

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!

Thank God that we can gather together to worship the Lord and learn from His precious Word. May the Lord open our eyes to see His glory found in His Word!



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COME AND WORSHIP

"THE GLORY OF GOD" II

Being city-dwellers who are often caught up with our daily demands, how often do we pause to appreciate God's creation all around us? Take the sun that we see every day for an example. Have you considered the glory of God that it reflects? As David meditated on God's glory in creation, he was fascinated by the sun.

In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,
⁵ Which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
And rejoices like a strong man to run its race.
⁶ Its rising is from one end of heaven,
And its circuit to the other end;
And there is nothing hidden from its heat.

PSALM 19:4B-6

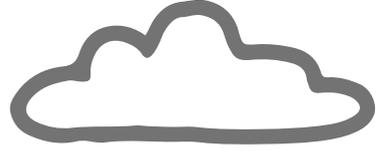


1. God has set a tabernacle for the sun
 - a. Who is able to build a tent to house the massive and mighty sun?
 - b. God created a dwelling place for the sun in the heavens!

2. Two imageries used to describe the rising of the sun
 - a. A bridegroom coming out of his chamber
 - b. An athlete beginning his race
 - c. They exude strength and joy with great anticipation

3. The course of the sun
 - a. It rises from one end of heaven
 - b. It completes its circuit when it sets on the other end
 - c. This has been planned and plotted by God

4. The impact of the sun
 - a. The sun reaches all on the earth
 - b. Nothing is hidden from its heat



David's imagination was fired up by God's creation. He was able to appreciate and see the majesty and glory of God in the sun. The sun is more than its scorching heat, let us learn to appreciate it for how thoughtfully and wonderfully it has been made!

BEING INSPIRED BY GOD'S CREATION

David had the words of an inspired writer. He was able to see God's extraordinary glory even in the things that we deem ordinary. This should cause us to recognise how blind we may have been if we are unable to see God's glory in creation! Let us take a moment to smell the roses especially in God's handiwork, and may the Lord open our spiritual eyes to see His glory in them!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

YOUTH WORSHIP SERVICE

26 MARCH 2022

Call to Worship

Pastor Charles Tan

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading:

1. Genesis 30:25-36
2. Genesis 30:37-40
3. Genesis 30:41-43

Bethany Toong, Chloe Tang,
Tessa Kang and Asia Tan

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Moses Kwek

Message:

“The LORD has blessed me for your sake”

Text: Genesis 30:27

Pastor Charles Tan

Closing Prayer

Pastor Charles Tan

MY NOTES

26 MARCH 2022

**“THE LORD HAS BLESSED ME
FOR YOUR SAKE”**

GENESIS 30:27

REVIEW OF GOD'S WORD

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

YWS MESSAGE - 19 MARCH 2022

“GOD REMEMBERED RACHEL”

GENESIS 30:22

INTRODUCTION

1. A very complex family situation

2. Leah and her children

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| a. Reuben | Genesis 29:32 |
| b. Simeon | Genesis 29:33 |
| c. Levi | Genesis 29:34 |
| d. Judah | Genesis 29:35 |

3. Bilhah, Rachel's maid

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| a. Dan | Genesis 30:6 |
| b. Naphtali | Genesis 30:8 |

A CONTINUING STRUGGLE

1. Leah's realization

- She had ceased bearing
- But she was going to battle further

2. Zilpah, Leah's maid

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| a. Gad was born | Genesis 30:11 |
| b. Asher was added | Genesis 30:13 |



RESORTING TO SUPPLEMENTS

1. Finding of mandrakes by Reuben Genesis 30:14
 - a. Reuben was helping out with the wheat harvest
 - b. He found some mandrakes accidentally

2. An awkward conversation between two sisters

¹⁴ Now Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, "Please give me *some* of your son's mandrakes."

¹⁵ But she said to her, "*Is it* a small matter that you have taken away my husband? Would you take away my son's mandrakes also?" And Rachel said, "Therefore he will lie with you tonight for your son's mandrakes."

