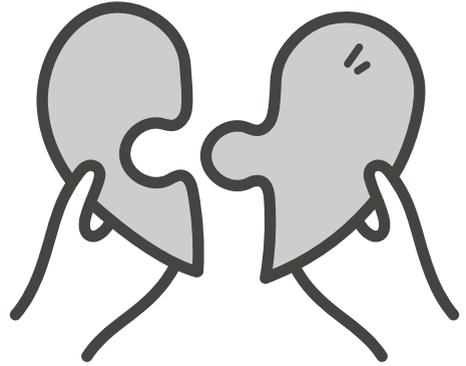
3. The Surprise

a) Abraham did not think that he should
comply with Sarah's demands

b) He did not think that God would approve
of Sarah's demands



- c) Sarah's demands seemed:
- i) Wrong
 - ii) Unfair
 - iii) Cruel
 - iv) Vengeful
 - v) Wicked



GOD'S PROFOUND PLAN

1. God knew Abraham better than he understood himself
 - a) He cared for Hagar
 - b) He loved Ishmael
2. God's Divine Plan
 - a) He had a Divine Plan
 - b) Isaac was that Promised seed
3. Abraham must not affect this Divine Plan adversely
 - a) This could happen if Hagar and Ishmael had stayed on
 - b) Abraham's heart did not fully comprehend
 - c) He must learn to trust God even more deeply

GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM

1. Concerning Ishmael
 - a) He too is a seed of Abraham
 - b) He too will be blessed
 - c) He will become a nation too

Genesis 21:13

2. Abraham need not worry
 - a) About Ishmael
 - b) About his future
 - c) God will protect him
 - d) God will provide for him too

CONCLUSION

1. God's Divine Plan
 - a) There is a Divine Plan
 - b) Higher thoughts than ours
2. Challenges
 - a) To learn more about God
 - b) To grow our faith
 - c) To deepen our trust



WRITTEN BY BETHANY TOONG

Last week at Youth Worship, we saw how Abraham and Sarah's problem of carnality and unbelief spiralled into a mess. As a result of sin, Abraham took Hagar as his second wife and had Ishmael. However, the problem of sin did not end there.

Deep-seated sin problems

The sin problems that we struggle with can be deep-rooted ones that are difficult to overcome. The sin problems of carnality and unbelief that Sarah had struggled with in earlier chapters of Genesis were problems that she still faced even after years had passed.

We see this in Sarah's cruel demands to cast Hagar and Ishmael out of their family. Her carnal human reasoning influenced her decision to get rid of Ishmael, so that Isaac would be protected as an heir of Abraham. The punishment that she called for was incredibly harsh, with serious consequences for both Hagar and Ishmael. With no home, no inheritance and no job, their future looked uncertain and bleak.





A difficult position for Abraham

This left Abraham in a sticky situation. He did not want to anger Sarah by refusing her demands, yet he still cared for Hagar and Ishmael. Ishmael was still his son, after all.

Whatever Abraham decided, the outcome would still be undesirable. Who would have thought that their problem of unbelief would lead to such a mess?

From this episode, we see how important it is to address the deep-seated sin problems in our life. If we do nothing and allow them to fester, we will continue to struggle with the same sins, and the consequences can get increasingly severe.

Trusting in God's Divine Plan

It was then that God stepped in to guide Abraham. Abraham, with his human wisdom and reasoning, was not able to find a good solution to his problem. God, with his infinite wisdom, however, knew what had to be done to clean up this mess. Though God had to allow Hagar and Ishmael to be cast out in order to preserve the line of Isaac, He still cared for them. God's promise of blessing and protection over Ishmael revealed how He truly understood the worries in Abraham's heart. The Lord knew that Abraham was concerned for Hagar and Ishmael's wellbeing, and graciously, He promised to provide for them.





As we have seen in previous messages, God's word is as good as done. God's promise to watch over them must have brought great comfort to Abraham!

It is not easy to trust in God's Divine Plan, especially when we cannot see it clearly. Like Abraham, we may struggle with unbelief and worry about the unknown. This does not mean that we do not have faith, as Abraham had faith but still was unable to see God's Plan. It does mean, however, that we need to deepen our trust in God and strengthen our faith in Him.

God's thoughts are higher than ours, His ways are higher than ours. Instead of leaning on our limited and flawed human wisdom, let us trust in God's omniscience instead. Let us learn to trust in His Divine Plan!



MADE A COVENANT WITH ABRAM

"We have read about Noah's Covenant;
God's promise given is truly important.
He had promise not to curse the earth;
Though Man may become most perverse!

God gave a special Covenant to another man;
This was a man who was introduced as "Abram."
He learned to believe in God with all his heart;
The Lord, from his side, did not ever depart!

A Covenant is like a solemn agreement;
And this is between God and a Human!
God gave to Abram many precious promises;
He outlined a Plan that would last through ages!

A Covenant is sacred to both God and Man;
It is confirmed by sacrifice, by Abram's hand.
God will never break a Covenant He has given;
This must be our trust in the God of Heaven!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Genesis 8:20-22; 15:9-21

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESUMPTION OF ON-SITE YOUTH WORSHIP

We rejoice that we can gather in Church for Worship. May we delight in dwelling in the House of our God, and make time to offer Worship!

Scan the QR Code to register for the Worship Services:



BETHANY 40+8 ANNIVERSARY

Thank God for His manifold blessings upon our beloved Church!

We will be celebrating our Anniversary on 29 August 2021 with the ordination of Intern-Pastor Moses Kwek and Intern-Pastor Eugene Seow. They would complete their training as Intern-Pastors and begin serving the Lord as full-fledged Pastors in Bethany.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"A LIVING FAITH" MAGAZINE - ISSUE 2

We are excited to share with you the second issue of our Magazine! In this issue, we explore how faith affects the choices we make. We hope you'll find it relevant as you navigate through life with the many decisions that you have to make.

If you would like a copy of the magazine, kindly reach out to us (Yuanli / Janelle) and we would be most glad to send a copy to you.

YW NEWSLETTER

It is highly beneficial for us to review the lessons that have been taught to us so that we may concretise our understanding and consider the application of God's Word in our lives. Check out this week's Newsletter that features Esther Tang's personal review of a lesson from Genesis 16.

Scan the QR Code to view this week's YW Newsletter:



YWS NEXT WEEK



28 AUG 2021

Message: "God is with you in all that you do"

Text: Genesis 21:22-34

Do you remember Abimelech, king of Gerar? A while ago, we studied how Abraham was afraid of Abimelech and was rebuked by the king when he resorted to lying in an attempt to save himself (Genesis 20).

In the text that we will be studying next week, we read of another encounter between Abraham and Abimelech. However, it was Abimelech who feared Abraham this time round because God's Presence was with Abraham, and He had richly blessed Abraham as He had promised. Seeing the evident hand of God in Abraham's life, Abimelech felt threatened, and he came, appealing to make a treaty with Abraham to safeguard himself and his people.

Through various experiences, Abraham grew in His faith and confidence in the Lord, and was blessed with prosperity and power. He also grew in His knowledge and understanding of God. Join us at Youth Worship next week, where we will learn about what Abraham had discovered about God!



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