Genesis 30:14-15

- a. Rachel asked for some mandrakes
 - i. They are supposed to heal the problem of infertility
 - ii. This was more folklore than fact

- b. Leah's retort
 - i. Is it a small matter that you have taken away my husband?
 - ii. Would you also take away my son's mandrakes also?

- c. Rachel's reply
"Therefore he will lie with you tonight for your son's mandrakes."



MORE CHILDREN FOR LEAH

¹⁶ When Jacob came out of the field in the evening, Leah went out to meet him and said, "You must come in to me, for I have surely hired you with my son's mandrakes." And he lay with her that night.

¹⁷ And God listened to Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob a fifth son.

¹⁸ Leah said, "God has given me my wages, because I have given my maid to my husband." So she called his name Issachar.

¹⁹ Then Leah conceived again and bore Jacob a sixth son.

²⁰ And Leah said, "God has endowed me *with* a good endowment; now my husband will dwell with me, because I have borne him six sons." So she called his name Zebulun.

²¹ Afterward she bore a daughter, and called her name Dinah.

Genesis 30:16-21

1. Leah's children

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| a. Issachar was the fifth son | Genesis 30:18 |
| b. Zebulun was the sixth son | Genesis 30:20 |
| c. Dinah was the only daughter | Genesis 30:21 |

2. Leah's hope and wishes

- That through her children, Jacob would love her
- That he would dwell with her



GOD REMEMBERED RACHEL

²² Then God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her and opened her womb.

²³ And she conceived and bore a son, and said, "God has taken away my reproach."

²⁴ So she called his name Joseph, and said, "The LORD shall add to me another son."

Genesis 30:22-24

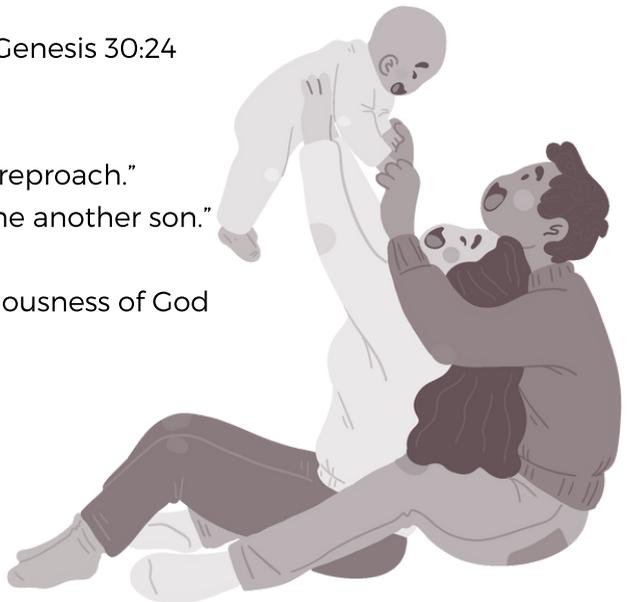
1. God remembered Rachel
 - a. This does not mean God had forgotten Rachel
 - b. It is an idiomatic expression

2. God listened to her and opened her womb
 - a. Rachel had prayed
 - b. God had listened to her
 - c. God opened her womb
 - d. The mandrakes had not helped!

3. Joseph was born Genesis 30:24

4. Rachel's remarks
 - a. "God has taken away my reproach."
 - b. "The LORD shall add to me another son."

5. There was a growing consciousness of God in her life

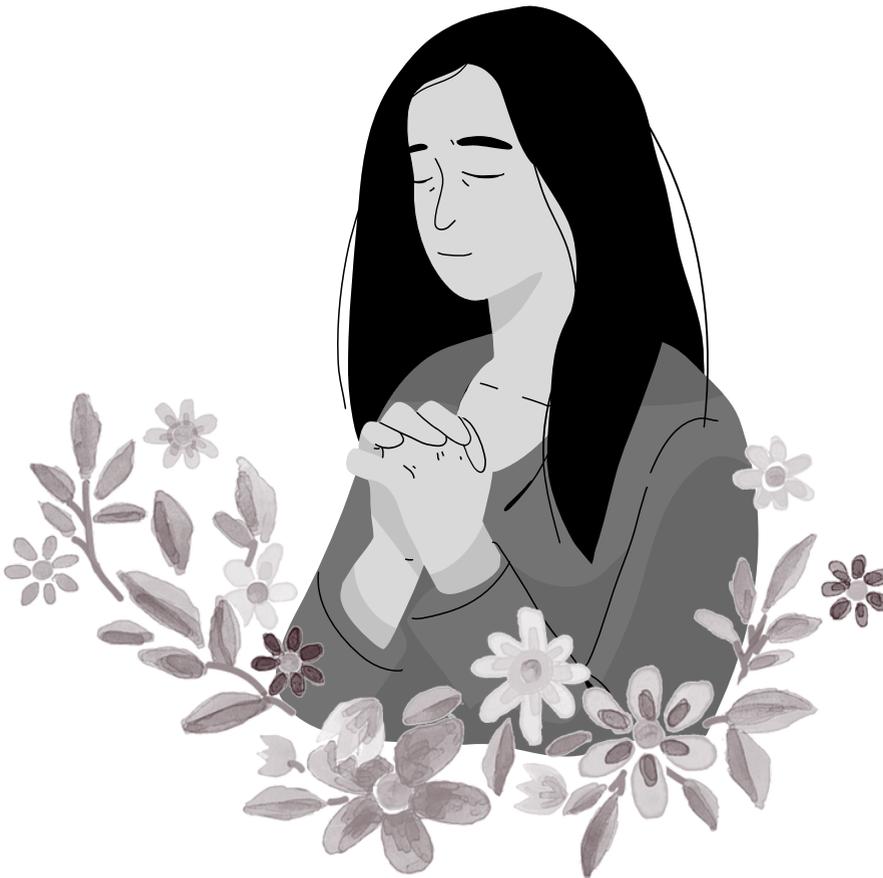


CONCLUSION

1. When God is not a part of our life, the following may emerge:
 - a. Strife
 - b. Deceit
 - c. False hopes
 - d. False belief

2. When God is a part of our life, the following may take place
 - a. God's blessings are given
 - b. His grace and mercy become more real and precious

3. Our Challenge
 - a. To grow in knowledge
 - b. To cultivate faith in the Lord



REFLECTIONS

Written by

Chloe Tang

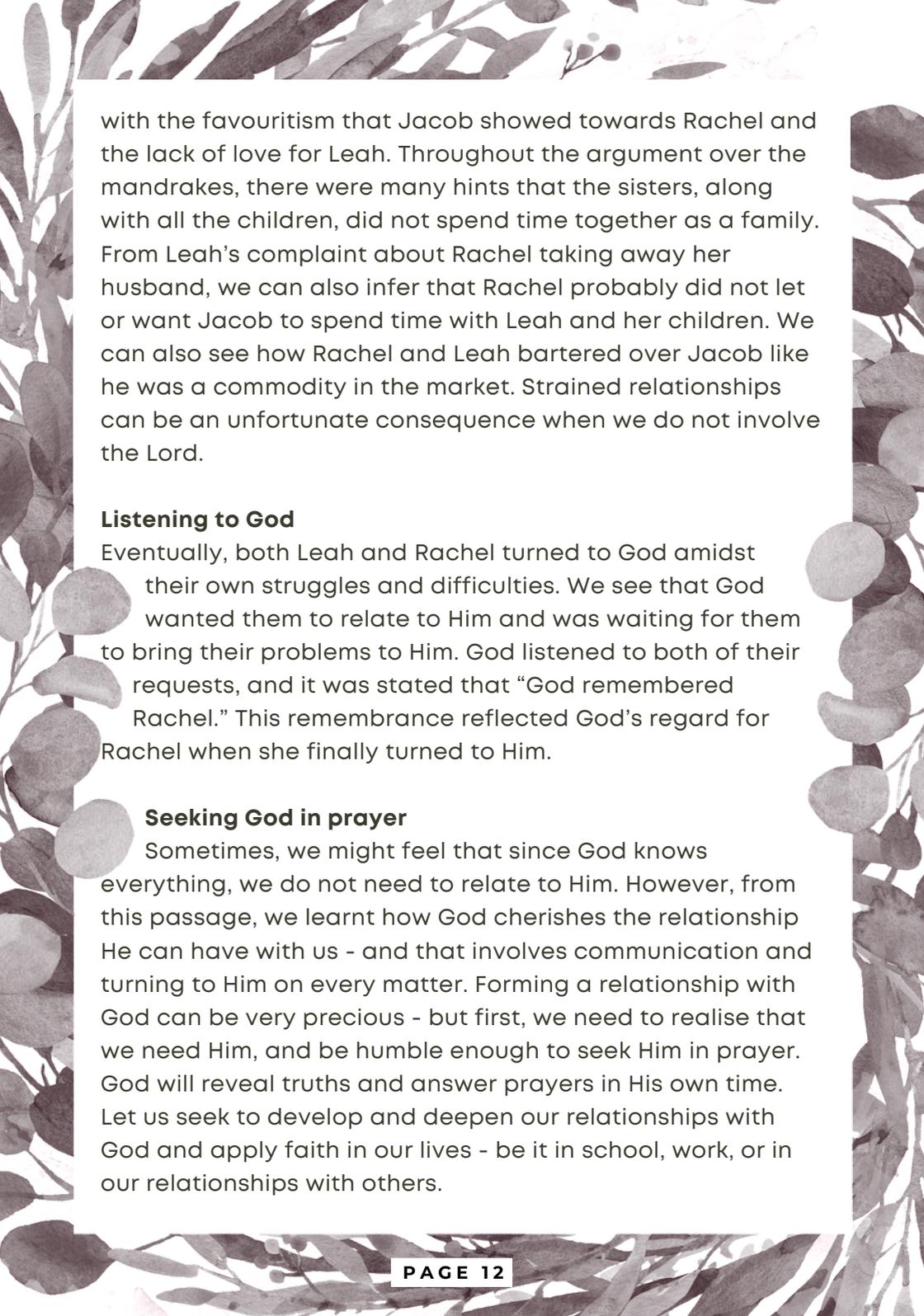
As we continue to read Genesis 30, we see more of Leah and Rachel's attempts at childbearing. Through their actions, we are able to see how these individuals have changed and responded with or without faith. As I heard the message, I reflected on my own challenges, relationships with others, and how I may not have involved God as much as I should have.

Lack of involvement of God

In this passage, both Leah and Rachel had problems with childbearing. In Genesis 29, we read that Leah used the Lord's name and made mention of Him multiple times. However, this does not mean that God was very real or personal to her yet. Once she stopped bearing children, instead of turning to God for help or guidance, she took matters into her own hands and took her maid Zilpah and gave her to Jacob for childbearing. For Rachel, she had similar problems with not turning to God. She was desperate enough to seek folk remedies for infertility like mandrakes. All this time, God was right there but she did not turn to Him.

Family issues

When God was not involved, we could also see how the family had divided and fractured over the years. An initial rocky start with Laban's deception was worsened



with the favouritism that Jacob showed towards Rachel and the lack of love for Leah. Throughout the argument over the mandrakes, there were many hints that the sisters, along with all the children, did not spend time together as a family. From Leah's complaint about Rachel taking away her husband, we can also infer that Rachel probably did not let or want Jacob to spend time with Leah and her children. We can also see how Rachel and Leah bartered over Jacob like he was a commodity in the market. Strained relationships can be an unfortunate consequence when we do not involve the Lord.

Listening to God

Eventually, both Leah and Rachel turned to God amidst their own struggles and difficulties. We see that God wanted them to relate to Him and was waiting for them to bring their problems to Him. God listened to both of their requests, and it was stated that "God remembered Rachel." This remembrance reflected God's regard for Rachel when she finally turned to Him.

Seeking God in prayer

Sometimes, we might feel that since God knows everything, we do not need to relate to Him. However, from this passage, we learnt how God cherishes the relationship He can have with us - and that involves communication and turning to Him on every matter. Forming a relationship with God can be very precious - but first, we need to realise that we need Him, and be humble enough to seek Him in prayer. God will reveal truths and answer prayers in His own time. Let us seek to develop and deepen our relationships with God and apply faith in our lives - be it in school, work, or in our relationships with others.

GOD IS WITH YOU IN ALL YOU DO

Abimelech was not really a friend of Abraham;
He could not but notice the Lord's hand.
He came to a conclusion that was obvious;
God was with Abraham the righteous.

There was no mistaking God's protection;
There was obvious divine preservation.
Abraham had so many problems to face;
Yet, there was no mistaking God's grace.

"God is with you in all you do!"
This statement was so very true.
God's hand of blessing was certain;
Abraham had the blessing of Heaven.

How wonderful to bear such a testimony!
May people be able to see our integrity!
Let us live for the Lord with faith in our heart;
From the Lord our God, we must never depart!

Charles Tan

Inspiration: Genesis 21:22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FINDING ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT FAITH AND LIFE

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Having questions about God and about life is good and natural. It is important that we find answers to these questions so that we may know the truth and find certainty in our belief.

We are going to have a column in our next YW “A Living Faith” Magazine to address your questions! Pastor Charles Tan will personally respond to them to help us find Biblical answers to our queries.

Here are some questions that we have received:

How do we understand the deaths of our loved ones who did not know the Lord?

How do we know that the Bible is true?

What other questions do you have?
Scan QR code to submit your questions:



CELEBRATING BETHANY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY (1973 - 2023)

A NOTE FROM THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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Dear Brethren,

We will be celebrating our 50th year as a Church in 2023!

One of the things we plan to do is to produce an Anniversary Publication. We have seen how the Lord wonderfully built His Church and blessed us these 50 years. Rather than a history book, the publication will seek to record the great works of God, which are studied by all who have pleasure in them (Psalm 111:2-4).

As the Church - "Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually" (1 Corinthians 12:27) -- we would like to involve you in capturing the Lord's works and who He is through your personal testimonies. Whether you have been here from the beginning or joined us in more recent times, you are part of the story of God's work in Bethany!

What do you think makes Bethany who we are; what has sustained us for the past 50 years? How do you see the future of Bethany?

Over the next few weeks and months, the Editorial Committee made up of Li Yen, Swee Keng, Shiwen, Jarrod, Min Li and myself and guided by Pastor, will be approaching you to seek interviews. We hope that you will be excited to share your reflections of our great God and His works in the context of Bethany.

Last but not least, we humbly seek your prayers for the Lord to lead and bless the project, that we may be able to somehow capture the Lord's glorious work in our Church, and to give Him all honour and glory!

Love,
Hong Suen

NEXT YWS



2 APR 2022

Message: "Return to the land of your fathers"

Text: Genesis 31:3

When Jacob first arrived at Haran, he had nothing. More than 2 decades later, he became exceedingly prosperous. His efforts to breed and expand his flocks had been highly successful. What was the reason behind Jacob's success? Was it sheer diligence?

Throughout the many years when Jacob stayed in Haran to serve Laban, God remained faithful to His word. At Jacob's first encounter with God at Bethel (Genesis 28), the Lord had promised His Provision, His Presence and His Protection. Did Jacob remember what God had promised? When would he see the Lord's hand?

Scan QR code to register for Youth Worship:



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